



Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2017
News Release #239-17

St. Lucie County
2300 Virginia Ave.
Fort Pierce, Fla. 34982
www.stlucieco.gov

For more information, contact:
Erick Gill, Communications Division Director
772-462-1791 / gille@stlucieco.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Lucie County Post Hurricane Irma Update Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 11 a.m.

ST. LUCIE COUNTY – St. Lucie County offices and attractions are returning to normal operations today, Wednesday, Sept. 13. However, there are still some facilities without power or with extensive cleanup efforts, including the Oxbow Eco-Center, Fairwinds Golf Course, Walton Rocks Beach (dog beach), the St. Lucie County Aquarium, Regional History Center and White City Park. Please call to make sure the facility that you are planning to visit is open before heading there.

St. Lucie County is reaching out to state and federal officials to have our county added to the list of Florida communities that have already been declared by FEMA as a designated disaster area for Individual Assistance.

The public workshop at the Havert L Fenn Center regarding the proposed changes to the Draft FEMA Critical Flood Zone Maps for this evening has been canceled and will be rescheduled for a later date.

St. Lucie County's Ocean Rescue will return to duty at Pepper Park and Waveland beaches today. Heavy winds and rough surfs will continue throughout the week, so beachgoers are urged to use extreme caution along the coastline.

Most county parks, preserves and mosquito impoundments still have debris cleanup efforts underway, so residents are asked to refrain from visiting outdoor attractions, until they have been cleared.

Garbage/Debris Pick Up

- Vegetative debris pick up will begin on Monday, Sept. 18. Residents cleaning up vegetative debris should stack debris in their yard and not the road. Also, do not stack debris near/in front of fire hydrants or utility poles or place vegetative debris in bags. Furthermore, be sure to separate yard/vegetative debris from household waste and refuse.
- Waste Pro has begun normal garbage and recycling pickup with the exception of those residents on Indian River Drive. Due to the closure of Indian River Drive from Walton Road to the county line, Waste Pro has placed a 20-yard dumpster at the corner of Indian River Drive and Walton Road Tuesday morning. Residents along the closed section of the road may bring their refuse to this location and place it into the dumpster until the street is open and normal collection service returns.
- When hiring someone to handle home repairs, remember to only use licensed contractors and be aware of scammers or predators that may be in our neighborhoods looking for an easy opportunity. For a list of licensed contractors check your city or county website or with the Treasure Coast Builders Association for a list of reputable and licensed contractors.

Water Distribution

Port St. Lucie Utility Systems has established emergency water supply depots to provide water to residents who do not have access to water at their homes due to power outages at the following locations:

- Shell gas station at Tulip Boulevard /Darwin Boulevard
- Parkway Elementary School at Selvitz Road /Manville Drive
- Publix at Prima Vista Crossings at U.S. 1 /Prima Vista Boulevard
- Zapatas on U.S. 1 near Kitterman Rd.

Residents will need to bring containers as these are self-service stations.

Islamorada Beer Company, located at 3200 Saint Lucie Blvd. in Fort Pierce, has free drinking water available in its tap room from 2 to 8 p.m. Residents will need to bring containers.

Damage Reports

St. Lucie County residents can report storm damage and flooding to their homes and businesses using the My St. Lucie Mobile App. Because of the flooded roads, assessment crews are having difficulty checking on damages inside neighborhoods and homes, so your cooperation is appreciated. Within the app, simply select the "Storm Damage" request type or access it on the website: www.stlucieco.gov/mystlucie.

The My St. Lucie app allows residents to easily submit requests for services. Directly through the app, residents can take a photograph of a problem area such as a pothole or flooded street and send that image and location to St. Lucie County to be properly routed to the correct department for processing. After submitting requests, residents can use the mobile app to track the status of their request.

My St. Lucie App

- Apple phones can download the app [here](#); Android phones can download the app [here](#). Or just search "St Lucie County" in the app stores.
- The web-based version can be found at www.stlucieco.gov/mystlucie.

Business Damage Reports

- St. Lucie County local businesses impacted by Hurricane Irma are asked to complete the Florida Virtual Business Emergency Operations Center "Hurricane Irma Survey." This survey will assist local and state governments in learning the impacts to our business community and expedite resources available to you and your employees to get your business back up and running and your employees back to work. Click here to access the survey:
<http://flvbeoc.org/index.php?action=bda>.
- St. Lucie West Career Center, 584 NW University Blvd.-Suite 300 in Port St. Lucie, is open Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 8 a.m. The staff will be able to assist St. Lucie County residents who might need assistance with Emergency Unemployment or other services offered by the Career Center including job placement.

Volunteers

St. Lucie County's Community Services Department has started mobilizing volunteers to assist with the cleanup of Hurricane Irma. If residents are willing and able to volunteer, visit the United Way of St. Lucie at www.unitedwayslc.org or Volunteer St. Lucie at https://stluciecounty.formstack.com/forms/hurricane_irma.

Donations

- Mustard Seed, 3130 S US 1 in Fort Pierce, is accepting donations to help with Hurricane Irma efforts. Donations can be delivered to Mustard Seed Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Supplies that are needed include:
 - Diapers (all sizes)
 - Wipes
 - Water
 - Cleaning supplies
 - Buckets
 - Baby food/formula
- The United Way of St. Lucie County is accepting monetary donations to help with Hurricane Irma relief efforts. At this time donations can be made at www.unitedwayslc.org. For further information, call 772-464-5300.

Government Closures

- St. Lucie County Public Schools, as well as John Carroll High School and St. Anastasia Catholic School, are closed through Friday, Sept. 15, including all afterschool and athletic activities.
- St. Lucie County Tax Collector, which includes driver's licenses, has closed the Fort Pierce and Port St. Lucie locations for Wednesday, Sept. 13.

Power Outages / Utilities

- FPUA estimates that power will be restored to 90 percent of its customers by Friday, Sept. 15; while FP&L reports that all of its customers in St. Lucie County will have power restored by Sunday, Sept. 17 – barring any unforeseen issues and isolated incidents. Florida, Power & Light customers can track outages at www.fpl.com/storm; to report outages call 1-800-4OUTAGE (800-468-8243).

FPUA customers can track outages at www.FPUA.com; to report outages call 772-466-7703.

- St. Lucie County Utilities customers in the Lakewood Park Sampson Subdivision are under a precautionary boil water notice for 48 hours. This impacts roughly 90 homes inside Deland Avenue to Donlon Road from Fort Pierce Boulevard to Roland Court.
- All utilities are asking residents, especially those in Lakewood Park, to conserve water to help ease the strain on the septic/drainage systems.

Shelters

- All of St. Lucie County's general population shelters and the pet-friendly shelter have been deactivated and those residents have been released. The county's Special Needs Shelter at the Fenn Center is still in the process of being demobilized. People that have been displaced from their home can find shelter at Percy Peek Gym, 2902 Avenue D in Fort Pierce.

Information Lines

- St. Lucie County's Emergency Operations Center remains at a Level 2 (partial) activation. St. Lucie County's Information Hotline, 772-460-HELP (4357), is open until 8 p.m. today. Residents are urged to call the HELP Line to report flooding and road closures, instead of 9-1-1 - unless there is an emergency.

For more information about the St. Lucie County's recovery efforts visit:

www.stlucieco.gov/hurricane or on social media @StLucieGov.

###

