

# **Okaloosa County News Release**

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## **Okaloosa County Maintains Community Rating System (CRS) Classification of 5**

The Insurance Services Office, a private risk assessment firm that the Federal Emergency Management Agency uses to review the effectiveness of local floodplain management programs under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), has informed Okaloosa County it will maintain its Community Rating System (CRS) score of 5. This results in a 25 percent reduction of our citizens flood insurance rates.

“We continue to work on ways to save Okaloosa citizen money during these tough economic times, and this is very good news as Hurricane Season starts. The CRS rating is a result of hard-working employees in our Growth Management Department, Public Safety and Public Works efforts each year,” stated Commission Chairman Don Amunds. This rating is valid beginning October 2013 through September 2014.

In 1968, Congress created the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to provide affordable flood insurance to people who live in areas with the greatest risk of flooding called Special Flood Hazard Areas. Okaloosa County joined the NFIP on July 1, 1977. Residents receive a letter each year encouraging residents to review their flood risk.

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