



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 8, 2016

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Gov. Scott Issues Updates on Hurricane Matthew Response and Recovery Efforts

SHELTERS

- As of this afternoon, more than 70 shelters were open throughout Florida with a total population of more than 5,900 individuals. This number will be updated at midnight.
- As evacuation orders are lifted and people return to their homes, the number of available shelters is updating regularly. To find out which shelters remain open in your county, please visit <http://www.floridadisaster.org/shelters/>
- Shelters are open in the following counties:
 - Baker
 - Bradford
 - Brevard
 - Clay
 - Columbia
 - Duval
 - Flagler
 - Hillsborough
 - Lake
 - Leon
 - Madison
 - Manatee
 - Nassau
 - Orange
 - Osceola
 - Putnam
 - Seminole
 - St. Johns
 - Sumter
 - Taylor
 - Volusia
- The state continues to work with the American Red Cross to identify shelter capacity following the storm.

POWER

- The following counties are currently experiencing power outages:
 - Alachua County – 2,550 customers, 2% outage
 - Baker County – 2,244 customers, 20% outage
 - Bradford County – 2,038 customers, 21% outage
 - Brevard County – 113,151 customers, 37% outage
 - Clay County – 29,971 customers, 21% outage
 - Columbia County – 1,790 customers, 6% outage
 - Duval County – 241,298 customers, 59% outage
 - Flagler County – 48,726 customers, 82%% outage
 - Indian River County – 30,134 customers, 34% outage
 - Lake County – 7,556 customers, 4% outage
 - Marion County – 13,064 customers, 7% outage
 - Martin County – 14,170 customers, 15% outage
 - Nassau County – 11,956 customers, 43% outage
 - Okeechobee County – 860 customers, 4% outage
 - Orange County – 20,542 customers, 4% outage
 - Palm Beach County – 5,470 customers, 1% outage
 - Putnam County – 19,371 customers, 47% outage
 - Seminole County – 38,549 customers, 19% outage
 - St. Johns County – 49,220 customers, 56% outage
 - St. Lucie County – 32,266 customers, 22% outage
 - Sumter County – 367 customers, 1% outage
 - Union County – 215 customers, 4%
 - Volusia County – 191,923 customers, 68% outage
 - **Total without power: 878,907 customers, 9% outage**

FUEL

- The state is monitoring for supply, distribution or retail fuel shortages or issues, specifically for isolated incidents of individual retailers experiencing temporary fuel shortages. These individual retailers are being quickly refueled and fuel is readily available across Florida.
- The state will continue to monitor and assist with state and local government fuel assistance requests.
- The current fuel supply in the state will last for nearly 5 days, even if all ports are temporarily closed.
- Ports are beginning to reopen, and will resume normal fuel delivery schedules as ports reopen.
- The state is working with fuel partners and suppliers to increase the number trucks moving fuel from the ports to retail locations.

DAMAGE ASSESSMENTS

- Individual counties are beginning their initial damage assessment process.
- The state supports this initial impact assessment process through the State Emergency Response Team by providing personnel and resources towards “First 72 Hour” priorities of law enforcement security, search and rescue, and incident stabilization of Florida’s impacted communities.

EVACUATIONS

- While evacuation zones are being lifted, local law enforcement decides when it is safe for Floridians to return to their communities. Please contact your county's emergency operations center citizen information line to find out if your area has been declared safe to re-enter. To find your county, click [HERE](#).
- More than 500,000 Floridians are currently in evacuation zones.
 - Brevard County: Mandatory Evacuations of Merritt Island, barrier island, low-lying areas and mobile homes.
 - Clay County: Voluntary evacuations.
 - Flagler County: Mandatory evacuations.
 - Nassau County: Mandatory evacuations.
 - St. Johns County: Mandatory evacuation orders.
 - Volusia County: Mandatory evacuations for barrier islands, low-lying areas, and mobile homes.
- Floridians and visitors can go to [FloridaEvacuates.com](https://www.floridaevacuates.com) or download the Florida-Evacuates app to enter their location and see shelters available in their area.

SCHOOL CLOSURES

- The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) activated its emergency contact system for the east coast Florida school districts and colleges, and is monitoring closures made at the district and college levels.
- Ongoing district, university and college school closures will be updated this weekend.

GOVERNMENT CLOSURES

- Ongoing county and state offices closures will be updated this weekend.

MILITARY SUPPORT

- The Florida National Guard has troops conducting support operations in St. Johns, Duval, Nassau, Putnam, Volusia, Flagler and Brevard Counties.
- The Florida National Guard also has more than 400 members supporting approximately 50 shelters.
- Governor Scott has directed the Florida National Guard to activate a total of 3,500 National Guard members to support hurricane preparedness and response. This is over half of the available troops that may be activated.
- In addition to this, Florida has over 3,000 National Guard members ready to be deployed if needed.
- The Florida National Guard has started conducting assessments in South Florida. Once they complete any recovery missions, they will join troops positioned in Central and North Florida to help with any search and rescue efforts.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIRE FIGHTING AND SEARCH & RESCUE

- The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), and other partnering agencies have identified resources for deployment to assist with search and rescue efforts.
- FWC has more than 160 personnel for public safety patrol and search and rescue across the affected areas with more than 90 water vessels and nine aircrafts.
 - Two FWC advanced reconnaissance teams have been deployed to Northeast Florida for search and rescue operations. These teams have partnered with fire and rescue and the Florida National Guard for a total of nearly 150 active personnel in Northeast Florida.

- FHP has over 70 Quick Action Force members deployed for public safety patrol across affected areas. FHP also has more than 100 personnel on standby. FHP is also continuing to use aircraft to monitor road conditions when weather permits.
- An Urban Search and Rescue team is on standby for deployment to Northeast Florida to assist with rescue operations.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICAL

- DOH is monitoring and supporting special needs shelters.
- The state is preparing personnel for deployment, such as State Medical Response Teams and Special Needs Sheltering Teams, to provide assistance to counties affected by the storm.
- The following hospitals have evacuated patients:
 - Baptist Medical Center Beaches, Jacksonville Beach
 - Health First Cape Canaveral Hospital, Cocoa Beach
 - HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital at Martin Health, Stuart
 - Florida Hospital Oceanside, Ormond Beach
 - Florida Hospital New Smyrna, New Smyrna Beach
 - Baptist Medical Center Nassau, Fernandina Beach
 - Sebastian River Medical Center, Sebastian (partial)
 - Florida Hospital Flagler, Bunnell
 - Riverpoint Behavior Health Hospital, Jacksonville
- DOH will be updating hospital evacuation information at FLHealth.gov
- AHCA will continue to communicate with healthcare facilities over the weekend for updates and support. After hours contact information has been provided to over 8,000 nursing home and assisted living providers, and hospitals in the affected areas. Post impact reporting instructions have been shared including providing power status, generator status, and re-entry post evacuation.

TOLLS

- Governor Scott directed DOT to suspend all tolls in the affected areas of the state, which includes the entire Florida Turnpike, Alligator Alley, Central Florida Expressway Authority and the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority. **All toll suspensions remain in effect and will remain suspended until at least Sunday night.** County DOT officials will review this on a case by case basis.

AIRPORTS

- The following airport is closed:
 - Northeast Florida Regional Airport: CLOSED
- As airports open, please contact the airport directly for hours of operation and flight schedules.

TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC WORKS

- All interstates in Florida are currently open.
- FDOT has completed damage assessments of roadways and inspections of bridges in Southeast Florida. There was very little road damage and evacuees began to return to the area on Friday afternoon.
- The Shands Bridge in St. Johns County is expected to open today. More information on road and bridge closures can be found at <http://www.fl511.com>.

- FDOT crews and contractors are assessing State Roads in Central Florida, Northeast Florida, and along the east coast. FDOT is also cutting and clearing trees and removing road obstructions.
- Contractors are inspecting construction sites and will resume construction when safe and per schedules.
- Florida Highway Patrol traffic incidents by region can be found [here](#).

HUMAN SERVICES

- Resources and Supplies
 - 150 truckloads of water are being prepositioned around the state and 63 truckloads of water are holding in the in State Logistics Response Center (SLRC). In total, this includes more than 302,000 gallons of water.
 - There will be 100 truckloads of bottled water delivered every day through October 10th (Expected total of 1,000 truckloads).
 - The SLRC also currently has a trailer of meals, which includes more than 128,000 meal kits. In addition, more than 994,000 kits are expected to be delivered throughout the weekend.
 - The state is working to identify short term and long term mass care needs.
- Anheuser-Busch is donating nine truckloads, more than 450,000 cans, of emergency drinking water in preparation for Hurricane Matthew. Several truckloads are headed to Florida communities including Deerfield Beach, West Palm Beach, Fort Pierce, Orlando, Melbourne and Daytona Beach.
- Coca-Cola is donating 10 truckloads, more than 360,000 bottles of Dasani water to the Jacksonville area.
- Youfit Health Clubs will be opening their doors to the public today through Sunday to help those who lost power from the storm. Visit their Facebook page for a list of all open locations.
- To help customers displaced and impacted by hurricane Matthew, AT&T and Verizon are waiving data overage charges for customers in affected areas.
- Food Safety Assessment teams have been mobilized to monitor power outages and flooding to ensure safety at food establishments once weather conditions improve.
- The Division of Real Estate Development and Management continues to provide office space for FEMA in Tallahassee and space in Orlando to assist in response efforts.
- The Division of Real Estate Development and Management EOC has transferred to Orlando to coordinate the logistics staging area for equipment in response to the storm.
- To report price gouging call the Florida Attorney General's Office at 866- 9NO-SCAM or visit <http://www.myfloridalegal.com/Contact.nsf/PriceGouging!OpenForm>

Volunteer Organizations

- Volunteer Florida has established a volunteer registration link for those who are interested in volunteering following Hurricane Matthew. Please visit www.volunteerflorida.org/hurricane-matthew to register. So far, more than 1,400 volunteers have registered within 24 hours.
- Individuals can also volunteer through the Red Cross by visiting RedCross.org
- The state is working with Volunteer Florida and other volunteers and donation agencies to identify available volunteers through Florida Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) and AmeriCorps to staff shelters, provide immediate recovery needs, and begin to identify clean up needs.
- Volunteer Florida is working with Community Emergency Response Teams for deployment to impacted areas and is coordinating operations at shelters for evacuees.

Blood Donations

- OneBlood has resumed normal operations and is urging donors to donate as soon as possible to replenish the blood supply. All locations have returned to normal business hours with the exception of Jacksonville.
- For a list of OneBlood Donor Centers and Big Red Bus blood drive locations visit www.oneblood.org.

Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)

- APD is communicating regularly with staff, providers, waiver support coordinators, and stakeholders about response measures.
- Group Home Provider Evacuations Include:
 - Southeast Region: Poseidon Group Home (Lake Worth), MacTown 1st Avenue Group Home (Boyton Beach)
 - Central Region: Pediatric Pavilion (Orlando)
 - Northeast Region: Hibiscus Group Home (Jacksonville)
 - Residents are expected to return today.

Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA)

- The Department of Elder Affairs continues to coordinate with Area Agencies on Aging across the state to ensure that services are meeting the needs of elders and adults with disabilities across the state without disruption.
- Meals continue to be served to homebound clients, and extra frozen and shelf-stable meals have also been provided.

Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA)

- Three of the state veterans' nursing homes operated by the FDVA are on the east coast of Florida: The Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans' Nursing Home in St. Augustine and the Emory L. Bennett State Veterans' Nursing Home in Volusia County lost utility power yesterday evening and are both running on generator power. The generators have enough diesel fuel to power the entire homes for multiple days without refueling, and all residents and staff are secure.
- Senior staff are assessing facility grounds to ensure there are no other issues.
- The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) operates a number of Florida-based medical centers and outpatient clinics in the watch and warning areas. They reported no issues and all emergency rooms and inpatient services continue to operate as usual. The following VA clinics will be closed during the weekend and Monday due to the Federal holiday:
 - Viera Outpatient Clinic
 - Daytona Beach Outpatient Clinic - Today
 - Port Orange Psychosocial Recovery & Rehabilitation Center (PRRC)

BUSINESS, INDUSTRY, & ECONOMIC STABILIZATION

- The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) is currently surveying businesses in the affected counties through the Florida Virtual Business Emergency Operations Center (FLVBEOC). The FLVBEOC is available at www.flvbeoc.org
- There is Office and Warehouse space offerings for displaced or damaged businesses. For availability, click [HERE](#).

- The state has activated the Private Sector Hotline at 850-410-1403. The hotline is available for business inquiries about the storm, preparedness information and post-impact information from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM ET.
- The state is currently identifying the open status and timeline of businesses in affected areas and preparing a status report for local communities to access.

INSURANCE

- In the wake of Hurricane Matthew, Floridians affected by the storm must now begin the process of surveying damages to their property and belongings. If you need help finding your Florida's property insurance company's website and contact information, click [HERE](#). For a list of licensed insurance agents in Florida, click [HERE](#).
- It is important to document all damaged property and belongings. A free smartphone app developed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners called "[MyHome Scr.APP.book](#)" is available to assist with photo documentation.
- If you suspect fraud or suspicious activity or if you have questions about insurance coverage, you can call the Department of Financial Services, Division of Consumer Services' Insurance Helpline at 1-877-693-5236. You can find other hurricane season resources from the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation [HERE](#).
- OIR will continue to communicate with DFS regarding the establishment of an insurance village, a mobile location for individuals to file insurance claims, if needed following the hurricane. OIR and DFS will also closely track insurance complaints to help protect Floridians.

HOTELS/ LODGING ACCOMMODATIONS

- VISIT FLORIDA has activated the Emergency Accommodations Module to keep visitors informed and is working with local tourism partners to collect and share information regarding the open status for major retailers and hotels. More information can be found [HERE](#).
- VISIT FLORIDA has also compiled a list of available hotel accommodations for visitors. To view available accommodations, click [HERE](#).
- VISIT FLORIDA and Expedia have partnered to identify cities and hotels which are further away from the projected storm path and have availability. Please visit www.expedia.com/florida to find available lodging.
- Airbnb expanded activation of the Disaster Response Tool beyond coastal South Carolina to include portions of Florida. Please visit www.airbnb.com/disaster/florida to find available lodging.
 - Airbnb is asking hosts to aid in this effort by listing their available rooms or homes on the platform to help house the growing number of evacuees.
 - Local residents impacted by Hurricane Matthew will be able to secure emergency accommodations through the tool free of charge from now through October 12th.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- The Division of Telecommunications continues to work to resolve communication infrastructure needs and services throughout the state to ensure first responders, residents and visitors are able to communicate response and recovery needs.
- The state is coordinating with state, federal and industry partners, and is prepared to help assess impacts to telecommunications facilities and infrastructure once weather conditions allow.
- The division is coordinating communications status reports of outages, affects or unmet needs with telecommunications industry.

- The division worked with telecommunications partners to pre-staged resources (personnel and equipment) to prepare for deployment, restoration and recovery efforts post-storm.
- The Division of State Purchasing has leased facilities for logistics staging areas in Central and South Florida to assist emergency response needs throughout the state.

SEAPORTS

- The following seaports are currently closed:
 - JAXPORT (Jacksonville)
 - Port of Fernandina

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE)

- Brigadier General David Turner, USACE South Atlantic Division Commander, and Colonel Jason Kirk, USACE Jacksonville District Commander, are currently with Governor Scott touring impacted areas.
- Initial post storm inspections have been completed. No issues or concerns were identified with the Herbert Hoover Dike. Weekly inspections of the dike will occur in accordance with the HHD Emergency Action Plan. The current lake elevation is 17 feet. Daily inspections will begin if the lake elevation exceeds 16.5 feet.
- Discharges to the east and the west of the lake are ongoing to mitigate flood risks.
- USACE Jacksonville District is conducting surveys of the damage to federally funded USACE projects and is prepared to assist with additional missions in support of affected areas if requested.

ST JOHNS WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

- Developing a deployment strategy to identify flooding locations.
- All district lands have been closed to public recreation. People with reservations have been notified.

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

- Aerial inspection by the USACE did not reveal any damage or issues to the Everglades.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

- DEP has deployed beach erosion assessment teams across the east coast.
- State park assessment teams have been deployed to remove debris and reopen state parks. More than 30 state parks and campgrounds remain closed. To view the full list, click [HERE](#).
- Household Hazardous Waste debris and drop off sites have been established in all 67 counties.
- DEP is mobilizing responders to Jacksonville and Orlando areas for Hazardous Waste Assessment teams with EPA.

CONTACTS:

- The Florida Emergency Information Line (FEIL) has activated and can be reached at 1 (800) 342-3557.
- State Emergency Operations Center Media Line: 850-921-0217.
- Follow @FLSert or @FLGovScott on Twitter for live updates on Hurricane Matthew.
- Visit <http://www.floridadisaster.org/info> to find information on shelters, road closures, and evacuation routes.