

For Immediate Release- Monday, October 7, 2024

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## A Hurricane Watch has been issued for Bonita Springs.

Bonita Springs, October 7, 2024 –A hurricane watch has been issued for Bonita Springs. The National Weather Service is anticipating that we will receive hurricane force winds and storm surge in our area from five-ten feet. The city urges you to complete your hurricane preparedness plan. A Hurricane Watch means hurricane-force winds are possible somewhere within this area within the next 48 hours. A Storm Surge Watch means life-threatening inundation, from rising water moving inland from the coastline, is possible somewhere within this area within the next 48 hours. Please secure all building materials onsite. Please continue to monitor local news stations for updates on the storm. The City is working with the Lee County Emergency Operations Center, Lee County Sheriff's Office, Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District and other partners to prepare. City staff has been clearing storm drains and securing facilities in preparation of Hurricane Milton.

Residents who live in coastal areas or flood-prone inland areas do not need to wait for evacuation orders to mobilize. Go to friend or family members' homes or make arrangements to relocate inland. Please click here to find out your evacuation zone. Lee County anticipates announcing at noon Monday, Oct. 7, information about evacuation orders and shelter openings, as well as LeeTran service to those shelters. Residents can view the announcements on local media as well as via Facebook Live, available at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/leecountyflbocc">www.facebook.com/leecountyflbocc</a>. It can also be viewed on LeeTV and on the Lee County Government YouTube channel.

The city encourages residents living near the Imperial River and canals, to continue to monitor water levels. Please continue to be vigilant as sheet flow may impact water levels of rivers and canals. The level of the Imperial River is currently at 10.31ft. To check water levels, <u>click here</u>. For more information regarding flood protection please visit the City of Bonita Springs <u>webpage</u>.

The City will provide a live update today. Residents can watch live on the city's <u>facebook</u> page at 1:00pm.

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>.

In the event of heavy rain, it will take time for the infrastructure to drain. Please use caution and don't drive through flooded roads. Residents can stay up to date with City information on the City's Facebook page and website City of Bonita Springs.

Residents can also call the United Way's Emergency Information Hotline with questions. Dial 2-1-1 or 239-433-3900.

