

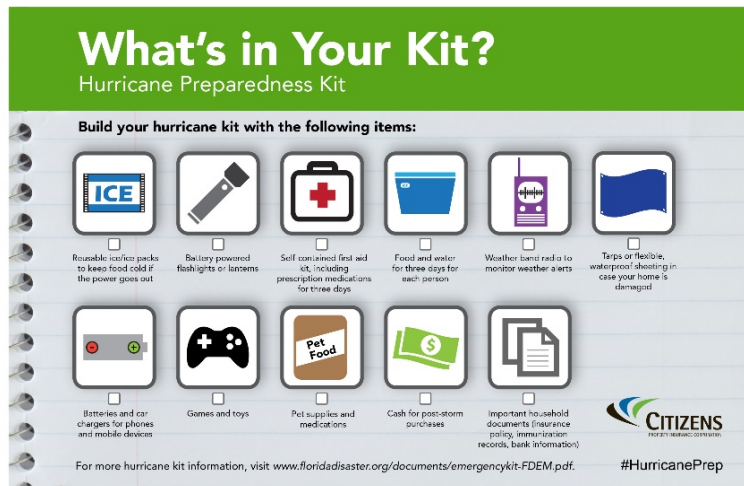
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Citizens is Ready, Urges Homeowners Also to Prepare for Tropical Storm Erika

TALLAHASSEE, FL – Citizens Property Insurance Corporation, the state-run insurer of last resort, is prepared to handle possible claims stemming from Tropical Storm Erika and is urging policyholders to make preparations now to protect themselves, their families and their homes.

"The bottom line is Citizens is ready to handle Tropical Storm Erika," said Citizens' President, CEO and Executive Director Barry Gilway. "We are asking policyholders to do the same. It's been 10 years since the last hurricane hit Florida and it's important to remember the lessons learned from previous storms."



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Homeowners are urged to re-check their hurricane response plan to make sure they have provisions and procedures in place prior to landfall. Policyholders with hurricane shutters are advised to make sure the shutters are in place and secured. Failure to do so may result in a reduction of claims benefits following the storm.

Citizens officials are advising policyholders to document any existing or unrepaired damage. In addition, policyholders should:

- Follow instructions from local emergency management personnel.
- Document home contents and personal belongings.
- Safeguard policy documents. Note policy numbers and agent contact information.

If Erika causes damage to property, policyholders should call 1-866-411-CPIC to report a claim.

In the event of damage, an adjuster will respond to claims as soon as possible. Policyholders should make temporary repairs as necessary to protect properties from further loss and keep receipts for reimbursement.

For additional hurricane preparation advice and updates on Erika's progress, find us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).

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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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