

BEACH WARNING FLAG ORDER FORM

Order your **free** warning flags and interpretive signs today, because availability is limited. Requests are accepted from November 1st to February 1st each year.

Local Government Name: _____
Contact Person: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ County: _____ Zip: _____
E-mail: _____
Number of Flag Sets Requested: _____ Number of Signs Requested: _____



Funded, in part, by a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce,
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.



Florida Coastal Management Program
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Mail Station 47
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000


Beach Warning Flag Program

BEACH WARNING FLAGS

BANDERAS DE ADVERTENCIA EN LA PLAYA

-  **Water Closed to Public**
Agua Cerrada al Publico
-  **High Hazard**
High Surf and/or Strong Currents
Peligro Alto, Resaca Alta y/o Corrientes Fuertes
-  **Medium Hazard**
Moderate Surf and/or Currents
Peligro Medio, Resaca Moderada y/o Corrientes Fuertes
-  **Low Hazard**
Calm Conditions, Exercise Caution
Peligro Bajo, Condiciones Calmas, Tenga cuidado
-  **Dangerous Marine Life**
Vida Marina Peligrosa

Absence of Flags Does Not Assure Safe Waters
La ausencia de Banderas No Asegura Aguas Seguras



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The safety and enjoyment of Florida's public beaches is affected by changes in tide and surf conditions. To minimize the risks of drowning or serious injury, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection has worked with the Florida Beach Patrol Chiefs Association, the United States Lifesaving Association, and the International Lifesaving Federation to develop a uniform warning flag program for use by Florida's beachfront communities.

WHY DOES FLORIDA NEED A UNIFORM WARNING FLAG SYSTEM?

Warning flags are posted by many coastal communities, but, the flags used to identify different tide and surf conditions vary from place to place. Many residents and visitors travel to different parts of the state to enjoy our wonderful public beaches. Differences in flag colors, size and symbols can confuse beachgoers, thereby decreasing the effectiveness of efforts to improve public safety.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The Department's new beach warning flag program uses the colors initially proposed by the International Lifesaving Federation, with symbols added to clarify the meaning of the flags. The program also includes the placement of interpretive signs along the beach to explain the meaning of each flag used in the warning system.

To the extent of available funds, the warning flags and interpretive signs are provided free of charge to local governments that provide public beach access. The communities that receive the free warning flags and interpretive signs are responsible for the installation, proper use, and maintenance of the flags and signs. Local governments with life-guarded public beaches are strongly encouraged to participate in the uniform warning flag program by adopting the same standard colors used by the Department.

HOW MANY SIGNS ARE AVAILABLE?

Local governments can request any number

of warning flags and interpretive signs needed to place flags and a sign at each public beach access location identified by the local government. Each year, flags and signs will be provided by the Florida Coastal Management Program until the funds reserved for the program have been expended.

WHAT ARE THE DIMENSIONS OF THE FLAGS AND SIGNS?

Each flag measure 29.25"H. x 39"W. The signs are 30" x 36".

HOW DO COMMUNITIES APPLY?

Contact the Florida Coastal Management Program between November 1st and February 1st each year:

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