

For Immediate Release- Thursday, October 10, 2024

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The City of Bonita Springs encourages residents to remain in place.

**Bonita Springs, October 10, 2024 –** The City of Bonita Springs along with Lee County Emergency Management urges residents to remain in place this morning, even though Hurricane Milton made landfall north of the county Wednesday night. Bonita Springs Staff, Lee County Sheriff's office Community Policing Unit and Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District have begun to assess the damage after the passing Hurricane Milton. Due to sand on the road, Hickory Blvd is impassible.





Do not drive this morning. There are dangerous, downed powerlines and downed trees. Debris, standing water and other hazards are on roadways. Traffic signals may not be working.

Motorists are reminded to treat intersections without functioning signals or flashing signals with caution.

- If a signal is dark: After coming to a complete stop, proceed carefully through the intersection.
- If it's flashing yellow: Proceed with caution.
- If it's flashing red: Treat it as a stop sign.

If law enforcement is on-scene, follow the directions of deputies or officers.

Do not drive into standing water.

As of 6 a.m. today in Lee County, about 125,000 LCEC customers are without power and 107,000 FPL. The county and its local response partners have started mobilizing crews to assess infrastructure and begin clearing roads.

"We understand everyone's instinct is to get up and go check on their homes because the weather seems calmer and they may have evacuated," Lee County Public Safety Director Benjamin Abes said. "Don't go yet. Stay where you are. Give responders time to do the necessary assessments."

Residents should continue to monitor local media outlets and trusted information sources. Go to <a href="https://www.leegov.com/storm">www.leegov.com/storm</a> and other Emergency Management partners' sites.

Bonita Springs Community Development asks that any Bonita Springs residents with water intrusion in their homes post-storm send an email to <a href="mailto:floodinfo@cityofbonitaspringscd.org">floodinfo@cityofbonitaspringscd.org</a> or call 239-444-6150 for assistance with permit requirements and resources. For additional information regarding flooding, please visit the community development <a href="mailto:website.">website.</a> To find out flood zone information please <a href="mailto:click here.">click here.</a> Follow the City of Bonita Springs on <a href="#mailto:Facebook">Facebook</a>.

Visit The City of Bonita Springs Website for post Storm Information.

For more information, visit <u>www.cityofbonitasprings.org</u>. Download the city's <u>free mobile app</u>.

Additional information:

Government and local Fire Rescue Departments have partnered to provide welfare checks to help out-of-area people check in on family and friends in Lee County after Hurricane Milton passes. The partnership was announced Wednesday night just after the storm made landfall north of Lee County.

People need only to email <u>WelfareStormChecks@leegov.com</u> with the following information about the people they wish to check on:

- Name
- Adress
- Phone number

The email requesting welfare checks will be directed to the local Fire Rescue Departments for follow-up. The number of requests may be significant, so residents are asked to be patient.

To watch a video about the welfare check program, go to Lee County Government's YouTube channel. The video is available in two languages. To watch in English, visit <a href="https://youtu.be/d95-3nZMaTY">https://youtu.be/d95-3nZMaTY</a>. To watch in Spanish, go to <a href="https://youtu.be/DArRBy57eVc">https://youtu.be/DArRBy57eVc</a>.