



**Monday, Sept. 11, 2017**  
**News Release #234-17**

St. Lucie County  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **St. Lucie County Hurricane Irma Update Sunday, Sept. 11 at 8 a.m.**

ST. LUCIE COUNTY – Now that Hurricane Irma has moved through St. Lucie County, law enforcement and public works crews are out today clearing roads, restoring power and moving water. St. Lucie County Emergency Management officials understand that residents are anxious to return and check on their properties. However, the more vehicles that are on the road, the longer it will take to clear debris and restore power.

#### **Power Outages / Utilities**

Countywide as of 8 a.m. there were roughly 110,000 customers without power. Florida, Power & Light customers can track outages at [www.fpl.com/storm](http://www.fpl.com/storm); to report outages call 1-800-4OUTAGE (800-468-8243). FPUA customers can track outages at [www.FPUA.com](http://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 the next 48 hours. This impacts 70 homes inside Deland Avenue to Donion Road from Fort Pierce Boulevard to Roland Court. All utilities are asking residents to conserve water to help ease the strain on the septic drainage systems, which are impacted by nearly 20 inches of water in the past 24 hours.

#### **Cleanup**

St. Lucie County's landfill is closed today, but will open on Tuesday, Sept. 11 for normal business hours. Residents cleaning up their yards are asked to stack debris in the yard and not the road. Also do not stack debris near/in front of fire hydrants or utility poles. Businesses and

homeowners are also reminded to use caution when running generators – keep them in well ventilated areas and wait for cooling until refueling.

Furthermore 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.

### **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 closure, instead of 9-1-1 - unless there is an emergency.

Press conferences/updates from St. Lucie County's Emergency Operations Center will take place at 8 a.m., noon and 5 p.m. daily and will be streamed live to the county's Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/stluciegov](http://www.facebook.com/stluciegov).

Residents can also use St. Lucie County's mobile app My St. Lucie to make service requests for mosquito control or road and bridge, by downloading the free app from the Apple or Google stores.

### **Volunteers**

St. Lucie County's Community Services Department is ready to start mobilizing volunteers looking 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](http://www.unitedwayslc.org) or Volunteer St. Lucie at [https://stluciecounty.formstack.com/forms/hurricane\\_irma](https://stluciecounty.formstack.com/forms/hurricane_irma).

### **Shelters**

There were 2,462 people, including 498 in the special needs shelter, staying in St. Lucie County shelters as of 8 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 11. Roughly 60 residents from the west coast and south Florida took refuge in St. Lucie County shelters. The county's 12 general population and special needs shelters have begun the process of demobilizing and releasing those guests this morning.

### **Government Closures**

- St. Lucie County government offices and facilities, including the Clerk of Courts, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser, Sheriff's Office; Supervisor of Elections and

the Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie County, will be closed on Monday, Sept. 11. This closure includes the skate park, Lawnwood Stadium, St. Lucie County libraries, preserves and attractions such as the Regional History Center, St. Lucie County Aquarium and the Oxbow Eco-Center. A decision to close local governments on Tuesday, Sept. 12 will be made Monday mid-afternoon, following a county-wide assessment in the morning. Employees should call the number on the back of the badge and check with their immediate supervisor.

- St. Lucie County landfill is closed today; but will open for normal operations on Tuesdays, Sept. 12.
- St. Lucie County Public Schools, as well as John Carroll High School and St. Anastasia Catholic School, will also be closed through Tuesday, Sept. 12 as schools are being used as shelters.

#### **Evacuations**

- Evacuations have been lifted for residents on North and South Hutchinson Island, in low-laying areas and those living in manufactured homes. However only residents and business owners are being allowed back on to the barrier islands.

For more information about the St. Lucie County's preparations and precautionary measures visit: [www.stlucieco.gov/hurricane](http://www.stlucieco.gov/hurricane) or on social media @StLucieGov.

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