

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

Prepared for the
Herons Glen Homeowners Association, Inc.



By the
Security, Safety, and Emergency Preparedness Committee
(SSEP)

Updated
9-9-2020
All Hazards Guide Updated - 2023

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I. Introduction

This plan has been developed in accordance with the Herons Glen Declaration of Covenants, Article X, Section 5, Hurricane Education. It is intended to help the Residents and employees prepare for hurricanes and other emergency hazards. Periodically, the Herons Glen Homeowners Association (HGHOA) Security, Safety, and Emergency Preparedness (SSEP) Committee will conduct an Educational seminar and distribute information on emergency preparedness.

The SSEP chairman in coordination with the HOA Manager will act as the “Emergency Support Coordinator” for tropical storms and hurricane preparedness and other community emergencies. The Emergency Support Coordinator will be assisted by available committee members and inform the HOA Board and the HOA Manager on any actions required.

II. Storm definitions

To better prepare yourself for a possible hurricane strike, you should be familiar with the different terms that may be used. This page will briefly define some terms related to tropical storms and hurricanes.

- A. Tropical Depression:** A tropical system in which the maximum sustained surface wind is **33 knots (38 mph) or less**.
- B. Tropical Storm:** A tropical system in which the maximum sustained surface wind ranges from **34 to 63 knots (39 to 73 mph)**. These systems are also intense rainfall producers, but often cause enough wind and waves to cause some beach erosion and minor boat damage.
- C. Tropical Storm Watch:** An announcement for specific areas that tropical storm conditions pose a possible threat to coastal areas within 36 hours.
- D. Tropical Storm Warning:** A warning that tropical storm conditions, including sustained winds of **39-73 mph**, associated with a tropical storm are expected in a specified coastal area within 24 hours or less. Any preparedness measures should be completed as soon as possible.
- E. Tropical Storm Wind Watch:** An announcement for inland areas that sustained winds of **39-73 mph or greater** associated with a tropical storm are anticipated beyond the coastal areas. The actual occurrence, timing and location are still uncertain.
- F. Tropical Storm Wind Warning:** An announcement for inland areas that sustained winds of **39-73 mph or greater** associated with a tropical storm are anticipated beyond the coastal areas in the next 6 to 24 hours.
- G. Hurricane:** A tropical system in which the maximum sustained surface wind is 64 knots (74 mph) or greater.
- H. Hurricane Watch:** An announcement for specific areas that hurricane conditions pose a possible threat to coastal areas within 36 hours.
- I. Hurricane Warning:** A warning that hurricane conditions, including sustained winds of **74 mph or greater**, associated with a hurricane are expected in a specified coastal area within 24 hours or less. Any preparedness measures must be rushed to completion once the warning is issued. High winds and coastal flooding will develop many hours before the eye of the storm actually comes ashore.
- J. Hurricane Wind Watch:** An announcement for inland areas that sustained winds of **74 mph or greater** associated with a hurricane are anticipated beyond the coastal areas. The actual occurrence, timing and location are still uncertain.

- K. Hurricane Wind Warning:** An announcement for inland areas that sustained winds of **74 mph or greater** associated with a hurricane are anticipated beyond the coastal areas in the next 6 to 24 hours.
- L. Hurricane Eye:** A relatively calm area in the center of the storm. In this area, winds are light and the sky often is only partly covered by clouds. Never go outside in the eye of a storm. This period of relative calm may only last 10 to 20 minutes before hurricane force winds and torrential rains return from the opposite direction.
- M. Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale:** A scale ranging from 1 to 5 based on the maximum sustained wind speed of the hurricane. This can be used to give an estimate of the potential property damage and flooding expected along the coast from a hurricane. Extreme care should be used if using this scale as a guide to preparation steps when the sustained wind speed brings the storm within 10 mph of the next highest scale category. There is not much difference between a 110 mph (Cat 2) storm and a 111 mph (Cat 3) storm.
- N. Hurricane Local Statement (HLS):** A public release prepared by the local National Weather Service office serving the threatened area. This statement will provide specific details on: expected and observed weather conditions, evacuation decisions made by local officials, and other precautions necessary to protect life and property.

It is the resident's responsibility to prepare and secure their own property prior to a storm arrival.

III. Evacuations

Notification: Evacuation decisions are made by the local government based on the severity and the characteristics of a storm. Upon notification (provided through the media, see the ALL HAZARDS GUIDE included with this plan) that a tropical storm or hurricane is predicted to strike the area within 36 hours and this strike area encompasses the Herons Glen community, the SSEP Chairman or HOA Manager will use best efforts to promote awareness of the situation to the community through notifications to homeowners through email news bulletins, text messaging, community channel, and the official HOA Bulletin Board. Residents are responsible for their own awareness of emergency situations by monitoring local news and other available communications from sources outside of Herons Glen.

Voluntary or Mandatory Evacuation: It is the Residents', HOA, and the Recreational District's ~~and contractors'~~ responsibility and decision to comply with a Voluntary Evacuation Request. It is also individual's responsibility to comply with a Mandatory Evacuation Order. Once a mandatory evacuation order is issued, contractors and visitors will only be permitted entry to secure a job site or assist a resident to evacuate their home.

Evacuation Routes / Destinations/Public Shelters: The primary evacuation routes for Herons Glen are described in the Lee County Evacuation Zone, Routes and & Emergency Public Shelters are listed in the ALL HAZARDS GUIDE included with this plan. The Lee County ALL HAZARDS GUIDE may be updated from time to time. Please check the Lee County Emergency website at <https://www.lee.gov/publicsafety/emergencymanagement>.

You should prepare in advance for what route you might need to take. As you are evacuating, you should listen to your car radio for timely information.

IV. Post Storm Phase

If Evacuation was ordered (mandatory) or requested (voluntary), the Herons Glen SSEP Chairman, the HOA Manager along with the HOA Board, will determine (if possible) when it is feasible for residents and employees to return. The areas found to be accessible will be posted at the Herons Glen guardhouse. The HOA Board and the HOA Manager will take the necessary actions to arrange for any common area clean-up activities that may be necessary.

Post Mandatory Evacuation: If a Mandatory Evacuation Order was issued, the Sheriff's Department, or agency assisting the sheriff's department, or HOA Security may enforce the re-entry to Herons Glen. At that time, it will be important that all owners have proof of residency, e.g. Driver's license, electric bill etc.

Evacuation routes within Herons Glen: In the event an evacuation is necessary and the roadway is blocked or unsafe to get past Mystic Way. Residents east from Mystic Way to the end of Herons Glen Blvd can exit through Mystic Way to Dennisport (the gate will be open for an emergency) and right on Magnolia Landings Lane going west to the entrance of Magnolia to exit to 41. Another route if needed will be at the end of Herons Glen Blvd where the gate can be opened and cars may exit on through to Magnolia.

V. Checklists

Emergency preparation at home

- Full tank of gas in car
- 1 gallon of drinkable water per person per day
- First-aid kit
- Battery operated radio with extra batteries
- Canned, nonperishable food and drink
- Eating utensils and manual can opener
- Flashlights with extra batteries, lanterns, candles and matches
- Cash
- Sanitary care items (toilet paper etc.)
- Prescription drugs
- Mosquito repellent
- Plastic bags and containers
- Bleach
- Water jugs
- Insurance policies, other important papers and proof of residency
- Misc. Items: Duct tape, sleeping bags, insulated coolers, tools, games, cards, pet supplies.

Leaving your home

The following are recommended procedures for homeowners who vacate their home to go north for the summer, for an extended vacation trip, or who evacuate their home due to an Evacuation Order or emergency.

- Refer to the **Preparatory List for leaving your home for extended periods of time, this form is available online or in the HOA Office**
- Leave a telephone number where you can be reached with a Herons Glen friend. Contact the HOA or Security prior to leaving to give them contact information (if time is available).

HOA 239-731-0332 Security- 239-543-4489

- Make sure your yard and porches are clear of loose objects that can be blown about by high winds, such as gas grills, lawn furniture, plants, etc. Put these items in your garage before you leave.
- Storm shutters are recommended for all homes.
- Have some identification with you which proves you are a Herons Glen resident. **This may be necessary to present to Security or law enforcement personnel before you are allowed to re-enter Herons Glen.** Identification includes driver's license with your Herons Glen address, property tax receipt, and utility bill.
- Be sure to take all of your important documents with you when you leave, such as wills, check books, insurance policies, income tax information, etc.

The Herons Glen Emergency Preparedness Plan is also available online at www.heronsglenhoa.org

Preparation for Pets

- Securely fasten an up-to-date identification tag on your pet's collar with contact names and numbers.
- Carry a photo of your pet with you for identification purposes.
- Make sure you have a pet carrier, leash or harness for controlling your pet.
- Pack a week's worth of food and water. Remember to bring a manual can opener, if necessary.
- Include immunization records and medications in your pet disaster supply kit.
- Keep a list of emergency phone numbers – veterinarian, animal control, Humane Society, Red Cross – accessible. Lee County Animal Service 239-533-7387
- Understand that generally public shelters will not accept pets due to health and safety reasons. Check the All Hazards Guide for pet friendly shelters and other options.
- Call ahead to motels and hotels in safe areas to find out if they will allow you to bring pets.
- After the storm, it is important to walk your pet until they become re-oriented to their home. Often familiar scents and landmarks are altered leaving pets confused and lost.
- If you have lost your pet, contact the local animal control office to find out where lost animals can be recovered. Make sure you bring along some photos of your pet.
- Lee County has one pet shelter at Lee County Civic Center. It is only open for specific storms. Please contact Lee County Emergency Management for more details. 477-3600.

**HERONS GLEN - Preparatory List For
LEAVING YOUR HOME FOR EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME**

Telephone Numbers, Information & Notifications
Take this list with you

Date notified

- _____ ☎ - **997-0059 North Fort Myers Post Office.**
Have mail forwarded to your temporary address.
- _____ **Tell your postman the period of time that you will be away.**
Mail to stop: _____ Mail to start: _____
- _____ ☎ - **731-0322 Herons Glen HOA Office & HGRD.** Complete vacation the notification form or online form [Resident Address/Email/Vacation](#).
- _____ **Pick up the latest Community Phone Directory Supplement at the HGRD Admin Office.**

Name of neighbor or friend who has a key to your residence.

Neighbor's Name _____ ☎ _____

Neighbor's Address _____

- _____ ☎ - _____ Local Bank or Financial Institution
- _____ ☎ - _____ Other important telephone number
- _____ ☎ - **239-656-2300 LCEC** - Electric Company
Note: leave safety lights on. Do not turn electric off.
- _____ ☎ - **239-543-1005 FGUA**- Sewer
- _____ ☎ - **239-533-8845 Lee County Utilities** - Water Company
- _____ ☎ - **239-334-2849 Balgas**- Gas
- _____ ☎ - **1-800-468-0233 News Press** - Newspaper
Date off: _____ Date to start: _____
Do not allow newspapers to collect in your driveway while you are away
- _____ ☎ - **239-344-9849 Blue Stream** - Cable TV & Internet

**HERONS GLEN - Preparatory List For
LEAVING YOUR HOME FOR EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME**

- _____ ☎ - _____ Telephone Company
- _____ Pest Control ☎ - _____
- _____ Pool Company ☎ - _____
- _____ Landscape Company ☎ - _____
- _____ Security Alarm Company ☎ - _____

- Herons Glen HOA Office ☎ - **239-731-0322**
- Master Association Accounting (Herons Glen HOA) ☎ - **239-939-5775 or 800-749-8270**
- Herons Glen Recreation District (HGRD) Administration Office ☎ - **239-731-4501**
- HGRD Accounting (Amenities) ☎ - **239-731-4524**
(Includes Fairways, Meadows and Solana Accounting)
- HGRD CLIS Irrigation ☎ - **239-731-4547**
- Herons Glen Security ☎ - **239-543-4489**

HERONS GLEN - Preparatory List For LEAVING YOUR HOME FOR EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME

Before you leave

- ☐ **AIR CONDITIONER:** If you have a humidistat, follow the instructions given. If you do not, leave the AC set at 80-85 degrees. Because humidity can cause mildew, items left behind can be damaged. Have air conditioning unit thoroughly checked in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. **Note: AC and Humidistat's require electric.**
- ☐ **BUGS:** Some people leave roach tablets under all sinks, on pantry shelves, under beds, etc., as well as spraying a bug repellant along baseboards and cupboards. A pest control service would also take care of this. (If you have pets in the home, do not leave tablets where your animals can get them.)
- ☐ **CLOSET DOORS AND DRAWERS:** To prevent mildew, leave all doors and drawers slightly ajar to let air circulate. Leave open boxes of cedar chips (sold as animal bedding in pet shops) in closets to absorb moisture. "Damp-rid" is another product that can be used to absorb the moisture and is available in most department stores.
- ☐ **PANTRY:** Empty pantry except for canned items. Note: Flour, dried soup mixes, spices, sugar, etc. can be left inside refrigerator which is set to a warmer temperature. See Refrigerator.
- ☐ **DISHWASHER:** Run an empty dishwasher using several cups of white vinegar instead of soap. Let dry and prop open. Put some cooking oil inside. The seal should not be allowed to dry out, so do not leave the door ajar. "Refer to your manufacturer's recommendations."
- ☐ **GARBAGE DISPOSAL:** Pour a little salad oil into the unit and let it remain there while you are away. This will keep it from "freezing up". "Refer to your manufacturer's recommendations."
- ☐ **ELECTRIC:** Unplug TV, VCR, Microwave, and Computer. This and other sensitive electronic equipment can be struck by lightning or power surges. You can buy gadgets, which will automatically turn lamps and outdoor lights on at dusk and turn them off at dawn.

For the convenience of any house sitter **it is suggested that you not turn off the power to the lights.** For security purposes, light timers should be set.

DO NOT TURN POWER TO LIGHTS OFF AT LAMP POST/OUTDOOR POST LIGHTS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE. *This is a safety feature for the residential sections of all neighborhoods.* The only residential lights on the streets for you and your neighbors to use at night are the post lamps at each residence. The electric should be left **ON**.

- ☐ **RANGE:** After a thorough cleaning, place roach tables in water jug caps in the range drawer, oven and under burners. Upon your return or prior to use, be sure to remove these items.
- ☐ **AIR CONDITIONING FILTERS:** Clean AC filters. If away for several months, have schedule for house sitter to check filters periodically.

HERONS GLEN - Preparatory List For LEAVING YOUR HOME FOR EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME

- ☐ **REFRIGERATOR:** Empty refrigerator of perishables. The Refrigerator can be treated one of two ways: (1) it can be turned off, unplugged and door left open with baking soda in freezer and refrigerator compartments to prevent mildew. Or, (2) it can be left on a warmer temperature and used to store such items as flour, dried soup mixes, spices, sugar, etc. and the door left closed. **Whether you choose to use (1) or (2), shut off the icemaker and clean grate under the indoor water dispenser. Dispose of ice.**

- ☐ **SECURITY and ENTRANCES:** Make sure all windows and doors are locked securely. If you have a monitored security system, you will want to notify your Security Company of the name of a contact person if the alarm in your home is triggered. Make arrangements with your neighbor or friend.

- ☐ **TOILETS:** After last use, clean thoroughly, flush, refill the tank, and then turn off water to tank. Add one cup of bleach to water in bowl and cover bowl tightly with plastic wrap. This will prevent mildew.

- ☐ **SHOWER/SINKS:** Bleach and clean shower floor and sink drains.

- ☐ **WASHING MACHINE:** Run an empty washing machine using several cups of white vinegar instead of soap. Let dry and prop open. Close water valves. Read manufacturer's recommendations.

- ☐ **WATER: TURN OFF WATER MAIN TO THE HOUSE.** Care for other water appliances according to manufacturer's suggestions. *Reminder: Do not turn off the water permanently if it is needed for the pool. Sometimes water evaporates more quickly in the pool in the summer than the summer rains replenish.*

- ☐ **YARD:** Your lawn will be mowed while you're away, BUT, your flowerbeds and shrubs will not be maintained. Be certain to have a dependable landscaping service company.
 - ☐ **Bring all yard ornaments, decorative items, pots, and flags These items are not permitted to be left out during the summer when you are away.**

 - ☐ **Give Landscaper your phone number where you can be reached.** Arrange for trimming of shrubs and weeding of beds. Mulching, grub treatment, fertilizer and lawn treatments. This should be done on a regular basis. Shrubs and plants grow quickly especially during summer months and pests can get out of control if not restrained by treatments.

- ☐ **BATTERIES:** Remove batteries from clocks, smoke detectors, etc. The batteries will corrode if left connected.

- ☐ **BATTERIES in Thermostat, exception:** Change batteries in thermostat. Do not remove.

HERONS GLEN - Preparatory List For LEAVING YOUR HOME FOR EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME

☐ **GARAGE:** When leaving your home for an extended period of time, it is suggested that you deactivate your automatic garage door opener.

If your garage has a hurricane post system, follow the Hurricane Activation Instructions that are posted on the inside of your garage door.

☐ **LANAI:** Bring **ALL** outside items in from front, back porches and yard. Remember potted plants, especially plants outside in urns, etc. If you need plants watered, have a neighbor “baby-sit” the plant until your return. These items turn into missiles during high winds/hurricane season. Remove all decorative items in plant beds to inside the secured residence.

☐ **HOUSE KEY:** Leave a key with a neighbor or make arrangements to have someone check your home.

☐ **LAST:** Lock Doors.

☐ **TRASH:** Place any trash in disposable trash bags and leave tightly secured for trash pick-up. Put all trash cans inside. Do not leave outside.

This is a list of suggestions to help you prepare to leave your home in a “safe mode” until your return. If you discover other helpful points not on this list, please notify the SAFETY COMMITTEE so these points can be incorporated into future recommendations.

DISCLAIMER: The HOA does not assume any responsibility for the success or failure for the recommendations on this list.

[Leaving on the electric for the Lamp Post light is mandatory due to safety reasons. The same applies to making sure loose items which may blow around during high winds are secured inside.]

↯UPON RETURN from your extended time away, reverse this list.↯

Other Important reminders:

EMERGENCIES

When evacuating due to a hurricane, storm or other emergency, refer to the Herons Glen Homeowners Association Emergency Preparedness Plan for protective instructions for your family, home, possessions and pets.

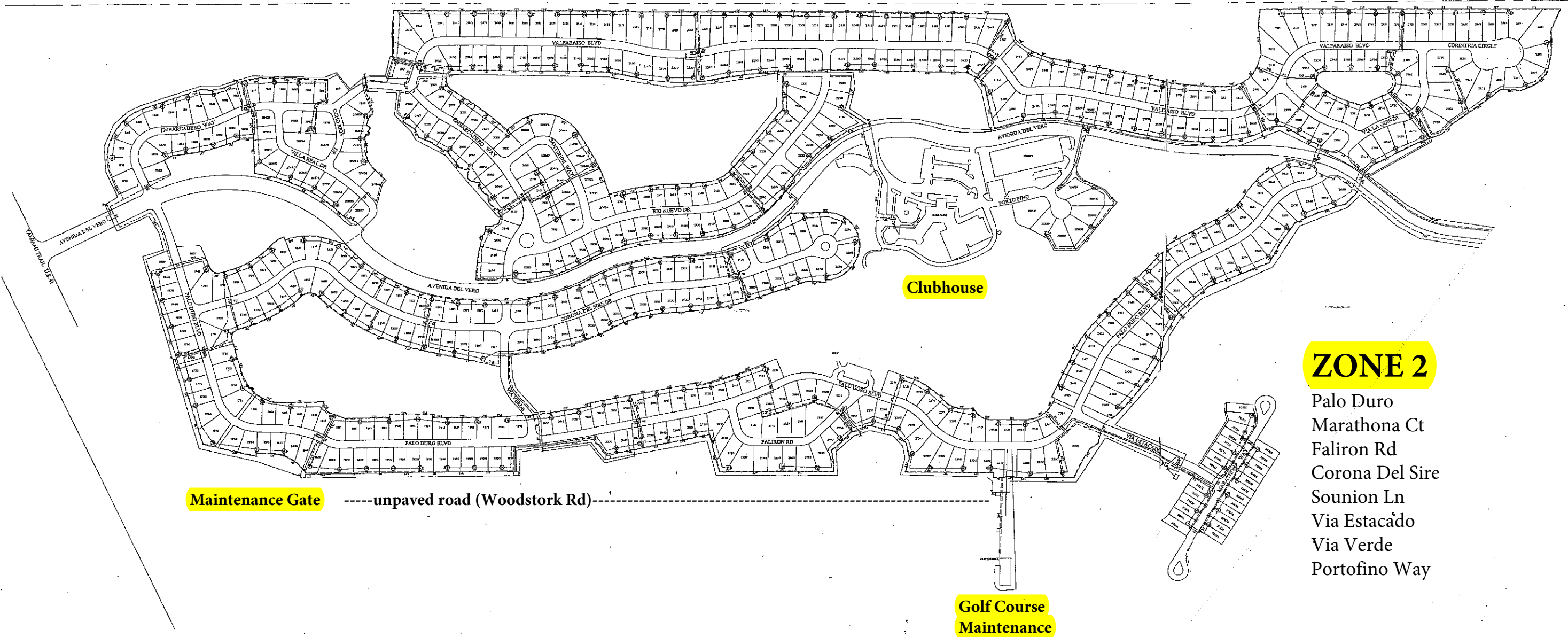
You should stay abreast of these instructions and be prepared to evacuate immediately if the emergency is declared IMMINENT!

APPROVED BY THE SAFETY SECURITY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE (SSEP) on 4/26/09

Updated 5/26/17

ZONE 1

Embarcadero Way Valparaiso Blvd Via La Quinta Via Presidio
Villareal Way Ocho Rio Santorini Way
Rio Nuevo Micrassia Ln Corinthia Cir



ZONE 2

Palo Duro
Marathona Ct
Faliron Rd
Corona Del Sire
Sounion Ln
Via Estacado
Via Verde
Portofino Way

ZONE 3

Mystic Way
Mykonos Ct
Tisbury Ln
Dennisport Ln
Odyssea Ct
Athenian Ln
Via Athena

Fitness Center

AVENIDA GATE

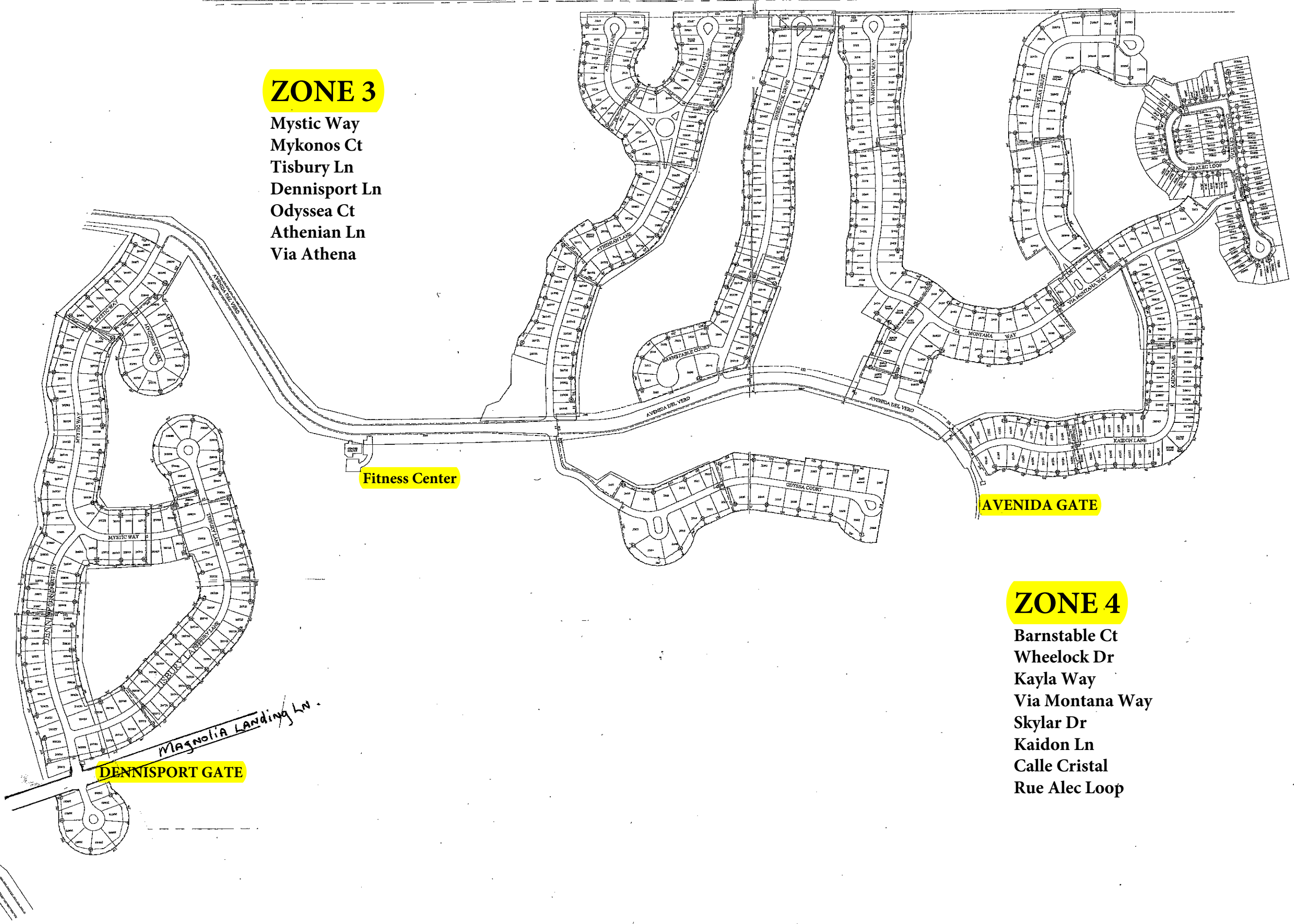
ZONE 4

Barnstable Ct
Wheelock Dr
Kayla Way
Via Montana Way
Skylar Dr
Kaidon Ln
Calle Cristal
Rue Alec Loop

DENNISPORT GATE

MAGNOLIA LANDING LN

To ENTRANCE of
Magnolia Landing
←



Lee County, Florida

ALL HAZARDS GUIDE



Preparedness: Everyone's Responsibility



Lee County’s All Hazards Guide is designed to help residents and visitors prepare for a variety of possible weather events that could impact the area.

You are encouraged to use our helpful notification tools to stay informed about storm threats, preparedness, evacuation and shelter information.

- Download the LeePrepares app, free on iPhone or Android devices, for easy-to-access updates once the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is activated. The EOC activates when we are in the probable path of an oncoming storm.
- Visit www.AlretLee.com to receive calls, emails or texts about significant emergencies. This includes vital safety information.

If you are new to the area or have lived here a while and simply want to refresh your preparedness planning, preparedness materials including education videos are available online at www.leegov.com/Hurricane. These cover everything from making your plan ahead of a major storm to the recovery process that follows.

Lee County encourages you to prepare early and stay vigilant throughout hurricane season. Preparing early is the best approach.

- Make a simple Family Emergency Plan at www.LeeEOC.com.
- Put together your Disaster Supply Kit.
- Plan for any possible evacuation; make solid plans to stay with family or friends outside of the immediate area. A public shelter is not a comfortable experience.
- Follow the recommendations in these pages to point you toward potentially lifesaving information before, during and after a disaster.

Response and recovery involve the entire community and are everyone’s responsibility. Lee County Public Safety asks that you and your family do your part by creating a “Culture of Preparedness” at home. Share this information with your friends and neighbors.

We all understand we need to be prepared and take action. The better everyone in our community is prepared, the better our county is prepared as a whole.



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Important Phone Numbers and Websites


Phone Numbers	Normal Business	Emergency
American Red Cross (Local Chapter)	239-278-3401	
Arson Alert Hotline	800-342-5869	800-342-5869
Blood Donor Center — Oneblood	888-9-DONATE	
— Lee Health Blood Center	239-343-2333	
Cape Coral Emergency Management	239-573-3022	911
Cape Coral Police Department (Non-Emergency)	239-574-3223	911
Federal Emergency Management Agency	800-621-3362	800-462-7585
Florida Division of Emergency Management	850-413-9969	
Florida Health Department — Lee County	239-332-9501	239-332-9501
Fort Myers Police Department	239-321-7700	911
Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS)	239-533-7387	239-533-7387
Lee County Emergency Information Hotline/United Way 211	239-433-2000	211
Lee County Emergency Management	239-533-0622	239-533-0622
Lee County Government	239-533-2111	
Lee County Public Safety & EMS	239-533-3911	911
Lee County Sheriff's Office	239-477-1000	911
Mobile or Manufactured Home Residents	850-617-3004	
National Weather Service/Tampa Bay	813-645-2323	
Poison Information	800-222-1222	800-222-1222
Salvation Army	239-278-1551	239-278-1551
Sanibel Police Department	239-472-3111	911
State Department of Financial Services (Insurance)	239-461-4001	800-22-STORM
Traffic Conditions in Florida (Current)	511	511
United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades & Okeechobee Counties	239-433-2000	211

Websites	
American Sign Language Preparedness Videos	www.leegov.com/publicsafety
Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)	www.ready.gov/cert
Florida Lightning Safety	www.weather.gov/safety/lightning
Mobile or Manufactured Home Residents	www.flhsmv.gov/mobilehome
State Department of Financial Services (Insurance)	www.myfloridacfo.com
StormReady	www.weather.gov/stormready
U. S. Department of Homeland Security	www.dhs.gov

Apps and Social Media Tools




Lee County Emergency Management delivers vital information through social media, the county website and on apps. You can find our free hurricane preparedness video series on the Lee County YouTube channel or at www.LeeGov.com/Hurricane.



www.LeeEOC.com


Family Preparedness Plan
Special Needs Program Application
Shelter Locations
Notifications and Resources



Know Your Evacuation Zone


www.LeeEOC.com
Navigate Website
Enter home address
Find your Evacuation Zone

Also available on LeePrepares




www.RideLeeTran.com

Check for Real-Time Bus Tracking
Find Your Nearest Stop
Plan Your Route
Review Bus Schedules
Get the Transit App




LeePrepares — Free App

Sign up for Evacuation Notifications
Find your Evacuation Zone
Find Shelter Locations
Preparedness Information
Local Weather
Free through Apple or Android Stores




www.AlertLee.com


Free Alert Service
Receive Calls, Emails or Texts
Info on Significant Emergencies
Critical Protective Actions Needed
How to Safeguard Life and Property




@LeeEOC
@LeeCountyFLBoCC



Facebook.com/LeePublicSafety
or
Facebook.com/LeeCo



@leepublicsafety



YouTube.com/c/LeeCountyFLBOCC

Radio Alerts and Online Videos

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service office. These give official Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To receive information even during power outages, you should have an emergency weather radio with batteries or a crank. They work even during the most damaging storms.

Identification codes for Lee and adjoining counties:

Fort Myers Channel 4 (162.475 MHz)

Lee - 012071

Collier - 012021

DeSoto - 012027

Charlotte - 012015

Hendry - 012051



WGCU-90.1 FM is the Southwest Florida affiliate of the Florida Public Radio Emergency Network. It will stay on the air during power outages and continue broadcasting information you need to stay safe.

Working with the Florida Division of Emergency Management and the Lee County Emergency Operations Center, WGCU will also provide frequent updates after a major weather event.

Our online videos will help guide you through hurricane season with simple, clear instructions about preparation, evacuation and shelters, and safety strategies for making decisions after the storm has passed.



www.leegov.com/Hurricane

Lee County produced these videos during the COVID-19 pandemic when regular in-person Hurricane Seminars were not possible, and they became a valuable resource—available at any time and they have been updated! They're short, easy to follow, and come with fun quizzes at the end to make sure you're "Hurricane Ready!" Watch them at www.LeeGov.com/Hurricane.

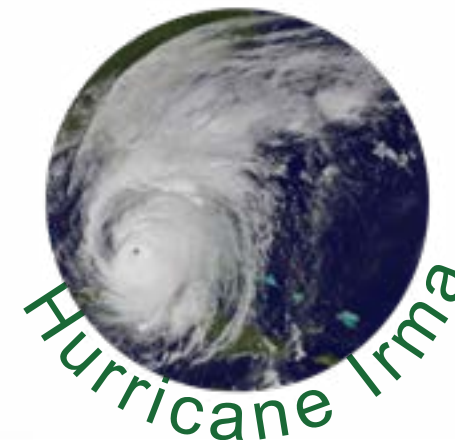


Hurricanes and Flooding

Atlantic Hurricane Season: June 1 — Nov. 30 (The season peaks from August to October)

Hurricanes are not just coastal problems. Any place there's water, from rivers and waterways to Lake Okeechobee, there's a risk to residents from hurricanes.

Hurricanes not only bring wind and heavy rainfall, they also can trigger tornadoes and storm surge. The greatest risk to life is posed by storm surge and rainfall flooding.



Storm Surge



Flooding

Storm surge is an abnormal rise of water generated by a tropical storm or hurricane. As these storms make landfall, they produce water level rise and strong winds that push water into shore. Storm surge forecasts do not account for large crashing waves or debris in the water.

Due to low elevation and proximity to beaches and other tidal waters, storm surge can travel far inland in Lee County.

Heavy or prolonged rain can result in flooding. Prolonged rainfall saturates the ground and less of the water can be soaked up. Heavy rainfall can have less of a chance to be soaked up by the soil.

"Sheet flow" is a natural flow of water south through the Florida peninsula and may cause flooding along rivers, creeks and canals.

Need to Know



- Foundations of homes may fail.
- Standing water may contain debris, chemicals, and raw sewage.
- Electricity may be out — potentially for a long time.
- Tap water may be unsafe for drinking, bathing or cooking.
- Roadways and bridges may sustain heavy damage or be covered in water and/or debris.
- Flood waters may contain debris, chemicals and raw sewage.
- Electricity cannot be restored with high water levels surrounding homes.
- Well water may be unsafe for drinking, bathing or cooking.
- Septic tanks may fail or become damaged.
- Young children and animals can drown, be injured or become severely ill from playing or swimming in flood waters.

Who Should Shelter at Home?

If you do not live in an area that is required to evacuate, sheltering at home with precautions is a safe choice. Preparing properly, and offering to shelter friends or family who are required to leave a more dangerous area, will help the entire community get through the storm together.



If you are in a mobile home, manufactured home or recreational vehicle, you should safely evacuate.



More people die from storm surge than high winds during a hurricane. If you are in an evacuation zone and an evacuation is ordered for your zone, go!



A public shelter should not be your Plan A or even Plan B. Lee County has a limited number of shelters with space available for those who have nowhere else to go.

What You Need for Home — Disaster Supply Kit

Bottled water (1 gallon per person per day)	Nonperishable food (for at least 3-7 days)	Cooler and ice for food and medications	Matches and a lighter	Camp stove or grill and pots and pans
Plastic dishes and eating utensils	Infant and/or senior supplies	Pet food, bowls, leash, toys and vaccination records	Cleaning supplies	Hand sanitizer
Soap, shampoo and other personal hygiene items	Toothbrush and toothpaste	Towels	Clothing for each family member	Rain jackets, boots and pants
Blankets and extra bedding	First Aid Kit	2 week supply of prescribed medications	Sunglasses, sunscreen and mosquito repellant	Chemical light sticks
Flashlight	Batteries for radio, flashlight, hearing aids, other devices	NOAA Weather Radio	Pad and pencils or pens	Cash, checks and credit cards
Mobile devices and chargers	Spare keys	Whistle	Identification cards, insurance policies, important records	Books, cards and games

Food and Sanitation

Health and Safety

Communication

Saffir - Simpson Hurricane Scale

Category 1

Winds: 75 to 95 mph
Damage: Minimal; signs, tree branches, power lines down

Category 2

Winds: 96 to 110 mph
Damage: Moderate; larger signs, tree branches blown down

Category 3

Winds: 111 to 130 mph
Damage: Extensive; minor damage to buildings, trees blown down

Category 4

Winds: 131 to 155 mph
Damage: Extreme; almost total destruction of doors/windows

Category 5

Winds: More than 155 mph
Damage: Catastrophic; buildings, roofs, structures destroyed

Evacuate or Shelter in Place?



Deciding whether to evacuate or shelter in place depends upon the incident or event.

Having a plan allows you to prepare in advance so you feel more confident and secure.

Whether the disaster is a flood, extreme heat, tropical cyclone, hazardous material spill, or pandemic, the first step is to know your risks and personal needs.

When it comes to weather events, think through factors that may result in evacuation orders. Evaluating your risks will help you decide what to do and where to shelter.

- What is your evacuation zone?
- Does your neighborhood flood during heavy rains?
- Do you require electricity for medical reasons?

If Emergency Management issues an Evacuation Order for your zone, you need to leave the area for your safety. Although we open emergency shelters, staying with family, friends, or in a hotel is more comfortable.

For hazardous material spills or heavy smoke from a wildfire, sheltering in place may be the appropriate choice. Tune into news or social media for official instructions.

Emergency Management has a list of hazards to review and a Family Emergency Plan that you can find on our website at www.LeeEOC.com and on the LeePrepares app.

Know Your Evacuation Zone

Do you know your Evacuation Zone?

Visit our website www.LeeEOC.com to find out what zone you are in.

1. Click on "Know My Evacuation Zone" in the navigation bar.
2. Click the Find My Evacuation Zone link.
3. Enter your address in the search bar.
4. Or visit www.leegov.com/rit



Plan — Prepare — Pass It On



The time to develop an emergency plan is *prior* to a disaster. Being prepared will help keep you and your loved ones safe and establish a reliable network of support during a crisis.

Plan

Know your risks:

- What is your Storm Surge/Evacuation Zone?
- Are you in a flood zone?
- Do you live in a mobile or manufactured home?
- What year was your house built?
- Does your house have storm shutters?

How often do storms impact us?



The average is once every 2.48 years.

Prepare

- Prepare evacuation or sheltering options.
- Prepare an Emergency Supply Kit before the start of hurricane season.
- The Family Emergency Plan is a great tool to help you create a plan that is specific to your family's needs. Find it on our website at www.LeeEOC.com.
- Secure items in and around your home before tropical storm force winds arrive.
- Practice as many elements of your plan as possible.

How often is there a direct hit?

The average is once every 8.39 years.

What about major storms?

Those average once every 15.10 years.



Pass It On

- Be sure all family members know who to call or where to gather if you become separated.
- Let family and friends in other locations know your evacuation plans.

Preparation Tips

- Prepare a shelter plan.
- Know your evacuation route.
- Set your phone for emergency alerts and warnings.
- Prepare a family communication plan.

Shelters — How They Work

General Population Shelters

A shelter is a safe place to be during an emergency. However, it offers only the basic life-sustaining necessities. The shelter may not have electricity for the majority of your stay. It will be noisy, crowded and somewhat uncomfortable.

Lee County has a limited amount of shelters and space within the shelters. Plan to use an alternate location. If you have no other safe place to go, shelters will be open.

Not all identified shelters will open during every storm. A list of Lee County shelters is on Pages 17-18 of this guide and on our website at www.LeeEOC.com. Local radio, television news and our website and social media channels will broadcast open shelters. All shelters are pet friendly. See Pages 13-14 for information.

Limited food and water will be available; bring three-days' worth of your own food and water. Cots are not provided. Bring other items as well: snacks, special dietary needs, clothing and medications.



Announcements

Not all shelters will open. Check www.LeeEOC.com, local news and social media for a current list of openings.

Arrivals

Register with shelter staff and check out if you leave. Be considerate of others and consider volunteering to help.

Preparations

Bring a three-day supply of food and water, medications, clothing, sleeping bags, wipes, face masks and disinfectant.

Persons with Disabilities



During emergencies, persons with disabilities may seek safety in general population shelters. Here are some important guidelines:

- Many times a disability is not obvious.
- Remember, a person with a disability is a person first. Ask before you help. Do not assume they need help because they have a disability.
- Be sensitive to personal space and physical contact. People consider their equipment a part of their person.
- Think before you speak. Speak to the person, not the companion or aide.
- Do not approach or touch a service animal without permission.

If you have questions or need help, contact Lee County's ADA Coordinator at 239-533-2111.

Lee County strives to provide a safe environment during emergency situations.

Smoking, alcohol and firearms are prohibited at all shelters.

Special Medical Needs Program



Lee County is committed to assisting residents whose health would quickly deteriorate in a public shelter during emergencies. The Special Needs Program is available to all Lee County residents at no cost. You can bring your dog or cat with you to a Special Medical Needs shelter.

Who needs a Special Medical Needs Shelter?

- People with medical impairments or disabilities who are medically stable but require medical assistance.
- People who need more than basic first aid or need help with basic, everyday tasks.
- People who require electricity for oxygen, IV pumps, or other equipment.
- People who are on dialysis or have conditions like advancing Alzheimer's or neuromuscular disorders.

Do I Need a Caregiver?



A companion or caregiver needs to accompany you during the time you shelter. Florida Department of Health-Lee County has a limited number of staff working. Caregivers will need to bring shelter survival supplies for themselves.

Visit www.LeeEOC.com or call Lee County Emergency Management at 239-533-0622 for more information.

Preparation Tips



- Register with the Special Medical Needs Program.
- Have a Go-Kit ready.
- Make arrangements for a caregiver or friend to accompany you.

How Do I Register?



The easiest way to register is online at www.LeeEOC.com.

You can register yourself or a family member or caregiver can register for you. If you do not have access to a computer, you can get an application by calling Lee County Emergency Management at 239-533-0622.

Medical information must be updated yearly.

Register early — registrations will not be taken once Lee County enters the five-day hurricane forecast cone.

What if I Need Transportation?



If you do not have a vehicle or a ride to get to a Special Medical Needs shelter or a general population shelter, you can register for transportation. Lee County Emergency Management works with LeeTran to organize transportation for those who need assistance.

What if I do not pre-register?

If you have not pre-registered and do not have a ride, you can go to any LeeTran bus stop or transfer station for a free bus ride to a shelter.

Bus schedules and the Transit app are on the LeeTran website: www.RideLeeTran.com.



Make sure your pets are microchipped.
Microchips are only helpful when linked to current contact information.

Learn more at www.leegov.com/AnimalServices.



Service animals are allowed in all shelters.

“Service Animals” are defined as a dog or miniature horse that is trained to perform a service or task for their owners and are not pets. Comfort animals or emotional support animals are NOT service animals. If you have exotic pets, please check with your veterinarian for suggestions on shelters for them.

You can bring your dog or cat with you to a Special Medical Needs shelter. Animals are housed in a different area but you will have access to feed, walk and spend time with them. Bring food and supplies your pet will need.

Pet-Friendly Shelters

Pet-friendly shelters will be available for every storm, although locations may vary. No registration is required. For the safety of other sheltered people and animals, make alternate plans for any animal posing a danger.

See the opposite page for more information on planning for your pets.



Planning is the best way to keep your pets safe during an evacuation event. Remember that if it is not safe for you, it’s not safe for them. Plan and assemble an emergency kit for your pets.

This is important if you shelter in place, evacuate or go to a shelter.

Pet Go-Kit Supplies



Water and food bowls



Food and treats (for at least 1 week)



Manual can opener and spoon



Water (1 gallon per day, per animal, for at least 1 week)



Toys, treats, and bedding



Newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags and bleach



Litter and litter box for cats; waste bags for dogs



Collar and leash with ID and rabies tags for cats and dogs



Crate or pet carrier large enough to stand, turn and lie down



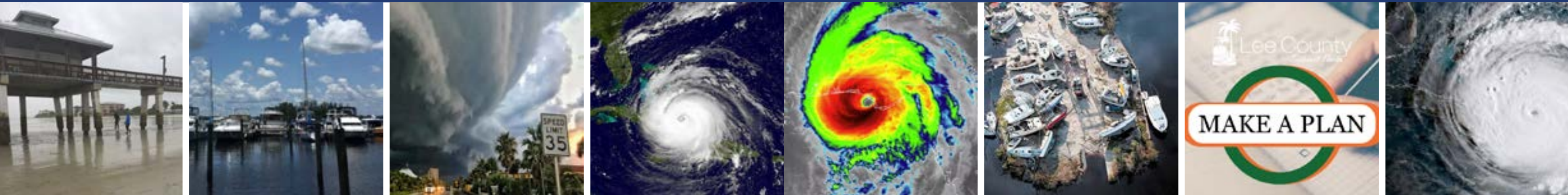
Photo of you with your pet to show ownership if separated



Health records and medication



First Aid Kit: cotton bandage rolls, tape, scissors, antibiotic ointment, flea/tick prevention, gloves, isopropyl alcohol



PLANNING WILL HELP KEEP YOUR BOAT SAFE

STORING YOUR BOAT

Find boating safety information on the U.S. Coast Guard's site — www.uscgboating.org.

Each boat owner needs a plan for their type of boat, local environment, severe weather and available safe havens.

When the storm is approaching and quick action is needed

- Listen to your local Emergency Management office for specific boat evacuation instructions.
- Do not stay aboard — remove your vessel from the water if possible.
- Remove all moveable equipment: canvas, sails, dinghies, radios, biminis, roller furling sails.
- Lash down everything you cannot remove: tillers, wheels, booms.
- Make sure the electrical system is turned off unless you plan to leave the boat in the water.
- Remove battery and portable fuel.

Preparation Tips



- Practice how to secure your boat in the marina.
- Check your lease or boat storage agreement.
- Know your responsibilities and liabilities.
- Gather your records and insurance policies.
- Have a boat photo and the Hull ID Number (HIN#).
- Know how to contact the harbor master and Coast Guard.
- Write your phone number on paddle boards, kayaks, and life jackets.



- Ensure your tow vehicle is capable of moving the boat. Check trailer, tire bearings and axle are in good condition.
- Once at a “safe place,” lash your boat and trailer and place blocks between the frame members and axle inside each wheel.
- Secure your boat with heavy nylon lines to fixed objects.
- If possible, find a location that will allow you to secure it from all four sides. It can be tied to screw anchors. Do not secure your boat to a tree.

Lee County has the third-highest number of registered vessels in state

In dry storage:

- Never leave a boat on davits or on a hydro-lift.

In wet storage:

- Secure boat in marina berth.
- Moor boat in safe area.
- Haul the boat. Leave area well in advance.

Boats Remaining in Marina Berth

- Double all lines. Rig crossing spring lines fore and aft. Attach lines high on pilings to allow for tidal rise or surge. Make sure lines will not slip off pilings. Inspect pilings and choose those that seem strongest, tallest, and are properly installed. The longer the dock lines, the better a boat will be at coping with high tides. It is also essential to double up on all lines and use chafe protectors at any potential chafe points. Cover all lines at rough points to prevent chafing.
- Install fenders to protect the boat from rubbing against the pier, pilings, and other boats.
- Assess the attachment of primary cleats, winches, and chocks. These should have substantial backing plates and adequate stainless steel bolt sizes.
- Batteries should be fully charged and checked to ensure their capability to run automatic bilge pumps for the duration of the storm. Consider backup batteries. Cut off all devices consuming electricity except bilge pumps.

Evacuation Zones and Public Shelters

For the most recent public shelter list, see our website at www.LeeEOC.com.

EMERGENCY PUBLIC SHELTERS

Cape Coral

- 1. Island Coast High School – 2125 DeNavarra Pkwy

Estero

- 2. Estero Recreation Center – 9200 Corkscrew Palm Blvd
- 3. Hertz Arena – 11000 Everblades Pkwy

Fort Myers

- 4. Dunbar High School – 3800 Edison Ave
- 5. Gateway High School – 13820 Griffin Dr
- 6. South Fort Myers High School – 14020 Plantation Blvd
- 7. Treeline Elementary School – 10900 Treeline Ave

Lehigh Acres

- 8. East Lee County High School – 715 Thomas-Sherwin Ave
- 9. Harns Marsh Elementary School – 1800 Unice Ave N
- 10. Harns Marsh Middle School – 1820 Unice Ave N
- 11. Mirror Lakes Elementary School – 525 Charwood Ave
- 12. Tortuga Preserve Elementary School – 1711 Gunnery Rd
- 13. Varsity Lakes Middle School – 801 Gunnery Rd
- 14. Veterans Park Recreation Center – 49 Homestead Rd

North Fort Myers

- 15. North Fort Myers Academy of the Arts – 1856 Arts Way
- 16. North Fort Myers Recreation Center – 2000 N Recreation Park Way

San Carlos

- 17. Alico Arena – 12181 FGCU Lake Pkwy

Tice

- 18. Manatee Elementary School – 5301 Tice St
- 19. Oak Hammock Middle School – 5321 Tice St

**Be Advised:

NOT all shelters will be open for every event. The opening of shelters is dependent upon the nature of each specific event.

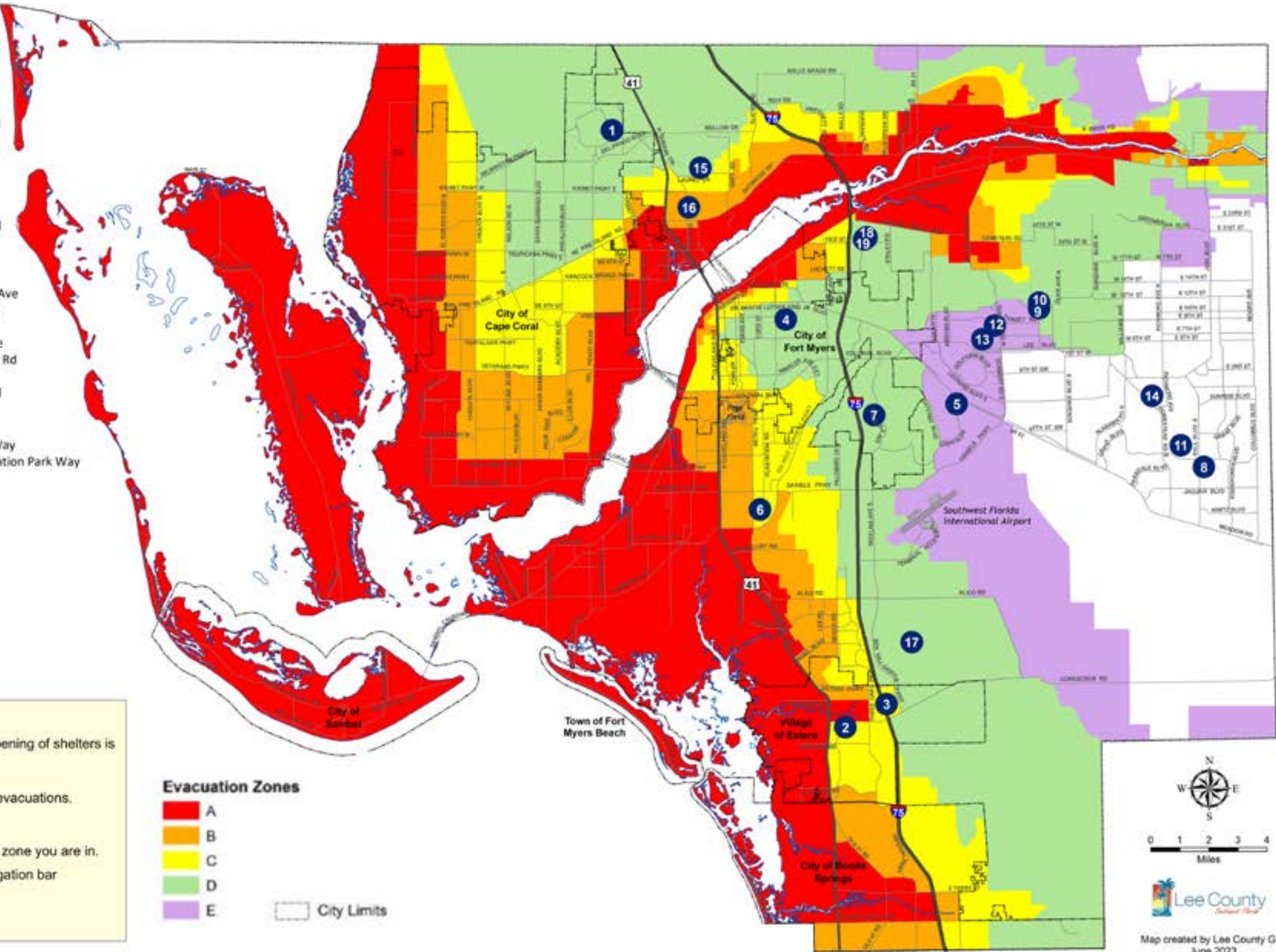
Pet sheltering will be offered in all shelters open for evacuations.

Know Your Evacuation Zone:

Visit our website www.LeeEOC.com to find out what zone you are in.

- 1. Click on 'Know My Evacuation Zone.' in the navigation bar
- 2. Click the Find My Evacuation Zone link
- 3. Enter your address in the search bar

Source: Lee County Emergency Management



Home and Insurance Prep

Are you covered?

Most property owners have homeowners insurance coverage insuring them from catastrophic loss. However, a homeowners policy does not protect you from loss due to flooding or rising water.

To insure your home from flood (rising water), you must have a separate flood insurance policy. Lee County qualifies and participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. These insurance tips may reduce your risk of harm and quicken the recovery process.

If you do not have a flood insurance policy, check with your insurance agent for a price quote on your home and your personal property.

Do not wait!

There is a 30-day waiting period before flood insurance becomes effective, unless you are purchasing a new home with a mortgage.

House Safety

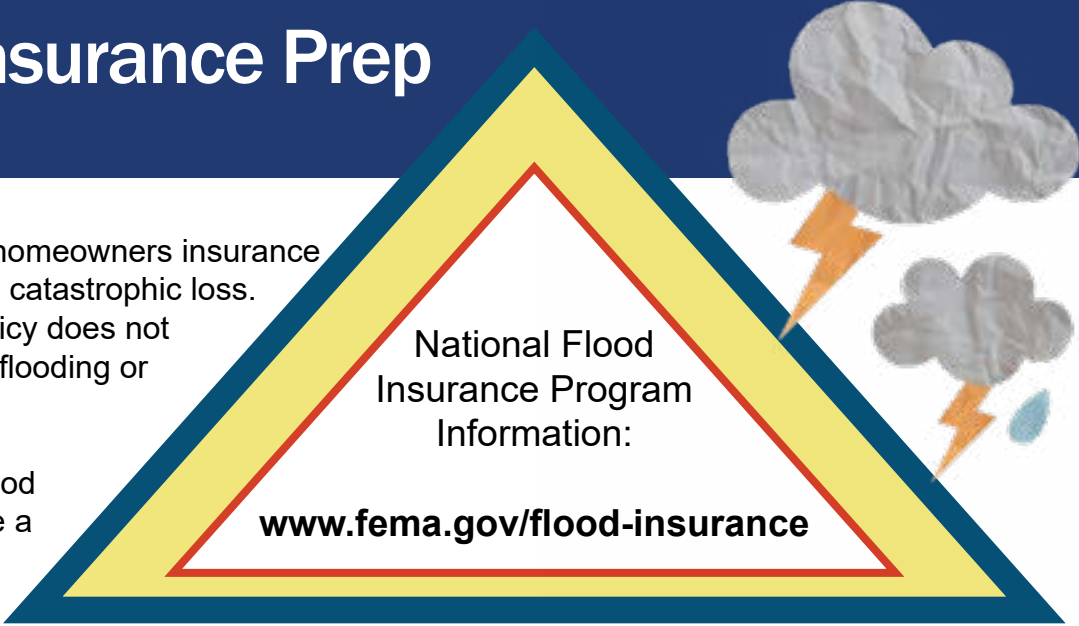
Consider the impact of hurricane winds on your home and consult a qualified expert if you have questions.

Things you will want to know:

- When was your home built?
- Where are you located?
- How many stories is your home?
- How strong are your walls?
- What kind of roof do you have?
- How is the roof connected to the walls?
- How do you protect the openings in your home?

Manufactured and Mobile Homes:

- Anchors are required per Florida law.
- Check tie-downs at least once a year.
- Review Florida Administrative Code 15C-1 for tie-down requirements.
- Utility/storage sheds, carports, and other vulnerable structures need to be secured.
- No matter how good your tie-downs are, evacuation is the best plan to save your life.



BEFORE THE STORM

Know your coverage

Check that your insurance covers improvements you've made. Obtain flood insurance.

Take a household inventory

Itemize your personal property, costs, dates of purchase, and serial numbers.

Safeguard your records

Have important papers like insurance policies, mortgages, titles, auto and health insurance in a central place.

AFTER THE STORM

Report damage immediately

Obtain a claim number and a "Claims phone number" if available.

Document emergency repairs

Take photos of damage before and after repairs. Keep receipts. Make copies for your records.

Secure your property

Remove valuable items. Lock windows and doors. Place valuables in a safe deposit box or take them with you.

Flood Preparation

What is the risk of flooding in Lee County?

Our flood risk generally comes with storm surge and heavy rainfall from hurricanes, or from "sheet flow" — the natural flow of water south down the Florida peninsula that can overwhelm rivers, creeks and canals.

As part of its Local Mitigation Strategy, Lee County Public Safety conducted a formal assessment of the flood risk in Lee County.

FEMA updated information about the principal flooding problems in unincorporated Lee County as part of its 2014 Coastal Discovery Report, which can be viewed at www.leegov.com/dcd/flood, along with the detailed flooding history in FEMA's 2018 Flood Insurance Study for Lee County.



Know Your Flood Hazard

Learn your flood hazard, flood zone, and map information at www.leegov.com/dcd/flood.

You can also:

- Learn about historic flooding in Lee County in FEMA's 2018 Flood Insurance Rate Study and 2014 Coastal Discovery Report www.leegov.com/dcd/flood/documents
- Find your flood zone: leegis.leegov.com/floodzone
- Download or print flood maps and other flood-related documents. Flood zones, which begin with an "A" or a "V," require flood insurance if the property is mortgaged.

Preparation Tips

Before a hurricane or storm approaches:

- Prepare a Go-Kit for your family and pets.
- Obey evacuation notices.
- Report blocked ditches, swales and canals.
- Learn more at:

www.leegov.com/publicsafety

Protect People, Home, and Property

People:

- Share this guide with your family and friends.
- Stay out of flood waters. They can contain dangerous chemicals, gasoline, oil and sewage.
- Learn more:

www.leegov.com/dcd/flood/disaster#ProtectPeople
www.leegov.com/dcd/flood/disaster/prepare



Property:

- Ask your community floodplain manager about flood protection assistance.
- Jurisdiction staff provides one-on-one advice to anyone interested in protecting their building from flood damage.
- Some instances might include a site visit followed by a written summary of the flood problem and recommended alternatives. The reviews may include how elevating a building, retrofitting flood openings, and having the proper enclosed areas can reduce flood insurance premiums.
- Visit FEMA's virtual library to learn how to protect structures:

www.fema.gov/media-library

Flood Preparation



Flood Zones and Evacuation Zones are NOT the Same

Flood Zones - Routinely used for flood insurance ratings and some building code requirements.

Evacuation Zones - Used only in emergencies to move away from a dangerous storm.


How does Lee County address flood emergencies?

Lee County joined the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in 1984. As a result:

- Lee County property owners may purchase flood insurance policies through the NFIP.
- FEMA will provide disaster assistance in Lee County in the event of a federally declared disaster.
- FEMA routinely assesses the risk of flooding here and updates Flood Insurance Rate Maps.


In addition, Lee County and all its municipalities participate in the NFIP’s Community Rating System (CRS), which provides a discount in the cost of the flood insurance policy. More information is available online at www.fema.gov/flood-insurance.

Choose Your Flood Warning System — Lee County Emergency Management will send flooding news and alerts many ways.



- Find your evacuation zone
- Evacuation text notifications
- Shelter locations
- Preparedness information
- Local weather
- Apple and Android - Free


Local Alert System




FEMA Integrated Public Alert Warning System (IPAWS)

We use our Alerting Authority to warn about serious emergencies through:

- Emergency Alert System (EAS)
- Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)
- Weather Radio (NOAA)




- Phone calls, texts, emails about significant emergencies
- Or critical protective actions needed to safeguard life and property
- Register at www.AlertLee.com - Free



Facebook

www.facebook.com/LeePublicSafety

- Real-time Emergency updates
- General preparedness information



Twitter

[@LeeEOC](https://twitter.com/LeeEOC)

- Real-time Emergency updates



AFTER THE FLOOD

Who to Contact

What to Do

Where to Go for Assistance



- Do life-saving and damage mitigation first.
- Get a permit for permanent repairs.
- Be cautious about ground water, food safety and dehydration.
- Register for Individual Assistance:
 - In a Federally Declared disaster, if your property/structure was damaged, apply for Individual Assistance (IA) with FEMA immediately even if you do not need IA right away.
 - Entering the system means you stay eligible for loans even after the IA registration deadline has passed.

www.DisasterAssistance.gov

Flood Zone

For information and copies of Elevation Certificates (if on record) for properties in *city limits* call:

Bonita Springs.....	239-444-6150
Cape Coral.....	239-574-0553
Fort Myers.....	239-321-7000
Fort Myers Beach...	239-765-0202
Estero.....	239-319-2811
Sanibel.....	239-472-3700

For properties not within city limits (unincorporated Lee County):

239-533-8585



For more information on **Flood Zones** visit:

www.LeeGov.com/dcd/Flood

Flood Preparation



BUILD RESPONSIBLY



- Get a permit before you build; check with your jurisdiction to see if your project requires a building permit.
- Know the safety and insurance benefits of exceeding minimum standards.
- Before you remodel, learn about flood regulations and building codes.
- For properties in the SFHA-Special Flood Hazard Area (www.leegov.com/dcd/flood/defined), structures must meet base flood elevation (BFE) or Freeboard and other NFIP regulations.
- Consider the advantages of building higher than BFE/Freeboard. Doing so might lower flood insurance and lessen the risk of flood damage.
- Agricultural buildings in the SFHA (flood zones beginning with A or V) are not exempt from NFIP construction requirements, even though they are exempt from the Florida Building Code.
- Fill and construction are prohibited in regulatory floodways *unless* the work is permitted by a No Rise Certification.

Protect Natural Floodplain Functions

- Protection and restoration of natural flowways and maintenance of drainage ditches, weirs and canals, sewer systems and other water conveyances helps to ensure proper surface water management and mitigates the effects of storms or sheet flow.
- Local jurisdictions maintain water conveyances in public rights of way, but it's up to owners to clear and maintain drainage conveyances on private property.
- Don't block natural flowways.
- If you have a concern about maintenance of a drainage conveyance, contact the building or Community Development department for your community.
- For property in unincorporated Lee County, call the Request for Action Hotline at 239-533-9400 or fill out the Request for Action Form online at www.leegov.com.

INSURE YOUR PROPERTY



- Floods are the most common natural disaster in the United States. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) reports nearly 40% of flood insurance claims are for properties in moderate to low-risk areas.
- Buy flood insurance for your home. Buy flood insurance for your contents.
- You don't have to own your home or business to get an NFIP policy. The NFIP offers insurance for renters' possessions.
- Most property/casualty insurance does not cover flood damage. The NFIP, which is administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is a federal provider of flood insurance policies.
- Flood insurance is required for mortgages on structures in areas designated as a Special Flood Hazard Area and Coastal High Hazard Area.
- If you don't have a mortgage and are not required to have flood insurance, consider getting an NFIP policy anyway. Recovering from flood damage is expensive. Just 1 inch of water can cost up to \$27,000 or more in repairs.
- In addition to the insurance coverage, it may also be an advantage if you sell the property to a buyer who finances with a mortgage. The policy may transfer to the new owner, possibly offering some cost savings.

Learn More About Flood Insurance: www.fema.gov or call 877-336-2627

"100 year flood" Misconception

You may have heard the term "100-year Flood Zone" and thought, "A flood like that only happens once in every one hundred years." Unfortunately, that is an adage and is untrue.

The SFHA (Special Flood Hazard Area) is an area that has a 1% chance of a flood happening in any given year. Put another way, that's a 1-in-100 chance annually.

That means a 100-year flood could happen this year, and again next year. It has nothing to do with calendar years. The term "100-year flood" is now referred to as the "1% annual chance" flood.

Drainage Systems

Drainage Systems Require Maintenance

Lee County is interlaced with a system of canals, ditches, and waterways that serve to direct the flow of floodwater. It is most important that these elements of the floodwater drainage system be kept clear of debris and trash that could impede the flow of water during a flood situation.

To report drainage problems in incorporated areas call your city Public Works. In unincorporated Lee County, call Lee County DOT at 239-533-9400 or email rfa@leegov.com. After 5:30 p.m. and on weekends, call 239-533-3626.



Dumping of debris and trash in the drainage system or alteration of the channels is prohibited. Violators should be reported to law enforcement or public works officials.

Further information on flood mitigation techniques, such as flood proofing and elevation, can also be found at the website for the Federal Emergency Management Agency at www.fema.gov/flood-insurance



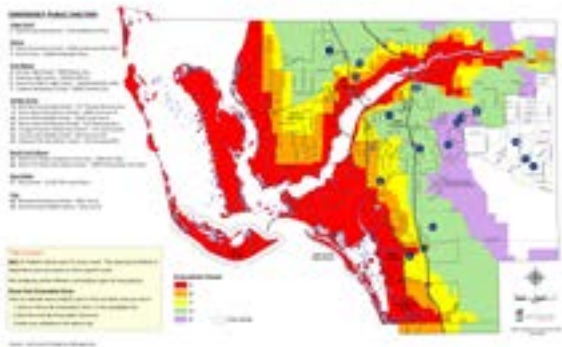
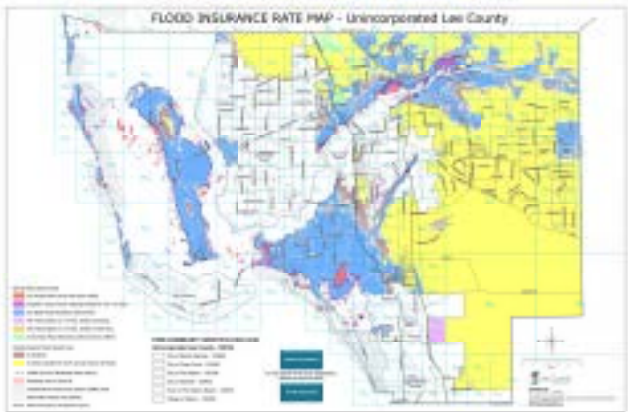
Maps



Maps are useful sources of information. A variety of maps can be found on the Lee County website at www.leegov.com/maps.

Below is a sampling of maps.

- **Evacuation Zone** maps are used to indicate who needs to leave during a tropical storm or hurricane. Announcements will be made.
- **Flood Zone** maps are used to determine flood insurance premium rates and building code requirements.
- **Public Transportation** maps are for those who will need to use public transportation during an evacuation.



After the Storm



Take precautions after the storm has passed. Damage to your home can be extensive. Relief supplies may take several days to arrive. Try to remain calm during this potentially emotional time.

Keep these tips in mind:

Repair open holes in your roof.

Avoid downed wires and standing water.

FEMA

Register for FEMA Disaster Assistance as soon as it is made available.

Only call 911 for life-threatening situations.

Have a valid form of identification if needed for re-entry.

Call utility companies to report hazards such as broken gas or water mains, downed power lines, or overturned gas tanks.

Stay tuned to local media for re-entry information.

Turn off the main breaker to your house.

Report suspicious contractors or unfairly high prices to authorities.

Photograph and take notes of all damages and make any necessary temporary repairs.

Be careful around wild and domestic animals. Even if you know an animal it may be frightened or injured and could be dangerous.

If it is necessary to drive, avoid weakened roads, bridges, or tree limbs that could collapse unexpectedly.

Ask for a contractor's valid county contractor's license. Do not sign a contract if they are unlicensed or pay for the services until the work is complete.

Disaster Recovery

Disaster recovery is about rebuilding, restoring, and returning to everyday life. Response focuses on life safety, removing debris, returning people to their homes, rebuilding transportation, infrastructure, the environment, coastal and historical needs.

Recovery can be broken into three phases:

- Short-Term: Days
- Intermediate: Weeks to Months
- Long-Term: Months to Years

Need Assistance?

If you need help that is non-life threatening or have questions on where to get help to recover from a disaster, contact United Way.

Dial 211 or
call 239-433-7559
www.unitedwaylee.org



Health Tips After Storms



Storms can bring heavy rains that could increase the risk of diseases. Following are some tips to help you avoid becoming ill. For more information during an emergency event call the **Florida State Assistance Information Line (SAIL) at 800-342-3557**.

Find more information online at lee.floridahealth.gov.

FOOD

- **Food and Dirty Water:** Do not eat food that has come in contact with dirty water from floods or tidal surges.
- **Commercial Cans of Food:** Do not eat cans of food that are bulging or opened. Remove labels from and disinfect unopened cans. Assume home-canned foods are unsafe.
- **Baby Formula:** Infants should only be fed ready-to-feed formula. You also can prepare powdered or concentrated liquid formula with sterilized water. Only use sanitized bottles and nipples. Unused formula must be refrigerated. If breastfeeding, continue to do so.
- **Frozen or Refrigerated Foods:** If refrigerators or freezers have had no power since the storm, clean them out. Perishable foods are unsafe for eating.



MOSQUITOES

- Heavy rains and flooding events can lead to an increase in mosquitoes.
- **Dusk and Dawn:** Mosquitoes are most active during these times. Avoid being outdoors.
 - **Clothing:** Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and socks.
 - **DEET:** Use repellants containing 30% DEET. Apply repellant directly on clothing for more protection. Follow manufacturer's directions. Do not use on children less than 2 months old. Use mosquito netting or keep infants indoors.
 - **Drainage:** Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Clear stagnant water that has collected near your home.



HEAT EXHAUSTION

- **Warning Signs:** Heavy sweating, paleness, muscle cramps, tiredness, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea, vomiting or fainting.
- **Cool Off:** Drink cool, non-alcoholic beverages. Take a shower, bath, or sponge bath. Wear lightweight clothing. Rest in an air-conditioned environment.
- **Heat Exhaustion:** Can lead to stroke. Severe symptoms include cool, moist skin, fast and weak pulse, fast and shallow breaths. Seek medical attention immediately if symptoms continue for more than an hour or if you have heart problems or high blood pressure.



WATER

- **Always Wash Your Hands:** Use soap and water that has been boiled or disinfected.
- **Boil Water Notice:** If a boil water notice is in effect for your area, take precautions, even if you have a private well. If you are unsure if your water is safe, drink commercially bottled water.
- **Disinfecting Water:** Mix eight drops of plain, unscented bleach per gallon of water and let stand for 30 minutes. If water is still cloudy, repeat process.
- **Infection and Floodwater:** Raw sewage may be present in floodwater. Keep open cuts and sores clean and apply antibiotic ointment after cleaning. See a doctor if the wound develops redness, swelling or drainage.
- **Children and Floodwater:** Children should not play in floodwater. If toys have been touched by floodwater, disinfect them by using ¼ cup bleach in one gallon of clean water. Let stand for at least 30 minutes and air dry.



Visit www.lee.gov/Utilities For Updates

Generators



When the power goes off, many residents turn to emergency generators to run freezers, refrigerators, lights, fans and other appliances. If you use a generator, extreme caution is required.

While convenient and useful, generators can create hazards for homeowners and electric utility workers. Always read and follow the manufacturer's safety and operating instructions.



Safety Tips



Operate your generator outdoors in an area with plenty of ventilation. Never run a generator inside a home or garage. Remember generators produce deadly carbon monoxide gas.



Turn the generator on before plugging appliances to it. After the generator is running, turn on your appliances and lights one at a time to avoid overloading the unit. Generators are recommended for temporary use; prioritize your needs.



Do not connect a generator to a home electrical outlet or to a circuit breaker panel to avoid back feed. Use heavy-duty extension cords when you connect your appliances to the generator outlets.



Be sure the generator is turned off and cool before fueling it. Do not store fuel indoors. Flammable liquids should be properly labeled in non-glass safety containers.



Keep children and pets away from portable generators. Many generator parts are hot enough to burn you during operation.



Make sure your hands are dry before touching the generator.



Generators pose electrical safety risks, particularly when operated under wet conditions. Use your generator only if necessary when wet conditions exist. Protect the generator by operating it under an open structure on a dry surface where water cannot form puddles or drain under it.

Carbon Monoxide Exposure

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless and tasteless poison gas. It is a component of the exhaust from the generator engine. The symptoms of exposure are subtle but deadly. Do not use generators, charcoal grills, or gas grills indoors.

Inexpensive CO detectors, similar to smoke alarms, are readily available and recommended as an added safety precaution.

Call 911 or the Poison Information Center at 800-222-1222 if you think you have been poisoned. More information is available online at floridapoisontcontrol.org.

Mild Exposure

- Headache
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Dizziness
- Blurred Vision



Medium Exposure







- Severe headache
- Drowsiness
- Confusion
- Rapid heart rate



Severe Exposure

- Unconsciousness
- Convulsions
- Cardiac or respiratory failure
- Death

Storm Debris Cleanup

 <p>Household Trash Normal household trash and bagged debris of any kind will not be picked up with disaster debris. You should continue to follow your normal garbage removal schedule.</p>	 <p>Vegetative Debris</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">LogsPlantsTree BranchesLeaves (do not bag) <p>If leaves are bagged, set those bags apart from brush piles.</p>	 <p>Construction and Demolition Debris</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Building MaterialsCarpetDrywallFurnitureLumberMattressesPlumbing
 <p>Appliances and White Goods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Air ConditionersDishwashersFreezersRefrigeratorsStovesWashersDryersWater Heaters	 <p>Electronics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">ComputersRadiosStereosTelevisionsCorded Devices	 <p>Household Hazardous Waste</p> <p>Do not leave chemicals at the curb. They can create a fire hazard.</p> <p>Take them to: 6441 Topaz Court, Fort Myers, FL 33966.</p>

NO PICKUP ZONE

Any debris placed from the sidewalk toward your property will not be picked up.

DEBRIS SEPARATION

Separate debris into six categories shown.

DO NOT STACK OR LEAN

Placing debris near or on trees, poles, or other structures makes removal difficult. This includes mail boxes, fire hydrants and meters.

UNSURE WHERE TO PLACE DEBRIS?

If you don't have a sidewalk, ditch, or utility line in front of your house, place debris at the edge of your property before the curb.

Priority 1

Normal Household Garbage

- Bagged garbage
- Discarded food
- Packaging materials



Priority 2

Normal Household Recyclables

- Newspapers
- Cardboard
- Plastic containers (#1 - #7)
- Glass
- Steel
- Aluminum



Yard Debris

- Shrubs
- Palm fronds
- Tree / grass trimmings
- Bushes
- Leaves
- Twigs/cut tree branches

Priority 3

White Goods/Appliances

- Refrigerators
- Ranges
- Washing machines
- Dryers
- Water heaters
- Freezers
- Microwaves
- Air conditioners

Construction/Demolition Debris

- Lumber
- Glass
- Drywall
- Insulation
- Concrete block
- Plumbing

Recyclables
Bulk Items
Electronic Equipment
Tires



Roof Repairs



If you have roof damage and are waiting for contractors, there are some steps you can take to remedy leaks.

On the Inside

- Buckets:** Set up buckets under leaky areas to avoid interior puddling or flooding.

On the Outside

- Small holes:** The smallest holes can be patched by covering them with roof cement.
- Plastic Sheeting:** This is the most temporary measure. Use roofing nails and 2x4 lumber to attach the plastic to the roof.
- Tarps:** Tarps are sturdier than plastic sheeting.
- Roofing Paper:** Known as tarpaper or roofing felt, it's in the building materials section of home improvement stores. Apply it with roofing cement and a trowel.

Finding a Contractor

Find a reputable contractor through the National Roofing Contractor's Association. Visit online at www.nrca.net.



Safety Tips

- Roof shingles and tiles can be slippery; be mindful as you walk on the roof.
- Be careful stepping on soft or weak spots in the roof to avoid falling through.
- Be aware of tree branches, power lines and unstable ladders.

Wildfires

Fires ensure continued diversity of wildlife and native vegetation. Many animals depend on fire to thin out dense woods and many native plants need fire as part of their lifecycle.

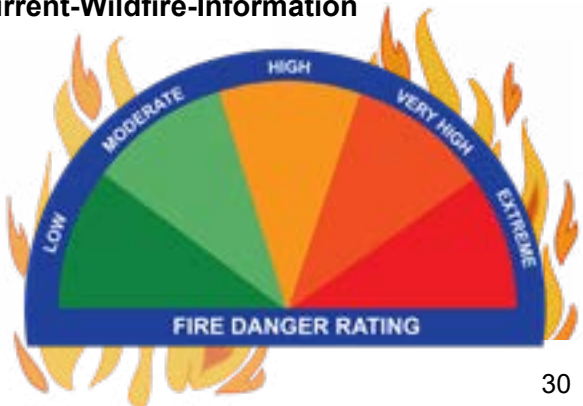
Take steps to lower your wildfire risks:

- Trim branches away from roofs and gutters.
- Remove dead or overgrown vegetation from around homes, boats, and sheds.
- Plant less flammable, ornamental vegetation near structures.
- Use chunky mulch or gravel.
- Maintain a working irrigation system.
- Cover eaves and other openings with wire mesh no larger than one-eighth inch openings.
- Keep combustible items away from structures.
- Build homes with fire-resistant materials.
- Keep driveways clear and free of overhanging branches or overgrown plants.

When Wildfires Threaten the Community

- Be prepared to evacuate immediately if requested.
- Create an evacuation plan and share with family.
- Follow emergency personnel directions.
- Have important papers and items like medication readily available.
- Make a plan for your pets.

More wildfire information can be found on the Florida Forest Service website: www.fdacs.gov/Forest-Wildfire/Wildland-Fire/Current-Wildfire-Information





IF YOU LIVE IN A MANUFACTURED OR MOBILE HOME

REQUIREMENTS AND SAFETY

If you are living in a manufactured or mobile home, it is crucial to stay up-to-date on safety requirements.

Florida law says you need anchors or straps that are strong enough to secure your home to the ground. This is to avoid movement during high winds.

Review Florida Administrative Code 15C-1 for the required number and spacing. At least once a year, check to confirm your tie-downs are properly secured.

Understanding Homeowners Insurance

Insurance is important. Finding the right policy depends on your type of home, how it's occupied and the level of coverage available.

You can find information at www.myfloridacfo.com.

Utility sheds, storage sheds, carports and other vulnerable structures also need to be secured.

DO NOT TAKE CHANCES!

No matter how good your tie-downs are, evacuation is the best plan to save your life.

Preparation Tips



- Check for loose straps.
- Make sure straps are properly aligned and not at an angle.
- Make sure the proper number of tie-downs are installed the right way.
- Make sure ground anchors and stabilizer plates are installed properly.
- Be sure support piers are in contact with the frame.
- Replace straps or ground anchors that show signs of damage or corrosion.
- Consider a longitudinal tie-down system for the front and rear, and additional diagonal frame tie-downs for the side of your home.

Tornadoes

In Florida, tornadoes are likely to occur between 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., from June through August. However they can occur at any time, often with no warning.

When conditions are right for a tornado, there are a few things you can do to protect yourself and your loved ones.

- Tornado sirens are not common in Florida. Stay tuned to local weather or listen to your NOAA weather radio (see Page 3).
- Secure loose objects outdoors or move them inside.
- Go to the innermost hallway on the lowest floor of your home or office, or use a bathroom or closet. Stay away from windows.
- Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car. Seek sturdy shelter immediately.
- If in open country, seek shelter in a ravine, ditch, or culvert. Stay away from trees and protect your head.
- If you live in a mobile or manufactured home, seek other, sturdy shelter immediately.
- Do not leave shelter until you are sure danger has passed.



The Safest Decision

If you are in a mobile or manufactured home and heavy storms are moving into the area, the safest decision is to temporarily stay with friends or family in a more secure structure.

If relocating temporarily, it is important to move before the dangerous weather arrives. Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car.

Radio, Alerts, and Apps

To get the latest information and alerts, have an All Hazards NOAA Weather Radio and program it properly (see Page 3). It will always alert you and is a good option for times when your phone and television are turned off.

You can also get important alerts through our LeePrepares app and www.AlertLee.com (see page 2).

Clean Up Safely

As you clear storm damage, don't push yourself. Wear the right gloves and closed-toe shoes. Stay away from powerlines and take care with chainsaws and ladders. Stay hydrated and pace yourself (see Page 25).

Thunderstorms and Lightning

Thunderstorms can bring hail, damaging winds, floods and tornadoes — but lightning is the No. 1 cause of weather related fatalities in Florida.

Almost all lightning will occur within 10 miles of its parent thunderstorm, but it can strike farther away. The safest place during a thunderstorm is inside a large, enclosed structure. If no buildings are available, an enclosed vehicle, van or school bus makes a good alternative. If no cover is available, crouch low to the ground on the balls of your feet — do not lie down.

Remember, lightning often strikes with little or no warning.
For more on lightning safety, download the WeatherBug app for iPhone or Andoid.



Lightning Alert System

- Lee County Parks and Recreation has installed lightning alert systems at two dozen park locations.
- When the system detects lightning within 10 miles of a site, the air horns sound an uninterrupted 15-second blast and the strobe light will activate.
- Park patrons who hear the horn and/or see the light need to seek shelter immediately.
- When the system no longer detects a threat, three five-second blasts from the horn will sound and the strobe light will stop working.
- No system is foolproof. Park visitors should always assess weather conditions before going outside and be prepared to take appropriate action to stay safe.

WHAT TO AVOID

INDOORS

- Electrical appliances and outlets
- Corded phones, desktop computers
- Showering, taking baths, using sinks
- Doors, windows, and porches



OUTDOORS

- Open or elevated areas
- Tall trees, other tall objects



Wait 30 minutes after the last thunder to go outside. Visit www.weather.gov/safety/lightning for more.

Lee Board of County Commissioners

Police Departments

- | | |
|--|--|
| Lee County Sheriff's Office
239-477-1000 | Fort Myers Police Department
239-321-7700 |
| Cape Coral Police Department
239-574-0401 | Sanibel Police Department
239-472-4135 |

Fire Districts

- | | |
|---|---|
| Alva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
239-728-2223 | Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District
239-303-5300 |
| Bayshore Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
239-543-3443 | Matlacha and Pine Island Fire Control District
239-283-0030 |
| Boca Grande Fire Control District
941-964-2908 | North Fort Myers Fire Control and Rescue Service District
239-997-8654 |
| Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District
239-949-6200 | San Carlos Park Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
239-267-7525 |
| Captiva Island Fire Control District
239-472-9494 | Sanibel Fire and Rescue District
239-472-5525 |
| Estero Fire Rescue
239-390-8000 | South Trail Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
239-433-0080 |
| Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District
239-590-4200 | Tice Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
239-694-2380 |
| Fort Myers Shores Fire Protection and Rescue District
239-694-2833 | Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
239-900-1818 |
| Iona-McGregor Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
239-433-0660 | Useppa Island Fire Rescue
239-763-5560 |

Need more information? Have questions?

www.LeeEOC.com

Emergency Management prepares to respond to any hazard throughout the year. For information on other hazards such as wildfires, terrorism, health hazards, and more, visit our website at www.LeeEOC.com.

Connect with us on social media



Hurricane Supply List

Food Related



- ☐ Drinking water —
1 gallon, per person, per day
- ☐ Non-perishable food/special diet
- ☐ Manual can opener
- ☐ Juice/instant coffee/tea bags
- ☐ Cooler
- ☐ Lighter/matches
- ☐ Pots/pans/camp stove or grill

Medical



- ☐ Two-week supply of prescribed medication
- ☐ Cooler with ice for medication
- ☐ Medical equipment and devices
- ☐ Medical alert tags or bracelets that identify your disability-related needs

Pets/Service Animals



- ☐ Water —
1 gallon, per animal, per day
- ☐ Crate or carrier for each animal
- ☐ Food/treats
- ☐ Toys/comfort items
- ☐ Clean-up supplies
- ☐ Immunization records/photos

Personal Items



- ☐ Blankets, pillows, sleeping bag, cot
- ☐ Toiletries
- ☐ Spare glasses/contacts
- ☐ Hearing aid batteries
- ☐ Extra clothing, rain gear, and closed-toe shoes
- ☐ Personal items such as books, toys, or cards
- ☐ Infant and/or senior supplies
- ☐ Important papers and valid ID
- ☐ Spare keys
- ☐ Cash/credit cards/change/checks
- ☐ Pens/pencils/paper

Safety Equipment



- ☐ Battery-operated radio, flashlight, television, clock
- ☐ Extra batteries
- ☐ NOAA Weather Radio
- ☐ First Aid Kit
- ☐ Landline phone
- ☐ Chemical light sticks
- ☐ Whistle

Other items and reminders:

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

