



**A Message from
Lois Wexler
Broward County Vice-Mayor
Commissioner District 5**

Hurricane season 2007 is here! It is that time of year to replenish your hurricane supplies and get prepared for whatever inclement weather may come our way.

The Broward County theme during hurricane season is “Ready, Set, Safe.”

That means be *ready* before a hurricane arrives by preparing well in advance with a hurricane plan and enough non-perishable food and water to get you through at least three to five days. Get *set* to ride out the storm once it arrives by taking the necessary measures to secure your home and property. Be *safe* after the hurricane when the greatest number of fatalities and accidents occur.

Soon you will be receiving a hurricane preparedness guide in your mailbox that will be filled with information on hurricane preparations that you and your family can undertake. The information will address many things that you already know and items that you may or may not think about, like making accommodations for your family pet. You or a family member may also be in need of a special needs shelter in the event that an evacuation is necessary. If you feel you qualify for a special needs shelter, it is important to register in advance by calling the Broward County Elderly and Veterans Services department at 954-357-2888.

The more preparations you make prior to a hurricane the better off you will be. The 2007 Hurricane Preparedness guide will help you plan for the safety of your home and family. You can also go to www.broward.org/hurricane for extensive information on hurricane preparedness and safety.

Most of the year we have wonderful mild weather in South Florida and we are fortunate to be able to engage in outside activities year round.

Broward County has one of the largest park systems in the United States and nearby C.B. Smith Park is 320 acres, one of the largest parks in the county. It is a great place to take your children or grandchildren if you want to get some relief from the summer heat. Paradise Cove is an aquatics playground inside the park with water slides and a rushing river tube ride. One of the two water playgrounds is designed for toddlers and the other for “older” kids.

Barkham at Markham Dog Park is now more popular than ever for those who want to spend some outdoor time with their dogs. It is designed for dogs to play “leash” free and there is plenty of room to run and play with your pet. It is located just west of the entrance to Markham Park in Sunrise.

There are currently 17 regional parks, four nature centers, and 18 natural area sites, in Broward County totaling more than 6,500 acres. Wherever you are in Broward County you are never too far from a park. If you would like additional information on park programs call the Broward County Parks and Recreation Department at 954-357-8100 or visit our website at www.broward.org/parks for a list of activities.

If you have any questions about Broward County government or any of the many programs and services we offer, please feel free to call my office at (954) 357-7005. Or can you e-mail lwexler@broward.org.

Have a healthy, happy and safe summer!

Sincerely,

Lois Wexler
Broward County Vice-Mayor
Commissioner, District 5