EVACUATION ZONE B

Overview

Zone B is very vulnerable and will experience significant impacts from land-falling storms. Evacuation will often be required for a **hurricane** coming from the Gulf. Winds in exiting storms may also require evacuation.

What Are the Most Dangerous Hazards?

While not the lowest in elevation or closest to tidal water, Zone B is still vulnerable to potentially fatal levels of storm surge and some wave action. Since foundations here may not be as strong as areas closest to the water, homes may fail when flooded. Wind will also pose a danger, especially to unprepared homes.

When Will I Be Ordered to Evacuate?

Zone B will be among the first areas ordered to evacuate for a **hurricane**. This will likely come early, when the skies are clear and the weather seems fine.

What Might Happen if I Ignore Evacuation Orders?

You are gambling your life, and the lives of those who stay with you, against high odds. Also, it is highly unlikely that you can protect your property if you stay, so you will be risking your life for no return. Emergency services will be unavailable for extended periods. When you get into trouble, you will have to wait not only for the storm to leave your area, but to move through the rest of the County as well before help can come.

What Are Some Other Safety Concerns?

Any flood waters will rise quickly, but recede very slowly. That water, and the ground, will be contaminated with chemicals and raw sewage. Electricity will be out for a long time and, when restored, many houses will be unable to receive power due to damage. Many homes in this zone use wells and septic tanks. Wells will be inoperable and unsafe due to flooding. Septic tanks will not function and will add to the contamination of the area.

Can't I Leave After the Storm Passes?

If you survive, leaving after the storm will be difficult and dangerous. Streets, major roads and bridges may sustain heavy damage or fail entirely due to surge flooding. Roads that survive will be covered in flood water, debris or both. These issues will also delay emergency response.

So, What Are My Safer Alternatives?

Your safer plan is to evacuate if directed to do so. Know where you will go, how you will get there and what you will carry. Plan to return only when it is safe to do so. If you are not ordered to evacuate and stay home, make sure your home is above the expected surge height and all windows and doors are protected against the wind.

Lee County Emergency Management 239-533-0622

www.LeeEOC.com

Emergency Management 2.0 at

www.LeeEOC.com

Technology is turning the tide of emergency communications. Individuals and agencies, including Lee County Emergency Management, have begun actively using these new tools. These new devices have increased transparency in that we are now able to engage our community in a different environment, allowing more feedback at the local level.

LeeEOC.com offers a variety of resources that provide useful information:



Our Facebook page offers preparedness information in addition to emergency information in real time. Find us at www.facebook.com/LCEMFL



Lee County Emergency Management operates two different twitter accounts:

@LeeEOC- offers purely emergency information

@LCEMFL- offers this information as well as other general info.



LeeEvac is our *FREE* app, available on Apple and Android. It allows users to find their evacuation zone. It can locate the users by GPS or the user can search by address. It can also push evacuation notifications straight to the device in real-time.



Know Your Zone Portal: This portal allows users to input their address to find their evacuation zone. There are also designated badges for each zone, which users can save on their computer or share on social media.



SMS Text Alerts: Located at the top of <u>LeeEOC.com</u>, users can enter their phone number to receive 'Breaking News' updates via text message.



Code Red: Code red is a *FREE* Lee County service by which residents and businesses are notified by telephone, text, and/or email regarding emergencies or critical protective actions required to safeguard life and property. Sign up at <u>LeeEOC.com</u>

Other available resources:

Family Preparedness Plan: This is a comprehensive, easy-to-use template to create a Plan.

Special Needs Program Application: The Special Needs Program provides shelter or transportation for Lee County residents who live in a home and/or area that is not safe from storm surge or wind during a Tropical Storm or Hurricane.

All-Hazards Guide: This guide includes an overview of preparedness tools, sheltering information, and recovery resources.



Volunteer Application: Our volunteer program provides an array of volunteer services including internships, office assistance and emergency management opportunities.

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