

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lee County government offices to close Wednesday

Fort Myers, FL, Aug. 29, 2023 – Lee County Government will be closed on Wednesday to ensure as few people as possible need to travel during the tropical conditions.

Employees at the Emergency Operations Center and in departments that are necessary for tropical events will be working.

Lee County Solid Waste will operate regular collection Wednesday, Aug. 30. Residents who have regularly scheduled pickup on Wednesday should place waste containers by the curb by 7:30 or 8 a.m. There is no need to place containers out overnight.

LeeTran will resume its operations tomorrow. Fixed routes will begin slightly later and with staggered starts. Check LeeTran's Facebook page or the website. Or find the link to information at www.LeeGov.com/storm.

The Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery meeting that was canceled tonight due to the storm has been rescheduled for 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug.31, at BIG ARTS on Sanibel.

As Hurricane Idalia moves to the north, the anticipated heavy rain bands have moved into Lee County. These bands include downpours, thunder and lightning – with possible tornadic activity. Isolated, localized flooding has been reported on coastal roads, which is consistent with the forecast. In part, that's because these bands are coinciding with high tide, fueled by onshore winds from the storm.

Traveling tonight is not advised because it will be more difficult to see areas of standing water. Motorists should make every effort to stay home tonight.

The onshore winds will drive localized flooding on the coast even after the storm is north of Lee County. When you see reports that the storm has gone by, please continue to use caution. There is a lot of storm activity on the south side of this hurricane. Continue to monitor local meteorologists' reports.

Lee County's Safe Havens remain open at the North Fort Myers Recreation Center and Estero Recreation Center. There are about 51 people and seven pets in the Safe Havens, which are designed to help communities where people are still living in lan-damaged homes or trailers. There are no evacuation orders in effect.

For the latest updates, log on to www.leegov.com/storm and follow Lee County Government on Facebook, www.facebook.com/leecountyflbocc

Lee County's next livestream update is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. Wednesday. Visit <https://www.youtube.com/@LeeCountyFLBOCC/videos>.