

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lee County encourages residents to prep their yards for hurricane season

Try these Solid Waste tips when you work on your property this summer

Fort Myers, FL, May 30, 2025 – The hurricane season calls for proactive measures to safeguard homes and properties.

Lee County Solid Waste encourages residents to follow these simple tips to minimize the risk of damage from high winds and flying debris during storms:

- Trim trees and branches: Cut back any trees or branches that make contact with your house, pool cage, shed or other buildings. This creates a safe distance, preventing potential damage during severe weather.
- Thin foliage: Improve wind flow and reduce the chances of plants becoming uprooted by thinning the foliage in your yard. This allows wind to freely pass through branches, minimizing the risk of damage to your property and nearby structures.
- Proper yard waste disposal: Place trimmings at the curb on your regular collection day. Containerize or securely tie bundles of yard waste, ensuring they weigh no more than 50 pounds and do not exceed 6 feet in length. Up to 50 pounds of unbundled palm fronds may be placed at the curb.
 - Do not use plastic bags for yard waste – neither clear plastic nor black plastic. Acceptable bags are those made of brown paper only.
- Remove potential projectiles: Prioritize safety by thoroughly cleaning your property and removing any items that could become projectiles in high winds. Place these objects at the curb on your regular waste collection day for proper disposal or storage.

Also keep in mind proper battery disposal as you replace batteries for this storm 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.

While cleaning up your yard, consider cleaning out your shed or garage before storm season. Residents can take paint, fertilizer, pesticides, old generator fuel or other chemicals to the facility for safe and responsible disposal. It's an easy, drive-through process available to all residents at no additional charge. (Businesses need to make an appointment to drop off chemicals during the monthly business collection.) The Household Chemical Waste drop-off location is open each weekday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and the first Saturday of each month from 8 a.m. to noon at 6441 Topaz Court in Fort Myers.

Questions can be directed to www.leegov.com/solidwaste or by calling customer service at 239-533-8000.

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