

**Clay County Emergency Management
Hurricane Irma PSA #8
September 10, 2017 10:30 AM
Call Center - 904-284-7703**



Clay County will begin to experience Hurricane Irma late this afternoon through Monday. Know that this storm is unlike any event we've previously experienced. This will be a significant wind and rain event for us. Tropical storm force winds will begin late Sunday afternoon and continue throughout the night. Plan to experience extreme tropical storm force winds through late Monday afternoon. We have the potential of seeing 10 - 15 inches of rain and we will see flooding along the low lying areas of the St. Johns River and along Black Creek in Middleburg, including the north and south prongs, after the storm passes.

Residents along the south and north prongs of Black Creek are encouraged to evacuate. Black Creek's north and south prong will be at flood stage Monday and crest at major flood stage Tuesday.

Clay Electric Cooperative is asking residents to be prepared to go without power for a week or longer. While this is an inconvenience, the company is bringing in many outside resources to help speed restoration efforts.

We encourage you to seek shelter by noon Sunday. Please remember to expect bridge closures when sustained winds reach 40 mph.

On its current track, Irma is poised to significantly impact Clay County Sunday and Monday with sustained tropical storm and hurricane conditions for an extended period of time.

There is currently no curfew in Clay County.

Evacuations:

Clay County has ordered a mandatory evacuation for Zones A, B and C, which are the areas near the St. Johns River, Doctors Lake and Black Creek, including the north and south prongs.

If you are unsure of what evacuation zone you live in or wish to register for emergency alerts on your phone or mobile device, visit <http://public.claycountygov.com/evaczone/>. Remember that if you reside in a mobile home, you automatically live in an evacuation zone. Also, be mindful that while your area may not become flooded, it may become isolated due surrounding water and lowlands.

Shelter Information:

The Clay County Special Needs Shelter at Lake Asbury Junior High is at capacity.

A second Special Needs Shelter will open at 1:00 pm Sunday at Thrasher-Horne Center, 283 College Drive, Orange Park, FL 32065. This shelter is for Clay County special needs, registered clients only.

Clay County's General Population Shelters are open at the following locations:

- Clay High School, 2025 FL-16, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
- Orange Park High School, 2300 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park, FL 32073 – This shelter allows pets.
- Wilkinson Elementary School, 4965 Co. Rd. 218, Middleburg, FL 32068
- Keystone Heights Junior/Senior High School, 900 Orchid Ave., Keystone Heights, FL 32656 – This shelter allows pets.

What do you bring with you to the shelter? Please know that if you plan to go to a shelter, bring your own supplies, food, water and limited personal comforts. There will be no beds and limited space to accommodate. You'll find a suggested checklist listed below:

- Water
- Food
- Clothing and bedding
- Personal items – including toiletries
- Medications
- First-aid supplies
- Important papers
- Miscellaneous items such as games, toys, battery powered radios, flashlights, batteries
- If you bring a pet to a pet-friendly shelter, please bring a crate, food and water for your pet. You must register your pet at alert.claycountygov.com to go to a shelter that allows pets.

Now is the time to be ready. Strong storm impacts will occur late this afternoon through much of Monday. Take this storm seriously and be ready. Pay close attention to local media for additional weather information. The county has activated its Call Center for citizens who have questions pertaining to the storm. The Call Center, 904-284-7703, is open 24-hours a day and someone will answer your questions. The county's website is alert.claycountygov.com. There you can find information about special needs shelters, evacuation zones and the county's alerting system.

Garbage Collections:

Do not put any waste materials, including garbage, trash cans, yard debris and recyclables, outside a facility or home. Any materials outside have the potential to become projectile objects and

significant hazards to others. Garbage services will be suspended Monday, Sept. 11, with plans to resume as soon as possible following the storm.

The Rosemary Hill Solid Waste Management Facility will be closed Monday, Sept. 11, with plans to re-open as soon as possible following the storm.

Closures:

- Clay County Schools will be closed Monday, Sept. 11, and Tuesday, Sept. 12.
- Clay County Libraries will be closed Monday, Sept. 11.
- Clay County Parks will be closed Sunday, Sept. 10, and Monday, Sept. 11.
- Parks in the Town of Orange Park, including Magnolia Cemetery, will be closed Monday, Sept. 11.
- The Clay County Courthouse will be closed Monday, Sept. 11. In light of the courthouse closure last Friday and on Monday, many court appearances have been rescheduled. Please view the new court calendar information at www.clayclerk.com in the Announcements Section.
- The Clay County Property Appraiser's Office will be closed Monday, Sept. 11.
- The Clay County Tax Collector's Office will be closed Monday, Sept. 11.
- The Clay County Supervisor of Election's Office will be closed Monday, Sept. 11.
- Clay County Government Offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 11.
- The Clay County Animal Care & Control Shelter will be closed Tuesday, Sept. 12.

Stay tuned to official weather reports, your local media and the Clay County Emergency Management's social media pages for current forecasts and preparedness actions.

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