

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lee County Emergency Management urges residents to remain in place this morning post-Hurricane Milton

Fort Myers, FL, Oct. 10, 2024 – Lee County Emergency Management urges residents to remain in place this morning, even though Hurricane Milton made landfall north of the county Wednesday night.

Do not drive this morning. There are dangerous, downed powerlines and downed trees. Debris, standing water and other hazards are on roadways. Traffic signals may not be working.

As of 6 a.m. today in Lee County, about 125,000 LCEC customers are without power and 107,000 FPL residents are without power.

The county and its local response partners have started mobilizing crews to assess infrastructure and begin clearing roads.

“We understand everyone’s instinct is to get up and go check on their homes because the weather seems calmer and they may have evacuated,” Lee County Public Safety Director Benjamin Abes said. “Don’t go yet. Stay where you are. Give responders time to do the necessary assessments.”

Residents should continue to monitor local media outlets and trusted information sources. Go to www.leegov.com/storm and other Emergency Management partners’ sites.

Tune in for today’s Hurricane Milton Briefing from the Emergency Operations Center. It will be at noon at www.facebook.com/leecountyflbocc. It also can be viewed on [LeeTV](#) and on the Lee County Government [YouTube](#) channel.

For additional storm-related information, log on to www.leegov.com/storm. To receive updates from Lee County Government, sign up for the newsletter here: www.leegov.com/resources/newsletters. Follow Lee County Government on Facebook, www.facebook.com/leecountyflbocc.

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Additional information:

Government and local Fire Rescue Departments have partnered to provide welfare checks to help out-of-area people check in on family and friends in Lee County after Hurricane Milton passes. The partnership was announced Wednesday night just after the storm made landfall north of Lee County.

People need only to email WelfareStormChecks@leegov.com with the following information about the people they wish to check on:

- Name
- Address
- Phone number

The email requesting welfare checks will be directed to the local Fire Rescue Departments for follow-up. The number of requests may be significant, so residents are asked to be patient.

To watch a video about the welfare check program, go to Lee County Government's YouTube channel. The video is available in two languages. To watch in English, visit <https://youtu.be/d95-3nZMaTY>. To watch in Spanish, go to <https://youtu.be/DARBy57eVc>.