



## NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 13, 2017

Volusia County Media Line: 386-226-7890

### Hurricane Irma Update 33

#### Volusia County Schools

- All Volusia public schools will remain closed Thursday and Friday, Sept. 14 and 15, and will reopen Monday, Sept. 18. All extracurricular activities and athletic practices and competitions are canceled until Monday.
- The closures will provide time for repairs to schools, the return of families and employees who may have evacuated, and restoration of utilities. Only 78 percent of east-side schools have power, and 53 percent of west-side schools have power. Preliminary inspections indicate no catastrophic damages to schools; however, there is some roof damage and water intrusion at several schools.

#### Curfew

- The countywide curfew from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. has been lifted.

#### Power restoration

As of noon, power restoration:

- Florida Power & Light: 85,940 customers with power, 61,800 customers without power
- Duke Energy: 32,000 customers with power, 38,700 customers without power
- Clay Electric: 2,101 customers with power, 2,075 customers without power
- New Smyrna Beach Utilities Commission: 24,000 customers with power, 2,000 customers without power

#### Shelters

- The shelters at schools have closed.
- There is a temporary shelter at the Ocean Center for persons with special needs and those who are unable to stay in their homes due to damage or flooding from Hurricane Irma.
- The shelter can accommodate those with special needs who need electricity for oxygen or other medical equipment, such as apnea monitors and feeding tubes. Clients with medications that require refrigeration also are accepted; they should bring a small cooler to hold their medication separately in the refrigerator. Those requiring assistance from a caregiver or who require monitoring will also be sheltered.
- Persons seeking shelter at the Ocean Center with a pet must bring a crate and pet supplies (food, water, leash, shot records).

#### Citizen Information Center

- For assistance, or if you have been impacted by Hurricane Irma, call the Citizens Information Center at 866-345-0345.

[www.volusia.org](http://www.volusia.org)

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## **Assistance**

- If you received significant damage from Hurricane Irma and are unable to stay in your home, call Volusia County's Citizens Information Center at 866-345-0345 for shelter information.
- To report damage to your home, people can submit information through the Volusia County Emergency Management app. Residents with damage to their home should file a claim with their insurance company.

## **FEMA Assistance**

- At this time, Volusia County has not been declared eligible for individual assistance for those who have damage or flooding from Hurricane Irma. If Volusia County gets declared for FEMA individual assistance, the information will be posted at [www.volusia.org/pin](http://www.volusia.org/pin).

## **Boil water notices**

- The Town of Pierson has issued a boil water notice. Residents should:
  1. Boil water before drinking by holding it at a rolling boil for one minute; and
  2. Disinfect it by adding eight drops (about 1/8 teaspoon) of unscented household bleach per gallon of water, and then let it stand for 30 minutes. If the water is cloudy after 30 minutes, repeat the procedure.
  3. People should only use bottled water for mixing baby formula. Do not use water that has been treated.

## **Road impacts**

- There are still about 100 intersections without traffic signals in the county. Motorists should treat these intersections as four-way stops.
- Beach Street in Ormond Beach near Tomoka State Park, John Anderson Drive in Ormond Beach, and Walter Boardman in Ormond Beach are closed due to flooding. Motorists should detour around these areas.

## **I-75 may be detoured due to flooding**

- The Santa Fe River under I-75 has rapidly risen 15 feet within the past 36 hours due to heavy rainfall over North Florida from Hurricane Irma. The attached map provides detour information in the event that I-75 closes.
- If the river rises to an unsafe level, the bridge over the Santa Fe River will be impassable both northbound and southbound, and will be closed immediately. Floridians who are traveling should avoid the area if possible.
- Additional bridges that may be impacted include U.S. 27, U.S. 41, State Road 47 and U.S. 121. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will provide additional maps and detour information.
- Employees from FDOT and the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles are monitoring the bridges that may be impacted by the flooding.
- FDOT is actively working with WAZE, Google Maps, the Georgia Department of Transportation and other transportation industry partners to communicate potential reroutes to the public. Visit [www.FL511.com](http://www.FL511.com) for up-to-date information on road closures and travel routes.

## **Beaches**

- Hurricane Jose will continue to affect the Volusia County coastline bringing larger than normal surf and an enhanced rip current threat. Beach will continue to fly red flag conditions for the foreseeable future. Lifeguards towers will be out and staffed so swim in front of a lifeguard and stay in waist deep water at all times. Driving will resume in limited areas on Thursday.

## **Burning debris**

- Residents are asked in residential areas to not burn storm-related debris. Burning debris can cause a smoke hazard for those who live nearby and have their windows open due to power outages. Debris pick-up information for cities and the unincorporated areas of Volusia County is available at [www.volusia.org/pin](http://www.volusia.org/pin).

## **Storm-related injuries and fatalities**

### **Drowning**

- From Port Orange Police Department
- According to the Port Orange Police Department, shortly after midnight Sept. 10, officers located an unattended vehicle at the boat ramp in the 90 block of Dunlawton Avenue. A wallet and set of keys belonging to the registered owner, Richard Dorfner (born Oct. 7, 1932), were found inside the vehicle. After notifying the family, POPD listed Dorfner as a missing person.
- At approximately 7 a.m. Sept. 10, POPD responded to the report of a body floating in the river. The deceased was later identified as Dorfner; at this time there are no suspicious circumstances surrounding his death. Dorfner was an avid fisherman, and it is believed at this time that he went to check the river conditions and accidentally fell into the water, where he succumbed to the inclement conditions.
- The case is an open investigation. No further information is being released at this time.

### **Carbon monoxide**

- From Daytona Beach Fire Department
- At 4:45 a.m. today, Daytona Beach firefighters responded to a report that three adults were experiencing carbon monoxide poisoning at 400 S. Keech St., Daytona Beach. A friend had entered the home and found the generator inside the house with the door only open slightly. All three occupants were unconscious when they were pulled out of the house by the friend and a responding Daytona Beach police officer. CPR was initiated on all three persons, and they were immediately transported to an area hospital. One of the occupants was pronounced dead at the hospital; the others are being treated for carbon monoxide poisoning. The friend who found the occupants was transported to the hospital for moderate exposure to carbon monoxide; the police officer was checked for mild exposure. Firefighters checked the surrounding houses for exposure and determined that they were clear of carbon monoxide levels.
- Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless poisonous gas that can cause sudden illness and death if too much is inhaled. The Daytona Beach Fire Department strongly urges everyone who is using a generator to keep the generator outside the house and garage and away from open doors and windows, vents and air intakes. If you are running a generator and begin to feel sick, dizzy, or light-headed or your experience flu-like symptoms, get fresh air immediately. Daytona Beach firefighters encourage all residents to equip their homes with carbon monoxide detectors, especially if they are using a generator.