

# Okaloosa County News Release

March 3, 2016

Kathy Newby, 850.651.7515, [knewby@co.okaloosa.fl.us](mailto:knewby@co.okaloosa.fl.us)

NR16-15

## **Lifeguards Patrolling Okaloosa County Beaches March 12**

Okaloosa Beach Safety will begin active lifeguard operations on **Saturday, March 12**, and will continue daily from **9 a.m. until 6 p.m.**, now through Memorial Day weekend. After Memorial weekend, lifeguard hours are extended from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. through September 1, 2016 (Labor Day). Lifeguards will continue to man the beaches through October 2016.

Beach flag conditions will be announced daily at 9:00 a.m. Beach Safety lifeguards conduct training throughout the year to maintain their qualifications and preparedness for the summer season. For more information, contact Beach Safety, 850-609-5405 or the Citizens Information Line at 311 (within the county).

Okaloosa County Beach Safety urges everyone to be observant of the warning flags placed along public beaches, swim in front of a lifeguard and make wise choices to be safe in the upcoming summer months. Download the FREE Ready Okaloosa App for daily updates, flag warnings, hazards, surf conditions and more. Visit <http://okaloosabeachsafty.org> and follow Beach Safety on Facebook. Flag conditions and warnings outlined below:

### **Flag Warnings:**

Green flags indicate a low hazard with calm swimming conditions

Yellow flags- medium hazard

Red flag is high hazard; if a **double red** flag is flying, the **water is closed for swimming**.

Purple flags indicate marine pests are present.

###