

Monday, Sept. 18, 2017

Update from Lee County Emergency Management

LeeTran, DOT, Solid Waste, shelters, long-term recovery efforts

LeeTran (Lee County Transit) has resumed normal schedules and operations today.

Lee County DOT has brought back online 411 of the 427 traffic signals countywide. (Some have power restored; some are on generators.)

DOT has begun work on traffic sign replacement. Crews also continue to clear catch basins and culverts in areas still impacted by standing water.

Lee County Solid Waste storm debris collection started over the weekend and continues this week. (More debris pickup information will be forthcoming later today.)

Lee County Solid Waste last week restored normal collection schedules for household pickup, and this week is adding recycling pickup back into the normal collection schedules. Horticulture pickup will resume on schedule next week.

Lee County Emergency Operations has downgraded from a Level 1 activation to a Level 2 activation, which means 24-hour shifts are reduced to 12-hour shifts at EOC.

The population of evacuees at the two remaining shelters (North Fort Myers Recreation Center and Estero Recreation Center) continues to decline. The Red Cross is working with power companies to verify the homes of evacuees are with power, and LeeTran is offering transportation to evacuees once they have power restored and are able to go home.

Cooling stations are open throughout the county at various sites, including faith-based organizations.

Cleanup continues at schools and other sites that were used as shelters during Hurricane Irma. This was the largest evacuation and sheltering operation in Lee County's history, with more than 32,000 people housed at the peak of the storm. Contracts with cleaning companies are in place and clean-up underway. Buildings used as shelters will be returned to their pre-storm condition as soon as possible.

Long-term recovery efforts are underway, including coordination with United Way and partner agencies and Disaster Recovery Center planning. Announcements from FEMA related to DRCs locations and opening dates will be forthcoming.