



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 17, 2008

Contact:
Jessica Welch
Office of Policy & Public Information
(850) 926-0919

Wakulla County Schedules Storm Surge Workshop

Crawfordville, Florida –Wakulla County will be holding a Storm Surge Workshop on June 23, 2008 at 4:00p.m. in the Commission Chambers. The State Meteorologist Ben Nelson, National Weather Service Meteorologist Bob Goree, and Wakulla County Emergency Management Director Scott Nelson will provide information underscoring the surge vulnerability of Wakulla County.

All of Wakulla County is vulnerable to storm surge. The County has the highest surge values in the nation. A category four and five hurricane under the right conditions is projected to cause storm surge into Leon County. Hurricane Dennis underscored our vulnerability to surge in 2005. Dennis made landfall near Pensacola nearly 160 miles to our west. This event resulted in over 10-feet of surge to our County destroying many homes and damaging many others.

“This Workshop will allow the County to be fully informed about our surge vulnerabilities and surge predictions”, said Scott Nelson, Emergency Management Director. In addition, it will allow the opportunity to ask questions and fully understand the many factors that make us unique and extremely vulnerable to surge events. “This is just one additional example of how our County is focused on becoming fully hurricane prepared. This will be another great opportunity for citizens and their elected officials to discuss how we can all be best prepared should the ‘big storm’ ever veer our way,” said Benjamin H. Pingree, County Administrator.

All residents are encouraged to attend the Workshop on June 23, 2008 at 4:00pm to educate themselves and to develop an emergency preparedness plan. For more information regarding the Workshop, please contact Scott Nelson, Wakulla County Emergency Management Director at (850) 926-0861.