

# **Okaloosa County News Release**

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## **Lifeguard Season Ends Oct. 27 for Okaloosa County**

Okaloosa Beach Safety lifeguards season ends Sunday, October 27, 2013, with over 200 open water rescues. Beach Safety will maintain limited patrols and 911 responses daily from 10:00a.m to 4:00 p.m. daily throughout the winter months on Okaloosa Island; however, winter surf conditions are often very dangerous and lifeguards will be reduced during this time. Conditions will continue to be monitored and warning flags will be flown where appropriate. Everyone is encouraged to check beach conditions on the website and/or beach webcam before planning a trip to the beach over the winter.

Public Safety officials remind beachgoers to always observe the county's beach flag warning system which consists of a green flag indicating safe swimming conditions, yellow flag for medium hazard, red flag for high hazard and purple flag indicating the presence of marine pests. A double red flag flying along public beaches signify that the waters are closed. Officials also recommend to swim in areas with lifeguards on duty and to always utilize caution when in the water.

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