

Okaloosa County News Release

Contact: Kathy Newby, 850-651-7515; 585-7059; knewby@co.okaloosa.fl.us; Rick Owen, 855-0589;

<u>rowen@co.okaloosa.fl.us</u> Citizen Information Line: 311

Date: October 4, 2013 Update TSKaren#3-Update

Tropical Storm Karen Update

Okaloosa County, Fla.— Okaloosa County is under a Hurricane Watch. Please stay tuned to local television channels, radio and newspapers for updates. Other updates at this time include:

- The 911 Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is activated at Level 2, with all essential services monitoring Tropical Storm Karen.
- Anyone needing to check flights from NWF Regional Airport should call the toll-free number for their particular airline.
- Airport Closures: NWF Regional Airport will close after the last departure on Oct. 5, between 8 p.m. and midnight, and remain closed through 5 p.m. on Sunday. Should conditions improve, they could open sooner. Destin and Bob Sikes Airports will close at 8 p.m. on Saturday through 5 p.m. on Sunday.
- Okaloosa Beach Accesses will fly double red flags beginning Saturday, meaning beaches and swimming will not be accessible.
- Joe's Bayou Boat Ramp fees are temporarily suspended by the city of Destin.
- No school closures at this time; however Saturday/Sunday school activities are cancelled.
- Sandbags will be available at Public Works north (Hwy. 85) and south (Ready Ave.), from 7:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. today (Fri.). Supplies provided to individually fill the bags.
- If necessary, Davidson Middle School shelter will open.

Citizens are encouraged to go online to the Okaloosa County stay tuned to local news and radio for updates. You can also follow Public Safety on Facebook, Twitter and visit our website at www.okaloosafl.com.

###