Current Situation:

St. Johns County has been placed under a Hurricane Watch

Hurricane Matthew is a category 3 hurricane with sustained winds of 125 mph. Its current location is about 65 miles NNW of the Eastern Tip of Cuba and moving to the north at 10 mph. Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 40 miles from the center and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 160 miles.

On the current official forecast track, a turn toward the north-northwest is expected today, followed by a northwest turn tonight. Matthew will be moving across the Bahamas through Thursday, and is expected to be very near the east coast of Florida by Thursday evening.

Potential Impacts:

- Life threatening Storm Surge is possible.
- Large, destructive surf, with dangerous, frequent rip currents.
- Significant beach erosion.
- Tropical Storm conditions possibly beginning Thursday night for northeast Florida coastal areas. Any further westward course will increase local impacts, especially along the immediate coast.

Local Actions/Activities:

- St. Johns County Emergency Operations Center will be activated to a Level 2 at 12 pm today.

- St. Johns County Emergency Management recommends following the National Weather Service Jacksonville for updated briefings regarding Hurricane Matthew at the following link: http://www.weather.gov/media/jax/briefings/nws-jax-briefing.pdf.

For additional information, please contact:
St. Johns County Emergency Management - 904.824.5550