



## **New Update from Lee County**

December 13, 2017

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### **Lee County continues its flood mitigation efforts post-Hurricane Irma**

#### **UPDATES:**

Roads, ditches, canals:

- The arrival of dry season enables Lee County Department of Transportation crews across the county to conduct more extensive ditch work.
- DOT has six drainage crews working on ditch maintenance countywide.
- Work continues on the canals in Island Park, in particular the two southernmost east-west canals, to ensure that post-storm debris and sediment is removed.

#### **COMPLETION FOR THE INITIAL FLOODING ASSESSMENT PROJECTS:**

- Imperial River/ Spring Creek/ Halfway Creek/ Estero River: Field work 90 percent complete
- Ten Mile Canal/ Island Park/ Briarcliff/ Six Mile Cypress: Field work 90 percent complete
- Orange River/ Hickey Creek/ Bedman Creek: Field work 80 percent complete
- Bayshore Creek/ Popash Creek/ Stroud Creek: Field work 77 percent complete
- Whiskey Creek/ Villas/ Pine Lake: Field work 95 percent complete

#### **Note about the assessments:**

Initial Flood Assessment Projects are designed to look at causes and contributing factors to the 2017 flooding and strategize about what can be done to improve drainage on a relatively short-term basis. Local consultants are in the field identifying blocked pipes, culverts, ditches, canals, creeks and streams for clearing. They are reviewing

development permits to determine if they are causing or contributing to the flooding problem.

Data from this effort will enable the county to proceed with early activities that will provide relief prior to next rainy season.

To find out which project study area you reside in, visit [www.leegov.com/lrma/flood](http://www.leegov.com/lrma/flood) and scroll down to the interactive flooding assessment map. As consultants and staff begin to wrap up field work, it's not too late for you to [sign up](#) for email notifications for Flood related information and optionally [complete a flooding questionnaire](#) to enhance our consultants' data by uploading photos, providing observations and sharing data for flooding experienced during the August 25-27 Rain Event or Hurricane Irma. This information is helpful in our evaluation of the flood events and identifying possible solutions. Not a computer person? Call the county's flood hotline at 239-533-8888.

### **ON THE HORIZON: Long-term recovery**

The county's goal related to long-term recovery is to establish a plan to reduce flooding on a larger regional scale. It is important to note that water management in this area is a complex system and has to be addressed holistically. What you do in one part of the system or watershed can have an unintended consequence elsewhere. To consider larger projects such as dredging, diking, diverting, berming or storing water, a series of tools are used to evaluate projects to ensure the project performs as intended. Those with the most promise are then selected for budgeting and implementation. This next step includes grant applications, land acquisition (if necessary), permitting, design, bid and construction.

**Lee County Flood Hotline 239-533-8888**

**Forward this email to others and they can sign up for county flood-update e-blasts.**

Visit Lee County's website at [www.leegov.com/lrma/flood](http://www.leegov.com/lrma/flood).