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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Flagler County renews 'StormReady' certification – reaffirming its commitment to community preparedness

January 30, 2023 – Flagler County received notice Thursday (January 25) from the National Weather Service that its certification as a StormReady county has been renewed until April 2027. It is the seventh time the county has been re-certified since the program's inception in 1999.

"While being StormReady tends to tie into Emergency Management programs, it also has positive implications for all of our residents because it allows many of our homeowners to received automatic discounts on their flood insurance." said Growth Management Director Adam Mengel.

StormReady is a voluntary program that validates a community's commitment to focus on communication, mitigation, and preparedness to save lives impacted by weather hazards. While no community is storm proof, those that are StormReady have gone to extensive measures to receive and disseminate weather information and are ready to mitigate the loss of life and property from weather events.

Both the City of Palm Coast and the City of Flagler Beach participate in the StormReady program and have been renewed as well.

"Our team, including our city partners, works tirelessly to prepare our community for all types of hazards and weather events," said Emergency Management Director Jonathan Lord. "It is important for us to work closely with the National Weather Service to ensure we maintain the StormReady designation."

Residents can also make themselves "StormReady" by taking the free <u>Skywarn</u> Storm Spotter course hosted by Flagler County at least twice a year, and by signing up to receive automatic weather alerts through the ALERTFlagler notification system. <u>Training</u> and <u>ALERTFlagler</u> information can be found at <u>www.FlaglerCounty.gov/emergency</u>, or by calling 386-313-4200 during normal business hours.

Residents and businesses are encouraged to stay up-to-date with weather and other preparedness information by following Emergency Management on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>: @FlaglerEOC.

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