



For Immediate Release- Tuesday, October 8, 2024

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The City of Bonita Springs urges residents to finalize hurricane and evacuation plans.

Bonita Springs, October 8, 2024 – The National Weather Service has issued a Hurricane Warning for the City of Bonita Springs. The City issued a State of Local Emergency over the weekend. The National Weather Service is anticipating that we will receive hurricane force winds and storm surge in our area from six-ten feet.

The Lee County Emergency Operations Center issued mandatory evacuations for Zone A and Zone B on Monday. Please visit the Lee County Emergency Operations webpage to [find your evacuation zone](#). People who live in mobile homes and manufactured homes are also part of the evacuation order. All shelters are pet-friendly; pets must be on leashes or in kennels. Residents are encouraged to make more comfortable arrangements by staying with a friend or family member outside of the evacuation zones. Residents should plan to be in a safe location outside of the evacuation zones by tonight. Lee County has announced additional shelters opened at 8 a.m. today in advance of the approach of Hurricane Milton.

A complete list of shelters is:

- Gateway High School

13820 Griffin Drive

Fort Myers, FL 33913

- Hertz Arena

11000 Everblades Parkway

Estero, FL 33928

- Oak Hammock Middle School

5321 Tice St.

Fort Myers, FL 33905

- Tortuga Preserve Elementary School

1711 Gunnery Road N.

Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

- Treeline Elementary School

10900 Treeline Ave.

Fort Myers, FL 33913

- Varsity Lakes Middle School

801 Gunnery Road N.

Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

- Dunbar High School

3800 Edison Ave.

Fort Myers, FL 33916

- Estero Recreation Center

9200 Corkscrew Palms Blvd.

Estero, FL 33928

- Island Coast High School

2125 DeNavarra Parkway

Cape Coral, FL 33909

Transportation is available to shelters. People can go to any LeeTran stop and advise the driver that they need to go to an open shelter. They will be taken to a transfer center and then to a shelter. LeeTran has suspended fares.

Residents can view the announcements on local media as well as on the county's [Facebook page](#). The city will also be sharing the information to all city media channels.

We urge all residents to finalize preparedness plans. Please secure all building materials onsite. Please continue to monitor local news stations for updates on the storm. City staff has been clearing storm drains and securing facilities in preparation of Hurricane Milton. Debris pickup will continue this morning.

Normal city operations have ceased, city emergency preparedness personnel will continue to work pre, during and post storm. Residents can stay up to date with City information on the City's [Facebook](#) page and website [City of Bonita Springs](#)

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 10.73ft. To check water levels, [click here](#).

Bonita Springs Utilities Staff has been working hard to prepare the water supply system for Hurricane Milton's effects. The supply system is performing well, and we are prepared to weather storm conditions while continuing to provide water to residents. Residents are reminded to limit water use to ease stress on sewer operations and help prevent backups or spills.

- Keep toilet flushing to a minimum
- Abstain from running dishwashers and clothes washers
- Limit the amount of water used during a shower or the amount to fill your bathtub

Boil water notices will be posted on the following web page: <https://bsu.us/service-alerts/>. Visit BSUs website at www.bsu.us or our Facebook page for timely and pertinent updates on your water supply, wastewater services, and hours of operation.

Bonita Springs Community Development asks that any Bonita Springs residents with water intrusion in their homes post-storm send an email to floodinfo@cityofbonitaspringscd.org or call 239-444-6150 for assistance with permit requirements and resources.

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

Please be safe and continue to monitor local news stations for updates about Hurricane Milton.