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### **Citizens Urges Panhandle Residents to Prepare for TS Nate**

TALLAHASSEE, FL – Citizens Property Insurance Corporation is urging Florida Panhandle policyholders and all others to take precautions to protect themselves and their families as Tropical Storm Nate approaches the northern Gulf Coast.

As Citizens continues cleanup efforts from Hurricane Irma, it is cautioning all policyholders to be prepared for the potential impact of Nate, a fast-developing storm that threatens to intensify to hurricane strength and bring damaging winds and storm surge to the northwest Florida region over the weekend.

“As Nate approaches, take precautions and follow instructions of local emergency management agencies,” said Barry Gilway, Citizens President, CEO and Executive Director. “Citizens is making preparations and so should our customers, Florida visitors and residents. You know the drill.”

To help our policyholders stay abreast of developments, Citizens has launched a [Storm Tracker feed](#), which delivers real-time [National Hurricane Center](#) updates directly to your desktop and mobile device through its [website](#). Citizens also offers storm preparation and response information through [Facebook](#) and Twitter at [@citizens\\_fl](#).

Citizens has also partnered with the Florida Public Radio Emergency Network (FPREN) to bring the latest news about catastrophic weather impacting your area. FPREN updates can be heard on local public radio stations and by downloading their free *Florida Storms* app from [iTunes](#) and [Google Play](#).

While keeping in touch with local emergency preparations, policyholders should:

- Verify that Citizens has up-to-date contact and mortgage company information. You can review your information on record with Citizens through [Manage myPolicy \(myPolicy\)](#) or by contacting your Citizens agent.

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Christopher B. Gardner, Chairman, Orange County • Gary Aubuchon, Lee County  
Bette Brown, Monroe County • Blake Capps, Martin County • James Holton, Pinellas County  
John McKay, Manatee County • Freddie Schinz, Okaloosa County  
Barry Gilway, President/CEO and Executive Director

- Ensure that all key property and family information (insurance policies, health records, financial records, pet records, identification details, [home inventory](#), etc.) are stored in a safe, waterproof and easy to access location.
- Pack a [disaster supply kit](#), learn your [evacuation route](#) and develop a [family communication plan](#) that includes emergency contact information. Don't forget to [create a plan for your pets](#)! Not all emergency shelters allow pets.

If you suffer property damage, remember to call Citizens first at 866.411.2742 to report a claim. Representatives are available 24/7. More information can be found on [Citizens website](#).

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In 2002, the Florida Legislature created Citizens Property Insurance Corporation (Citizens), a not-for-profit alternative insurer, whose public purpose is to provide insurance to, and serve the needs of, property owners who cannot find coverage in the private insurance market.

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