
12/23 storm recovery update

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

To: kengooderham@gmail.com

[View this email in your browser](#)



Missing a waste container?

If your waste or recycling containers have gone missing post-Ian, here's what to do:

- If your garbage container was provided by the franchise waste hauler (Waste Management), contact them for a replacement (239-334-1224). If the MIA container was one you bought, you'll have to replace it on your own.
- Recycling containers are provided either by the county, through contacting either the hauler or Lee County Solid Waste at [Approved Containers \(leegov.com\)](#) or <https://www.leegov.com/solidwaste/residential/curbside/containers>.

CEPD updates

FROM CEPD:

Captiva Island Beach and Water Conditions

As conditions appear to improve, the CEPD Board and Staff are looking forward to welcoming people back to the beaches. Unfortunately, there is no public parking currently available on Captiva and Lee County has closed all public beach access points due to damages from Hurricane Ian. The agencies

responsible for declaring public safety for the beaches and waters in Lee County are the Lee County Parks and Recreation and the Florida Department of Health's Healthy Beaches program. Information on Lee County's beaches can be found here: <https://www.leegov.com/parks/beaches>.

The most recent FLDOH fecal indicator bacteria testing results from Dec. 12 suggests low bacterial concentrations and no current advisories. However, it is important to note that coliform bacteria are used strictly as an indicator and there may be potentially hazardous pathogens present that are not tested for. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission's Red Tide Status Update from Dec. 14 reports "background to very low concentrations [of red-tide organisms] in and offshore of Lee County." Red tide conditions can rapidly change.

As a cautionary note, *Vibrio Vulnificus* in certain areas of Lee County remain high. Please refrain from entering the water with open wounds. Residents and visitors on Captiva are encouraged to monitor the most recent conditions at the hyperlinks below, and to both use their best judgement and exercise caution on the beaches.

Resources:

[Lee County Parks and Recreation](#)

[Florida Department of Health's Healthy Beaches](#)

[Lee County Beaches Information](#)

[FLDOH fecal indicator bacteria testing results](#)

[Red Tide Status Update](#)

[Vibrio Vulnificus](#)

2022 Florida Special Legislative Session

Becker, a law firm the Captiva Erosion Protection District retains to support lobbying efforts, monitored the recent 2022 Florida Special Legislative Session. Becker provided CEPD with a summary of outcomes pertaining to Captiva residents and beach erosion projects affected by Hurricane Ian. Descriptions of bills SB-2A – Property Insurance by Senator Boyd, SB-4A – Disaster Relief by Senator Hutson, and SB-6A – Toll Relief by Senator DiCeglie, which were passed during session can be found here: <https://www.mycepd.com/lobbying-reports>

Vacancy on the CEPD Board of Commissioners

Applications are currently being accepted by the Captiva Erosion Prevention District Office to fill the vacancy of Seat One. To become a Commissioner, applicants must reside on and be a registered elector of Captiva. A statement

of financial interest is required. Commissioners are expected to attend each of the monthly board meetings physically. Please send your application, resume, and voter registration card to mycepd@mycepd.com. Deadline to apply by email is Jan. 6, 2023. For more information, please visit www.mycepd.com or call (239) 472-2472.

Process for Payment In-Full for the Recent Assessment

The Captiva Erosion Prevention District is currently inundated with calls and inquiries regarding assessment payments. Please, understand if your inquiry is not immediately addressed as we are prioritizing this process.

By enabling legislation, CEPD is required to offer property owners the opportunity to pay their assessments in full. Once a check clears, the CEPD office begins a process with the Lee County Tax Collector to amend the associated property tax bill via the DR-409a form. Once received, LEETC clerks from the Business Operations Department process the amendment requests and communicate with the Lee County Property Appraiser. Once the correction is made, the owner will receive a corrected tax bill. If unpaid, the payor will receive an additional 30 days to pay the corrected amount. If the taxes are paid, the payor would be required to sign a refund form, DR-462, before the check would be released. LEETC will send the refund form to the payor.

Currently, 185 payments are going through this process and another 80 are prepared to be sent when the most recent payments clear. LEETC is only informed of what property owners owe year to year. If you have paid in full, you are taken off the amortization schedule and you will not see this line item appear on future property tax bills. The CEPD Office is working to present solutions and changes to the rules of procedure for approval by the Board of Commissioners in an effort to prevent the need for this process in the future. CEPD sincerely apologizes for any inconvenience this has caused the property owners of Captiva.

Updates from the Community Panel meeting

- The City of Sanibel is planning to reopen the Sanibel Causeway to the general public on Monday, Jan. 2, as the numerous benchmarks set by the city for recovery have been (or will be) met. A curfew will remain in effect after the re-opening, although the hours or terms may change somewhat to accommodate both island workers and seasonal residents.

- As previously announced, Lee County will restart the toll program for the Causeway Jan. 1. Island-based LeeWay customers should renew their programs for 2023 now (typically, renewal takes place in October); you can renew online at www.leegov.com/tolls, or call 239-533-9297.
- Comcast reported that Captiva is 90% restored, but that service interruptions may continue as they switch off generators back to regular power. If you have not seen your service return, contact Comcast (they recommend the app as wait time for phone calls is long) so they can determine what issue is causing the problem.
- Iguana eradication will restart hopefully after the first of the year, as the Community Panel voted to fund trapper service for a year with reimbursement expected from Lee County.

If you want to view the entire meeting, it's available online at <https://youtu.be/4VkoFEbCKqY> or via a link on the News page of the Community Panel website.

Captiva Community Panel donations

We received some responses to our fund-raising request noting that the payment link did not show up properly on mobile devices, due to an issue with the reformatting of the panel webpage to fit those devices. As an alternative, use the QR code or link below... or go to <https://captivacommunitypanel.com/memberships/> on your regular computer.

Link: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=787923AQRHC6W



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](#).
