

10/9 storm recovery update

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Volunteer to help Captiva recover

The Captiva Civic Association has set up an online volunteer form at <https://forms.gle/afDZW3pKyoVWjFKp9>, where interested islanders (and others) can volunteer their time and talents to help in the storm recovery efforts on Captiva. Questions? Email info@ccacaptiva.org.

The Captiva Community Panel is developing a donation process to help assist island organizations with storm recovery, and hopes to have that in place shortly after the Tuesday panel meeting. In addition, we continue to amass questions from Captivans to pass on to the appropriate agencies and authorities. Those can be send to captivacommunitypanel@gmail.com.

Storm assessment by Cheryl Hapke

FROM CHERYL HAPKE: On Thursday I did a virtual field trip to Captiva via January 2022 aerals and the NOAA post-lan photos. The following are my observations:

- Substantial overwash, in many cases there is sand on the bayside of the island indicating water flowed across the entire island; can see sand deposited in bayside mangroves in some locations

- At Redfish Pass (north end of island), riprap was overwashed and there are substantial sand deposits on South Seas golf course
- Major loss of dunes and dune vegetation along entire length of island
- Oceanfront trees, where present, knocked down
- Houses and other structures sustained minor damage overall, at least from wind and what can be seen in the imagery. I don't yet have information on how high water levels may have been.
 - There are a number of structure with missing shingles
 - In several locations, solar panels and pool cages are missing or torn down
- Many docks are gone or damaged
- Many trees are down, or completely stripped of leaves/fronds
- There is sand everywhere (roads, tennis courts, parking lots, etc.)

Take home: while there is clearly substantial damage and a mess to clean up, the structures on Captiva held up relatively well. Immediately to the south on Sanibel, it's a completely different story. Houses/structures obliterated or moved off their foundations. (The full report is [here](#).)

NOTE: Dr. Hapke worked extensively on the Captiva adaptation plan and general resiliency planning in conjunction with the panel's Sea Level Rise Committee.

FROM CARRIE SCHUMAN, SCCF: We've been able to get some starting photos and footage of parts of Captiva that are in line with some of what Cheryl was noticing from the aerial imagery. For instance, I sent out an album of photos I had the opportunity to take primarily by boat that echoes some of your points around dunes and vegetation/trees (https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UNDr9kjNRneYZXjJAV61f5_CGLr1_-rC?usp=sharing).

Charter captains list

The Sanctuary Golf Club has compiled a list ([here](#)) of local charter captains who are available to bring people out to the islands, and one of the club members passed the list along to share.

Remember, due to the navigational chaos created by Ian's winds and waves (and the resulting debris), the waters surrounding the islands are more treacherous, not a good place for novice boaters to be. Therefore, using an experienced captain who can navigate the changed conditions is crucial.

Equally crucial is having permission to dock somewhere when coming to Captiva, as all of the marinas are still closed to general boat traffic while assessments are completed and repairs made.

FEMA Ian update

OCT. 8: More than \$150 million in federal disaster assistance has gone to Hurricane Ian survivors since the federal disaster declaration. Assistance helps them with temporary housing, essential home repairs and other uninsured and underinsured disaster-related losses so they can jump-start their recovery. Disaster Survivor Assistance Teams continue to go door-to-door to meet people where they are and help survivors with their unique needs.

How FEMA is Helping Floridians

- **FEMA will pay hotel and motel costs for eligible survivors from counties hardest hit by Hurricane Ian.** Yesterday, FEMA and the state of Florida activated the Transitional Shelter Assistance Program, providing eligible support for survivors in Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Flagler, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Orange, Osceola, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns and Volusia counties. FEMA makes these payments directly to participating hotel and motels in Alabama, Florida and Georgia that provide emergency shelter to survivors.
- **Hundreds of Disaster Survivor Assistance specialists are going door-to-door in Florida to help survivors apply for assistance.** Teams are in Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Flagler, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Orange, Osceola, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns and Volusia counties.
- **FEMA and its state partners are now operating five Disaster Recovery Centers across the state.** Centers are open in Collier, Charlotte and Sarasota counties, with two centers operating in Lee County. More centers are planned to open over the next few days. Centers are accessible offices staffed by state, federal and volunteer organizations that let everyone access recovery information. As centers are added, real-time locations will be updated at [FloridaDisaster.org](https://www.floridadisaster.org).
- **Over 700 FEMA inspectors are in the field going to homes of survivors who registered for federal disaster assistance.** To date, they have performed over 14,000 inspections.
- **FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is issuing advance payments.** To date, Florida policyholders have received more than \$5.9

million to help Floridians jumpstart their recoveries.

- **NFIP policyholders may receive up to \$1,000 to reimburse the purchase of supplies like sandbags, plastic sheeting and lumber.**
They may also receive up to \$1,000 in storage expenses if they moved insured property. Policyholders should file a claim for flood loss avoidance reimbursement, regardless of if it was successful in preventing flood damage.
- **Disaster Unemployment Assistance is available to eligible survivors.**
Floridians should file a claim for loss of income caused by Hurricane Ian by going to [Disaster Unemployment Assistance - FloridaJobs.org](https://www.floridajobs.org/disaster-unemployment-assistance) and selecting “Apply for Hurricane Ian DUA,” visiting a [local CareerSource Career Center](#), or calling 800-385-3920. Customer service representatives are available Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. ET.
- **More than 4,400 federal staff are supporting Ian response efforts.**
This includes more than 1,500 staff from other federal agencies. More than 1,800 emergency management personnel from 26 states were deployed to Florida through an Emergency Management Assistance Compact.
- Operation Blue Roof is a free service to homeowners and is currently operating in Charlotte, Collier, Desoto, Lee and Sarasota counties. The first completed roof installation is expected today. Residents impacted by Hurricane Ian can sign up at [BlueRoof.us](https://www.bluerooftexas.com) or call toll-free at 1-888-ROOF-BLU (1-888-766-3258) for more information. The call center will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET.
- National Flood Insurance Program Florida policyholders who had flood damage from the hurricane now have a 90-day window to renew their policies. The extension applies to policies with renewal dates beginning Aug. 25 through Oct. 23. Policyholders whose policy renewal date is in this range should contact their agent or insurance company. FEMA also extended the proof of loss requirement for flood insurance policyholders in Florida who suffered flood damage from Hurricane Ian from 60 to 365 days.
- FEMA approved Critical Needs Assistance for disaster survivors with immediate or critical needs because they are displaced from their primary dwelling. Immediate or critical needs are life-saving and life-sustaining items. This assistance is a one-time payment of \$700 per household.
- If you or a member of your household uses adaptive or accessibility items that were damaged by Hurricane Ian, you may be eligible for FEMA assistance for those items. For homeowners, items can include an

exterior ramp, grab bars and a paved pathway to the home's entrance from a vehicle. Awards do not count toward your Housing Assistance or Personal Property maximum awards. For more information for homeowners and renters, visit [Update to FEMA's Individual Assistance Program and Policy Guide](#).



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