

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lee County Solid Waste reminds gated communities and HOAs to update forms with county for hurricane season

Fort Myers, FL, May 13, 2025 – Professional property managers and residential homeowners' association (HOA) presidents can take steps now to protect their community in the event of a hurricane or other declared major disaster in Lee County. FEMA regulations require that private or gated communities have a current Right of Entry and Indemnification form on file with Lee County before any disaster-debris recovery crews are allowed to enter the community.

Lee County has an easy, online process for submitting the necessary paperwork. Forms are available at <https://leegis.leegov.com/ROE> for communities located within unincorporated Lee County. Filling out the form is quick, easy and only has to be done once a year. Lee County Solid Waste encourages all HOAs and gated communities to take time to complete the form prior to the start of hurricane season.

The Right of Entry will only be used as necessary during the recovery period following a declared State Of Local Emergency.

It is important to note that waste generated by contractors is not eligible for disaster debris collection. Waste and debris generated by contractors and left on public property creates safety hazards for pedestrians, motorists and emergency responders. Any waste left behind by contractors on public property will be considered illegal dumping, and the contractors will be held liable for any associated fines or penalties. All contractors are strongly urged to dispose of their waste in a responsible and lawful manner.

With Florida's tax-free holiday for purchasing hurricane supplies approaching, also keep in mind proper battery disposal as you replace batteries for this hurricane season. To find out what to do with each type of battery, visit www.leegov.com/solidwaste/battery-disposal. You can also download the Recycle Coach app to your phone and use the app's guide and information. Or visit www.leegov.com/solidwaste/recycle-coach.

Questions related to Right of Entry forms, battery disposal or other hurricane-related Solid Waste information, visit www.leegov.com/solidwaste or call customer service at 239-533-8000.

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