



# City News

*Small Town Charm. Big Bright Future.*



## City of Bonita Springs Hurricane Preparation News

### Know the Risks

- **Know your Zone:** Do you know your Storm Evacuation Zone? Are you in a flood zone? See inside for how to figure this out.
- **Know Your Home:** Are you in a mobile or manufactured home? An older home? Do you have storm shutters? Are your doors and windows impact resistant?
- **Have you secured items in and around your home, before tropical force winds arrive?** Trimmed branches close to your house? Now is the time to get your outdoor space ready. Doing so can avoid costly property damage.

### Do you have a Family Emergency Plan?

- **Have you assembled an emergency supply kit, before hurricane season begins?** See page 2 for a link to an emergency supplies list.
- **Is it safe for you to shelter at home or would it be better to shelter with a friend or at a hotel?** Identify a location outside your evacuation zone to go, before a hurricane comes.
- **Do you know the location of the nearest public shelter in case you must leave and don't have anywhere else to go?**
- **Have you communicated to family and friends what your evacuation plans are, if there were an emergency?**
- **Are you able to check in on your neighbors to see if they are all set with an emergency plan?**

**2022 Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday is Saturday, May 28th through Friday, June 10th**

HB 7071, the largest tax relief package in Florida's history, was signed into law by Governor DeSantis and extended the Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday from 10 days to 14 days. This year, household pet supplies such as pet food, leashes, collars, beds and portable kennels are also included in the list of items eligible to be purchased tax-free.

Qualifying disaster preparedness supplies include pet leashes, collars, muzzles and pads costing \$20 or less; flashlights, lanterns and pet beds costing \$40 or less; batteries and weather radios costing \$50 or less; smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and fire extinguishers costing \$70 or less; tarps and portable pet kennels costing \$100 or less; and generators costing \$1,000 or less.

A full list of eligible tax-free items is available [here](#).



## Flood Zones vs. Evacuation Zones

**Did you know** that flood zones are not the same as evacuation zones? Flood zones are determined by FEMA and influence insurance matters. Evacuation zones assess risk based upon storm surge and wind to determine how evacuation zones will proceed.

### FEMA Flood Zone Designations

Flood zones are areas mapped by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Association) for use in the National Flood Insurance Program. Each flood zone designation is represented by a letter or letters, indicating to homeowners their risk for flooding on their property. Homes with a mortgage located in high risk areas must have flood insurance.

You can determine your flood zone by clicking on the Find My Flood Zone link below:

Click here to [Find My Flood Zone](#)

You will use the search icon to type in your address. Labels are provided on the map to describe which flood zone each property lies within. Properties shown in blue are located in the 100 year flood zone identified as zones AE and VE. Properties located in the yellowish area are located in the 500 year flood zone identified as zone 0.2% X Zone. Properties that do not have a layer of coloring are located in an area of minimal flood hazard zone X. For questions or assistance, please call Community Development at (239) 444-6150. For more information, please call 239-444-6154 or e-mail [AWilliams@cityofbonitaspringscd.org](mailto:AWilliams@cityofbonitaspringscd.org).

### Evacuation Zones

Evacuation zones are based on storm surge zones determined by the National Hurricane Center. Lee County and Bonita Springs use the letters A—E to identify evacuation zones based on the areas that are likely to be affected by storm surge. A home may be located in a non-evacuation zone but still be in a flood zone because of a nearby water body.

You can determine your evacuation zone by clicking on the Find My Evacuation Zone link below:

Click here to [Find My Evacuation Zone](#). You will use the search icon to type in your address. A color coded legend at the bottom of the page will identify what your evacuation zone is.



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**How does the city assist people to prepare for emergency situations and preparedness?** The city shares information year round to assist residents in preparing for emergency situations. Social media announcements, flyers and newsletters remind residents of best practices for when an emergency situation arises.

For City of Bonita Springs flood protection information, click [here](#).

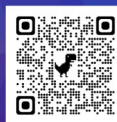
### **DOWNLOAD THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS APP TODAY**

And Stay Up to Date with Community Information



Available on  
Apple or Android

Scan the QR Code or  
search "City of Bonita  
Springs" in the App  
Store



The amount of **recommended disaster supplies** has gone from a three day minimum to a minimum of seven days, due to lessons learned from past hurricanes. If you plan to stay during a storm and to not evacuate, do plan on having a minimum seven day supply of food, water, medications and pet provisions. An emergency supplies checklist can be found [here](#).

**Know your Home**— Modern building codes ensure your home is built using the latest practices and standards. If you are in an evacuation zone that is ordered to evacuate by local authorities or in a flood zone, you should evacuate, no matter what. If you are not in any of these areas, then it may be safer for you to stay in your home. While it is the responsibility of the homeowner to know if their home is strong enough to withstand a hurricane, generally homes built after 2002 include features that make them more resilient to hurricanes. There are also [improvements you can make to your home](#) to strengthen it against future storms.



# HURRICANE SEASON 2022

Bonita Springs is a tropical paradise, but along with Florida's year-round sunshine comes the risk of hurricanes. If you haven't created your family emergency plan for hurricanes, now is the time to get started.

Lee County Emergency Operations  
Go to [www.leeec.com](http://www.leeec.com) to prepare you and your family and get up to date watches, warnings and information.

**Hurricane preparedness can save lives. Be prepared!**

Lee County Emergency Management offers emergency messaging for the City of Bonita Springs. We encourage all residents to visit [Lee County's Public Safety Home Page](#) to access the [All Hazards Guide \(English\)](#) for more information about how to stay informed during emergencies. The All Hazards Guide is also available in Spanish, Creole and a screen reader version [here](#).

## Alert Lee

AlertLee is Lee County's mass notification system, provided by Everbridge. The system is capable of delivering rapid emergency notifications via one or a combination of the following methods: phone, text, email and social media. Lee County Emergency Management (LCEM) administers and maintains the AlertLee mass notification system for the purpose of alerting citizens to natural and man-made emergencies.

The AlertLee system will be used when an emergency arises that you should know about. Severe weather situations, missing persons, evacuation notices, boil water notices, fire or floods and active shooter situations are few examples of the type of events that may necessitate an AlertLee notification. Signup at [www.AlertLee.com](http://www.AlertLee.com) or for more information visit [AlertLee frequently asked questions](#).

## Lee Prepares

LeePrepares is a FREE app available for iPhones and Androids. This tool assists individuals and families with preparing for and recovering from all types of disasters that may affect the community. An interactive map allows users to find their evacuation zone by GPS or address search. The Shelters button shows information about staying in shelters and provides a shelter list. The Preparedness button provides guidelines for getting ready for an event. Links to download the Lee Prepares App are

[for iPhone](#)  
[for Android](#)

## Integrated Public Alert Warning System

Lee County Public Safety is a FEMA Integrated Public Alert Warning System (IPAWS) Alerting Authority. We can utilize the IPAWS to alert and warn Lee County residents and visitors about serious emergencies through various means, including the Emergency Alert System (EAS) Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio. See [FEMA's IPAWS](#) website for more information.

# Helpful Information - Hurricane Preparedness

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## **For all Emergences—Call 911**

Lee County Emergency Operations Center-

Visit [www.leegov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement](http://www.leegov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement) or call 239-533-0622

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District (NON EMERGENCIES)-

Visit [www.bonitafire.org/index.cfm](http://www.bonitafire.org/index.cfm) or call 239-949-6200

Lee County Sheriff's Office (NON EMERGENCIES)-

Visit <http://www.sheriffleefl.org/> or call 239-477-1000

City of Bonita Springs, City Hall-

Visit [www.cityofbonitasprings.org](http://www.cityofbonitasprings.org) or call 239-949-6262

## **Aid and Assistance**

Bonita Assistance Office-

Visit [www.bonitaassistance.org](http://www.bonitaassistance.org) or call 239-992-3034

Lee County Human and Veteran Services-

Visit [www.leegov.com/dhs](http://www.leegov.com/dhs)

Human Services Main Phone 239-533-7930

Veteran Services Main Phone 239-533-8381

Client Information Line 239-533-7900

United Way Lee-

Visit [www.unitedwaylee.org](http://www.unitedwaylee.org) or call 239-433-3900

The Salvation Army Lee-

Visit [www.salvationarmyflorida.org/locations/#south](http://www.salvationarmyflorida.org/locations/#south) or Call 239 278-1551

Catholic Charities-

For Bonita Springs call 239-390-2928

Lee, Hendry & Glades phone line 239-334-4007

Disaster Recovery phone line 239-322-7835

Red Cross-

Visit [www.redcross.org/local/florida/south-florida/](http://www.redcross.org/local/florida/south-florida/)

Call 239-278-3401

Department of Health and Human Services-

Disaster Distress Helpline call 1-800-985-5990

To find other local resources-

Visit [www.211info.org](http://www.211info.org) dial 211 or call 239-433-3900

## Information Resources:

Local Public Shelters-

[www.leegov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement/shelters/publicshelters](http://www.leegov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement/shelters/publicshelters)

Special Needs Disaster Assistance [SNR.FloridaDisaster.org](http://SNR.FloridaDisaster.org)

Alert Lee notifications-

To receive notifications regarding emergencies sign up at <http://www.alertlee.com/>

Florida State Emergency Response Team - Visit [www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org) or call 850-815-4000

Evacuation Zones Map-

Visit <http://www.leegov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement/knowyourzone>

Flood Zones Map– Visit [here](#).

Florida State Assistance Information Line - Call 800-342-3557

Florida 511 Traveler Information- Visit [www.fl511.com](http://www.fl511.com) to download information and app

Local 211 Helpline- Dial 211 or call 239-433-3900

Gas Buddy- To find gas stations visit [www.gasbuddy.com](http://www.gasbuddy.com)

Hurricane Readiness Information-

Visit [www.ready.gov/hurricanes](http://www.ready.gov/hurricanes)

Visit [www.weather.gov/safety/hurricane](http://www.weather.gov/safety/hurricane)

Visit [www.cityofbonitasprings.org](http://www.cityofbonitasprings.org)

Price Gouging– Attorney General Ashley Moody’s office - Call 1-866-966-7226 or [myfloridalegal.com](http://myfloridalegal.com)

## Utilities/Waste

FPL (Florida Power and Light) - Visit <https://www.fpl.com> or call 1-800-468-8243

Tampa Electric Peoples Gas- Visit [www.peoplesgas.com](http://www.peoplesgas.com) or call 1-877-832-6747

Bonita Springs Utilities-

Visit [www.bsu.us](http://www.bsu.us)

Call 239-992-0711 or 800-583-1496

Lee County Solid Waste- Visit <http://www.leegov.com/solidwaste> or call 239-533-8000

Waste Management- Call 239-334-1224

## FEMA

Disaster Assistance-

Visit [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov) or call 1-800-621-3362

For those with a speech or hearing disability call 1-800-462-7585

For those who use 711 or Video Relay Service call 1-800-621-3362

Small Business Disaster Assistance- Visit [www.sba.gov/disaster-assistance](http://www.sba.gov/disaster-assistance)



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