



Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2017
News Release #237-17

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 Hurricane Irma Update Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 1 p.m.

ST. LUCIE COUNTY – As St. Lucie County cleans up and returns to normalcy after Hurricane Irma, the county’s Emergency Management officials want to thank residents and businesses for their patience and cooperation.

Power Outages / Utilities

- As of noon, there are roughly, 76,000 customers in St. Lucie County without power. FP&L and FPUA are reporting that they have restored more than 55,000 customers and are diligently working to restore the remaining outages. However, they are unable to provide a specific timeframe for power restoration. 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 without water due to a loss of power at the plant and will be under a precautionary boil water notice for 48 hours once water is restored. This impacts 70 homes inside Deland Avenue to Donion 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.

Damage Reports

St. Lucie County residents can now 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; ask questions or request public records. 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, will 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.

Cleanup/Recovery

- St. Lucie County's landfill, located at 6120 Glades Cutoff Road in Fort Pierce, has returned to normal business hours.

- 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 will place 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.
- Residents cleaning up vegetative debris are asked to stack debris in their yard and not the road. Also, do not stack debris near/in front of fire hydrants or utility poles. Be sure to separate yard/vegetative debris from household waste and refuse. Do not put yard/vegetative debris in bags – just stack it in an orderly pile.
- Businesses and homeowners are also reminded to use caution when running generators – keep them in well ventilated areas and wait for cooling until refueling.
- The Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie County urges residents to avoid walking or playing in flood waters to avoid illness from bacteria or electrocution.
- Be sure to “tip-and-toss” standing water to prevent the breeding of mosquitos.

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 government offices, libraries and facilities, Property Appraiser and Sheriff's Office, will return to normal business hours on Wednesday, Sept. 13. This includes attractions such as the Regional History Center, St. Lucie County Aquarium and the Oxbow Eco-Center.
- St. Lucie County Public Schools, as well as John Carroll High School and St. Anastasia Catholic School, will also be closed Wednesday, Sept. 13.
- St. Lucie County Tax Collector, which includes driver's licenses, will close both the Fort Pierce and Port St. Lucie locations on Wednesday, Sept. 13.

Access to the Island

- Access has been granted to both North and South Hutchinson Island for both residents and non-residents. Heavy winds and rough surfs will continue throughout the week and beaches will be unguarded as Ocean Rescue staff demobilize the special needs shelter, so residents are urged to use extreme caution along the coastline.

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 as of 8 a.m. today, 196 special needs residents were still being sheltered while 17 residents were seeking refuge at the Percy Peek Gym, 2902 Avenue D in Fort Pierce.

Information Lines

- St. Lucie County's Emergency Operations Center remains at a Level 1 (full) 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.
- St. Lucie County's final press conference for Hurricane Irma from the Emergency Operations Center will take place at noon on Tuesday, Sept. 12 and will be streamed live to the county's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/stluciegov.

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

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

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