

## 2/11 Captiva update

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

To: kengooderham@gmail.com

[View this email in your browser](#)



### Upcoming events

- CEPD monthly meeting – Monday, Feb. 13 @ 1 p.m. Meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88531110387>; agenda online at mycepd.com
- Community Panel monthly meeting – Tuesday, Feb. 14 @ 9 a.m. via Zoom; agenda online at [captivacommunitypanel.com](http://captivacommunitypanel.com)

Please click the link below to join the Community Panel meeting:

- [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86832925752?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86832925752?pwd=R29BRVFPMTBFZzQ1clRoME1Tbnc5UT09)  
pwd=R29BRVFPMTBFZzQ1clRoME1Tbnc5UT09
- Passcode: 160990
- Or One tap mobile: +13052241968,,86832925752#,,, \*160990# or +16469313860,,86832925752#,,, \*160990#
- Or Telephone: +1 305 224 1968 or +1 646 931 3860 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 309 205 3325
- Webinar ID: 868 3292 5752 / Passcode: 160990

### Sanibel School reopens

ADAPTED FROM THE NEWS-PRESS:

An extra hour of sleep. The 10-minute ride compared to over an hour on a bus.  
A feeling of being home.

Those are the perks students at The Sanibel School shared Wednesday, their first day back at the island school since Hurricane Ian flooded the campus in September, causing widespread damage. ...

While The Sanibel School has been around since 1890, its current buildings were constructed in the late 1990s. The lower section was constructed in 1962. A year later, it became the first integrated school in Lee County. The upper addition was built in 1988.

The district's initial assessment of the school after Hurricane Ian was that it would need to be rebuilt. However, after engineers inspected the building, they concluded it was structurally sound. The district then went in and ripped out everything damaged by the storm surge and began the task of making repairs. Costs for the renovation were not available.

While the K-8 students and teachers were able to return to campus this week, things looked a little different.

Half of the elementary school students have been moved from the lower buildings, which were filled with four feet of water due to storm surge, and are being taught in the upper buildings where the middle school students are, which suffered less water damage.

The classrooms that are still being used in the lower buildings are being run off generators because the electricity isn't quite fixed yet. Those classrooms are also missing things like cabinets and white boards.

There's still no carpet or ceiling tiles in any of the buildings.

Robert Spicker, spokesman for the Lee County School District, said contractors will work in the evenings and on weekends to finish the repairs needed to the school. All work is expected to be completed by August.

## **Rebuilding with resilience in mind**

### **FROM SCCF:**

In the wake of Hurricane Ian, Sanibel, Captiva, and Southwest Florida

communities are rebuilding. SCCF Coastal Resilience Manager Carrie Schuman, Ph.D., invites you to learn how you can make choices now that will increase our region's resilience not only to specific events like Ian, but against the broader backdrop of climate change.

In this well-organized and in-depth guide to tax credits, rebates, and other financial incentives, Schuman outlines four main pathways to becoming more resilient:

- Energy Generation
- Energy Efficiency
- Transportation
- Hurricane Proofing

"One of the most obvious ways many of these incentives contribute to resilience is through their collective potential to reduce greenhouse gases," writes Schuman. "This translates into reducing rising temperatures and subsequently, the intensity of future climate change impacts that we'll need to adapt to."

This guide includes a variety of available financial incentives that can help homeowners, businesses, and other entities — such as nonprofits, schools, and municipalities — make some of these choices while taking advantage of potentially significant savings.

Schuman reminds us of other long-term benefits as well.

By adopting solar and other renewable energy sources, you will become less dependent on both a volatile fossil fuel market and the availability of backup power as battery technology improves. By choosing energy-efficient appliances, you can help streamline overall energy usage, resulting in lower bills. Savings range from hundreds of dollars to several thousand.

Click here to [DOWNLOAD GUIDE](#).

## **Hurricane restoration reimbursement grant application portal open**

### **FROM FLORIDA DEP:**

Senate Bill 4A, signed into law by Governor Ron DeSantis on Dec. 16, 2022,

awarded \$50 million to the Florida Hurricane Restoration Reimbursement Grant Program to assist private property owners in addressing coastal beach erosion incurred as a result of preparation for or damage sustained from Hurricane Ian or Hurricane Nicole. This program provides reimbursement grants up to \$150,000 per parcel with a 50/50 homeowner match requirement. This grant will cover reimbursement of construction costs associated with sand placement (renourishment).

The Florida Hurricane Restoration Reimbursement Grant Program provides an opportunity for property owners to address beach erosion on their private property, specifically storm-surge washouts/gullies, in a timely manner to restore the beach dune and provide for safe access to and from the beach.

To access the DEP application portal, or learn more about the program, including FAQs and the Program Overview slideshow, click here:  
<https://floridadep.gov/hurricane>.

To submit an application to DEP online, you must first create a DEP Grants User account and Login to view the application. Click [here](#) (or [https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001xArCH5-anDVCeHbkl1qiWoYa4F0Bv5jkEBW-oWG4LyYZ8E8bJGw9atrOUXBUvvqR4Xz2Y1l3bwFVALSpEo3XKMmSEYVfO9D9hVtUgY9a0aZK2Ez2dpVSXWFgxSqyg60ejLqBPN6zB76\\_sebEe4k5Kv-t8T82BaCFTBq7jlnkYjyITbV6f-tqT-if3UwJUyCq&c=Ukm7DxdX1qEgVzzQgGeEHPmtoFj90deOOB4F6odwQXOTJ4KYX76K1Q==&ch=TvlACOdEYjcfiQzRD1lcl33rQ8u0ieJVeJrjc4J\\_0aNBBtZrMCnezQ==](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001xArCH5-anDVCeHbkl1qiWoYa4F0Bv5jkEBW-oWG4LyYZ8E8bJGw9atrOUXBUvvqR4Xz2Y1l3bwFVALSpEo3XKMmSEYVfO9D9hVtUgY9a0aZK2Ez2dpVSXWFgxSqyg60ejLqBPN6zB76_sebEe4k5Kv-t8T82BaCFTBq7jlnkYjyITbV6f-tqT-if3UwJUyCq&c=Ukm7DxdX1qEgVzzQgGeEHPmtoFj90deOOB4F6odwQXOTJ4KYX76K1Q==&ch=TvlACOdEYjcfiQzRD1lcl33rQ8u0ieJVeJrjc4J_0aNBBtZrMCnezQ==)) to register. Contact DEP at 850-245-8558 or [HRRGP@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:HRRGP@FloridaDEP.gov) with any questions regarding the program or application process.

To access the DEP application portal, or learn more about the program, including FAQs and the Program Overview slideshow, click here:  
<https://floridadep.gov/hurricane>. To inquire about state permitting, please contact DEP Field Permitting and Compliance Agent Kelly Cramer at 239-770-7502 or [kelly.cramer@floridadep.gov](mailto:kelly.cramer@floridadep.gov).

## **Sanibel Causeway update**

### **FROM FLORIDA DOT:**

Last week's construction activities will continue for the next week on the

Sanibel Causeway. The contractor does not anticipate lane closures or major delays to traffic due to construction at least through Feb. 14. However, please expect heavy traffic and slow travel due to numerous large trucks and oversized vehicles bringing equipment and materials onto the island. Please be patient and plan ahead when travelling the Causeway.

As a part of the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Emergency Restoration of the Sanibel Causeway:

- Crews continue work on McGregor Boulevard and the Sanibel Causeway from Port Comfort Road to Sanibel Island.
- Westbound McGregor Boulevard has been reduced to one lane approaching and through the toll plaza. Crews continue earthwork on the causeway islands.
- **MOTORISTS ARE REMINDED TO OBEY THE POSTED SPEED LIMIT OF 20 MPH.**
- Crews continue driving sheet pile around the causeway islands.
- The causeway islands surrounding the temporary roadway are an active work zone and are currently closed for public access.
- Bicyclists are encouraged to utilize another mode of transportation to travel the causeway.
- Pedestrians are not permitted on the Sanibel Causeway.

Many oversized vehicles are crossing the causeway to assist with recovery efforts on the island. Please be patient as travel may be slower than usual. Please use caution and watch for workers and construction vehicles entering and leaving the roadway. For further questions, please contact Jennifer Dorning by email at [Jennifer.Dorning@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Jennifer.Dorning@dot.state.fl.us) or by phone at (239) 338-7723.



---

*Copyright © 2023 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](#).

---