



## NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media contacts:  
Michael Ryan, 386-801-0188  
Clayton Jackson, 386-473-5260

### **Volusia County Encourages Early Disaster Preparation with State's Special Needs Registry**

**VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA** – While the 2025 hurricane season doesn't officially begin for a few more months, Volusia County Emergency Management emphasizes the importance of early preparation. A crucial step in this preparation is registering with the State's Special Needs Registry, which is vital for those who may require assistance during disasters. Traditionally most utilized during hurricanes, this registry serves as a critical resource, providing pertinent information about residents needing support in any disaster event.

This registry, maintained by the Florida Department of Health in coordination with local emergency management agencies, is designed to support individuals with special needs. It provides first responders and emergency officials with information, enabling them to plan and respond during emergencies.

Residents who rely on electricity for medical equipment, require transportation for medical reasons, or need assistance accessing medications during disasters are urged to register. Special needs shelters, however, are not designed for isolation patients or those requiring 24-hour care, such as hospital beds or ventilators. Those needing such care should consult with their healthcare providers or caregivers for alternate arrangements in advance of the upcoming hurricane season.

Registration is available at [www.floridadisaster.org/snr](http://www.floridadisaster.org/snr). For those in Volusia County who cannot access the online form or need additional help, assistance is available through the Volusia County Emergency Management Division at 386-254-1500. Those who have registered receive periodic emails asking them to verify and update their information to maintain readiness. However, individuals or family members should proactively update their information in the registry if their conditions have since changed from their last update, such as their address, phone number, emergency contact, or other relevant information.

- 30 -

[www.volusia.org](http://www.volusia.org)

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