

10/29 storm recovery update

From: Captiva Community Panel <captivacommunitypanel@gmail.com>

To: kengooderham@gmail.com

[View this email in your browser](#)



Causeway open to all Monday & Tuesday

The City of Sanibel has reviewed debris removal on the island and determined that residents and contractors will be able to access the Causeway on Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 31-Nov. 1. Originally, the plan was to limit access to emergency contractors only to facilitate cleanup.

The city will evaluate access weekly as debris removal continues. A curfew continues on both islands from 9 pm to 6 am, and anyone accessing the Causeway after 9 pm will be questioned.

Also, the city has restored the normal speed limits, removing the 20 mph limit that had been in place since the Causeway reopened. Drivers are cautioned to watch out for work crews and trucks, and to slow down as conditions warrant.

Finally, City Attorney John Agnew provided an update on the revised property appraisals just completed by the Lee County Property Appraiser's Office, which may impact those properties facing rebuilding issues due to FEMA's 50% rule. Check out the Oct. 28 city Facebook update at <https://www.mysanibel.com/hurricane/hurricane-ian> for more details.

CCA offers internet hot spot

With support of FISH of SanCap, the CCA is pleased to announce they are able to provide an internet hot spot for community members. Drop-in hours to access the WiFi are currently Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 11 am-3 pm at the Captiva Civic Center, 11550 Chapin Lane (starting Wednesday, Nov. 2). You must bring your own device (laptop, iPad or phone).

People accessing WiFi will be able to do so inside the CCA (Civic Center) hall, which is air conditioned, and tables and seating provided. If you have questions, please contact CCA Executive Director Emily Ankerson at emily.ankerson@ccacaptiva.org.

Manatee protection zones to be reviewed

The Lee County Board of County Commissioners will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, Nov. 1, to adopt an ordinance pertaining to manatee protection and slow speed zones applicable to Captiva Island (bayside including Roosevelt Channel), North Captiva (Safety Harbor), and Gasparilla Island (Boca Grande Bayou) and seek approval of the ordinance from FWC.

Based upon the best available scientific information, manatees inhabit the bayside areas along Captiva Island (quarter-mile buffer including Roosevelt Channel), North Captiva (Safety Harbor), and Gasparilla Island (Boca Grande Bayou) on a regular basis including winter use. Accordingly, there is a need to post these areas as year-round slow speed zones for manatee protection. Exhibit A of the Draft Ordinance depicts areas proposed to be year-round slow speed zones for manatee protection.

Manatee protection speed zones can be implemented by FWC, or by local government ordinance adoption in compliance with the requirements of Section 379.2431, Florida Statutes. This County ordinance would be subject to approval by FWC, and in accordance with statute, would be reviewed with the best available scientific data.

FWC does not have current plans to review Lee County speed zones. Therefore, Natural Resources Staff compiled and reviewed the best available scientific data including aerial surveys (2007-09), State winter synoptic (one-day) surveys (1991-2019), state carcass recovery data (1975-2019), seagrass maps, and navigation charts. The Draft Ordinance and affected areas can be viewed online at <https://www.leegov.com/bocc/meetings/agendas>.

The Captiva Community Panel fully supports the adoption of the Manatee Protection Zones Ordinance. For more than two years, the Panel has advocated for the return to the slow speed, minimum wake zone long in existence in bayside areas along Captiva Island prior to Hurricane Irma. The Panel thanks County Staff and the County Attorney for their work on this Ordinance – and especially thanks Stephen Boutelle in Natural Resources/Public Works for his steady commitment to this important matter.

Blue Roof deadline nears

The Blue Roof Program is now available to assist eligible homeowners with temporary roof repairs. For more information go to <https://www.leegov.com/hurricane/storm/available-resources> and look in the Blue Roof Program section. The initial sign up period will end on Nov. 1.

Support local businesses

FROM SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

Our beautiful Southwest Florida barrier islands need your help. The business community on Sanibel, Captiva, and surrounding islands has always been unique, made up largely of family-owned small businesses. We believe in providing the highest level of service to our cherished residents and guests, while working in concert with our conservation partners to steward our natural treasures and protect the wildlife that makes our destination special.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#) TO SEE BEFORE/AFTER IAN

In the past few weeks since Hurricane Ian devastated the islands our businesses and residents call home, it has become clear that this once-in-a-lifetime storm will require once-in-a-lifetime assistance to keep the culture and community that made our islands special. We have been on the ground every day since Hurricane Ian helping our businesses recover from this disaster.

We have seen an unfathomable level of decimation that is impossible to capture through the lens of a camera. Our fear is that if assistance is not granted swiftly, the desperation of our island business owners and residents turns to hopelessness.

SUPPORT OUR ISLANDS' LONG-STANDING CONSERVATION/BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP. IT'S WHAT MAKES OUR ISLANDS UNIQUE.

Click on [TAKE ACTION](#) to complete the form to email your congressman now and support our efforts to save our islands.

More debris removal trucks arrive in Lee County

FROM LEE COUNTY:

Fifteen additional debris-collection trucks hit the road Oct. 28 to help speed Hurricane Ian recovery. Each collection truck hauls a trailer that doubles its carrying capacity, and each has a grapple for loading.

The new trucks increase the total number of trucks working in Lee County to 125, for a total of 250 debris- collection containers on the road. These trucks are complemented by a fleet of 25 bucket trucks working throughout the county to remove dangerous hanging or leaning trees that pose a public-safety threat. To date, the bucket trucks have removed 479 dangerous trees and more than 9,000 dangerous hanging limbs.

Total storm debris collections now exceed 1.3 million cubic yards – a number that includes vegetative waste, construction and demolition material, dirty sand and titled property such as boats. Lee County’s debris contractor, CrowderGulf, estimates that the first pass to remove hurricane debris in unincorporated Lee County will be completed within the next 30 days.

Each neighborhood will receive at minimum a second pass for debris removal. Additional passes will be conducted as warranted, particularly in those neighborhoods that experienced both wind damage and severe flooding.

Residents can track debris collection progress at the county’s debris removal information dashboard, <https://lee-county-fl-debris-removal-thompsoncs.hub.arcgis.com/>.

To watch the most recent Lee Board of County Commissioners meeting on debris removal and to view the presentation materials, visit www.leegov.com/media and click on the Oct. 26 BoCC Special Workshop. For more Hurricane Ian recovery information and resources, check www.leegov.com/storm or follow @Lee County Government on Facebook, www.facebook.com/leecountyflbocc.

FDEM offers debris, title help

FROM FDEM:

The Florida Department of Emergency Management (FDEM), in collaboration with Lee County, is now accepting applications from private and commercial property owners who would like assistance for the assessment and removal of qualifying debris, including vehicles, vessels and other title property.

FDEM is also accepting applications from owners of vehicles, vessels and other title property lost or displaced due to Hurricane Ian. Residents can apply at www.IanDebrisCleanup.com or by phone at 850-961-2002. The Hurricane Ian Debris hotline is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends. People can also email IanDebrisCleanup@em.myflorida.com.



Copyright © 2022 Captiva Community Panel, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email as someone who wants to preserve and protect Captiva.

Our mailing address is:

Captiva Community Panel
P.O. Box 72
Captiva, FL 33924

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).
