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Sarasota EOC Twitters for 2009 hurricane season

The Sarasota County Emergency Operations Center and Emergency Management chief Ed McCrane have added the free social media network Twitter to its box of tools to communicate with the media and residents during the 2009 hurricane season.

The EOC will tweet news releases, closings, changes in the solid waste collection schedule, and other messages pertinent to an emergency activation as well as other messages to help people prepare for a plethora of emergency situations.

“Twitter affords us another means to communicate in real time information that is crucial to the public for their welfare and safety,” said McCrane. “It gives us another method of using technology to provide updates to people who prefer to get their information in this format.”

Tweets are limited to 140 characters, so the messages will be succinct, and many times will direct people to a Web page link for more detailed information.

To follow the Sarasota County EOC on Twitter, go to <http://twitter.com/scgoveoc>.

For more information about hurricane season, which begins June 1, and making preparations for an emergency, visit the county’s Web site at www.scgov.net and click on the All Hazards button.

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