

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Betsy Clayton, APR/CPRC  
Communications Director  
Lee County Government  
239-826-4606  
bclayton@leegov.com

**Lee County enacts curfew and updates response efforts planned as storm conditions allow**

Fort Myers, FL, Sept. 28, 2022 – A curfew has been issued effective tonight for Lee County due to Hurricane Ian.

The Lee County Government along with the Lee County Sheriff's Office have issued the emergency countywide curfew to protect and safeguard the health, safety and welfare of its residents. The countywide curfew includes cities in Lee County.

The curfew also is meant to protect residents from dangers that may not be evident during the daylight. Curfew hours will begin at 6 p.m. and will stay in place until further notice.

The sheriff's office is coordinating with other law enforcement in the county to enforce the curfew as soon as weather conditions allow.

The curfew does not apply to first responders and emergency workers or people who are reporting to work.

Lee County continues receiving and tracking 911 calls and engaging with callers. The calls are being categorized and prioritized so first responders can act as soon as the hurricane passes.

There are numerous calls of people who are stranded due to high water. However, first responders are faced with conditions that make it impossible to respond right now. For example, just before 5 p.m., gusts of 135 mph were recorded at the Cape Coral Yacht Club. Reported flooding includes coastal flooding and inland low-lying areas inland with a history of flooding.

Lee County Public Safety and its responding partners are fully activated at the Emergency Operations Center and spent today putting in place rescue operations to assist people stranded by high water and storm surge. All partners are engaged at all levels—from local to state to national—to rescue everyone as quickly as possible.

County leaders are working with Federal Urban Search and Rescue teams from across the country. These are experts trained in all types of rescue scenarios. They are on the way and will be here as soon as the hurricane conditions allow them to travel into the Lee County area. The State Emergency Operations Center is helping expedite this.

Florida Urban Search and Rescue Task Force units are coordinated and stand by to come and help responders get to you. This plan is moving forward right now, led by first responder and fire representatives inside the Emergency Operations Center.

Finally, assistance is anticipated from identified federal and military entities who are skilled in rescues in areas that are hardest to reach, using boats, high water vehicles and helicopters.

The county and partners will be ready to provide a coordinated response for the community once the hurricane passes.

check [www.leegov.com](http://www.leegov.com) for Hurricane Ian updates. Follow @Lee County Government on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/leecountyflbocc](https://www.facebook.com/leecountyflbocc).