

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** 

April 3, 2018

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Donna Marie Collins Hearing Examiner Dear Villas Property Owner,

As you may be aware, the 2017 storm season brought record-breaking rainfall to Southwest Florida, resulting in two major flooding events for Lee County. Since that time, Lee County's Department of Natural Resources and Department of Transportation have reviewed and identified some parts of the County as critical areas for re-establishing existing flow ways on County-owned right-of-ways (ROWs) for storm-water management. The Villas has been identified as an area of concern. Additionally, some residents within the Villas have requested the County make flood-mitigation efforts.

In the coming weeks and months, County crews will be in various sections of the Villas to work on the public ROWs. That work may include removing plants, trees, driveways and structures that are obstructing the water flow from the existing swales. Any irrigation lines within the ROW will be capped.

Before that happens, property owners in the immediate area within the Villas will be notified that they have two weeks to remove impediments to the ROWs. You may notice survey crews marking the Villas' ROW lines. Please do not disturb these markings as they will be used to review utility adjustments. These markings will help property owners identify items in the ROW that may need to be relocated or removed.

If you would like to discuss the marked ROW line in front of your property once survey crews are done, call Lee County DOT at 239-533-9400.

In addition to notification of individual property owners, affected areas will be identified on the County's website, <u>www.leegov.com/irma/flood</u>. Additionally, interested parties can request to be added to an email distribution list for flood mitigation-related updates. To be added, please email <u>mcoon@leegov.com</u> with the word VILLAS in the subject line.

Not all properties within the Villas will be affected by this work. The County is committed to re-establishing the Villas' drainage system to the way it was designed to work and to make it more efficient and better able to mitigate impacts from future rain events. Your cooperation and patience is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lee County Department of Transportation 239-533-9400