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Contact: Betsy Clayton, APR/CPRC
Communications Director
Lee County Government
239-826-4606
bclayton@leegov.com

2020 Census moving forward during COVID-19

Lee County residents encouraged to use online Census form to avoid risk

Fort Myers, FL, March 25, 2020 – Lee County residents are encouraged to go online to complete the 2020 Census. For the first time ever, the Census is available to complete online, over the phone and by mail. With three convenient options, it's easy for Lee County residents to complete the Census by April 1 without needing to eventually interact with Census staff.

Due to the Coronavirus, the Census has temporarily suspended field operations, but the Constitutional directive for a nationwide count continues.

An accurate count of Lee County is essential. Data are used to ensure that our community has fair representation in federal and state legislatures and proportionate funding for roads and public transit, healthcare, schools, housing, parks, public safety and many more county-wide programs.

Households are currently receiving official Census Bureau information by mail, giving instructions on how to go online to my2020census.gov. Mailed invitations to complete the Census are addressed to "Resident" rather than to a specific name. This is the official invitation to participate and should not be discarded.

Census Day is observed nationwide on April 1. By this date, every home should have received an invitation to participate. Invitations are arriving at different times so residents – especially those in new gated communities – should remain patient as their invitations may arrive near Census Day.

Visit <https://2020census.gov/>.

About the Census 2020

The U.S. Constitution mandates a census of the population every 10 years. Census statistics help determine the number of seats each state holds in the U.S. House of Representatives and how billions of dollars in federal funds are allocated to state and local communities for the next 10 years.