



The Leon County

LINK

Connecting Citizens with Leon County Services

Be Prepared Before Severe Weather Strikes



It's hurricane season and emergency management experts say, it's not a matter of "if" a hurricane or tropical storm is going to hit our area, but "when." That's why it's critical for all Floridians to have a disaster plan and family preparedness plan. In the case of Hurricane Charley that devastated parts of the west coast of Florida, many residents were not prepared. Leon County Emergency Management Director Richard Smith urges every

Leon County resident to have a plan before the next storm comes knocking on your door. For life-saving tips and information, read the 2004 Hurricane Guide available at www.leoncountyfl.gov.

When there is an approaching storm that threatens our area, Leon County Emergency Management coordinates efforts among the more than 50 agencies that could be impacted across the region, including law enforcement, local government, the Red Cross, and more. Smith explains that a hurricane is a regional event because it is not going to stay in the confines of a county's boundaries. Its impact will have a domino effect because shelters will need to be opened, and other agencies will have to make preparations for the influx of evacuees. Many Leon County divisions and departments also play a big role in storm preparation, including Public Works, and EMS.

Please visit the Division of Emergency Management at <http://lcs.leonfl.org/em.htm> or the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross at <http://www.tallytown.com/redcross/ds> for more information on tropical storm and hurricane activity, and preparedness tips.

Donations Needed for the Victims of Hurricane Charley

The VolunteerLEON Youth Corps, in partnership with the Leon County Tax Collector and the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross, is holding a Disaster Comfort Supplies Drive from Sept. 3 through Sept. 11 with drop boxes at four Tax Collector offices located



throughout the county. The drive will collect donations of comfort items for the victims of Hurricane Charley. The Youth Corps is asking for toiletries, such as soap, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo and conditioner, tissues, and washcloths. Participating Tax Collector Offices include the Cross Creek Office (Capital Circle SE and Highway 27), the Carriage Gate Plaza Office (next to T.J. Maxx), the Sugar Creek Office (in the Old Wacamma Plaza off Monroe), and the Westside Office (off of Blountstown Highway). A fifth drop of site will be available on Sept. 11 at the Winn Dixie on the corner of Magnolia Drive and Park Avenue from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, or if you are between the ages of 12-18 and would like to volunteer for this project, call 921-3015, or send an e-mail to VolunteerLEON Youth Corps at tabahk@leoncountyfl.gov.

Bookmobile Brings the Library to Your Neighborhood



If you don't have time to go to the library, it will come to you! The Bookmobile now has five stops throughout the county, including a new location at the **Express Lane** convenience store on the corner of Highway

20 and Aeon Church Road from 3 to 6 p.m., every other Tuesday, beginning Sept. 7.

Other Bookmobile stops are:

- Chaires Elementary School**, 4774 Chaires Crossroads, every other Tuesday from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- Woodville IGA Store**, 9019 Woodville Highway, every other Wednesday from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.
- Micosukee Hills Apartments**, 3201 Micosukee Road, every other Wednesday from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
- Micosukee Land Co-op**, 9601-23A Micosukee Road, every other Wednesday from 3 to 4:30 p.m.
- Boys & Girls Club**, 115011 Cromartie Road, every other Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m.

The Bookmobile is a traveling branch library. It holds a collection of 2,500 items, including books for children, young adults, and adults. You'll find fiction and nonfiction, large print books, videos, DVDs, audio books, and magazines. Come inside and browse the shelves, or call ahead to arrange to have materials ready for you! To request books and other items, call the Bookmobile Office at 487-2665 ext.140, or search the library catalog online at www.leoncountyfl.gov/library. Use the "Request Item" option and select "Bookmobile" as the pick-up site.

Leon County Extension Offers Three Classes This Month

Do You Know What's in Your Medicine Cabinet?

Thursday, Sept. 16
12 to 1:30 p.m.
Main Branch Library, 200 W. Park Ave., Program Room A

Learn about poison prevention, over-the-counter medicines, and other tips for keeping your medicine cabinet safe and up to date. This program is free to the public.

Food Handlers 3-Year Certification

Thursday, Sept. 16
3 to 5 p.m.
Location to be announced

Register for this course by phone at 487-3006 no later than 5 p.m., Friday, Sept. 10. Space is limited. There is a \$10 fee.

Public Lecture: The Incredible Monarch

Thursday, Sept. 16
7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
County Extension Office,
615 Paul Russel Road

Learn about life cycle and migration patterns, the role of St. Marks Wildlife Refuge, Monarch Watch research, and local tagging of Monarchs. This program is free to the public.

For more information, please call the Extension Office at 487-3006.

On-Line Citizens' Survey Provides Important Input for Regional Park Plans

Leon County has launched an on-line survey for residents to provide input as to what kinds of recreational activities and facilities they would like to see at the new Apalachee Regional Park. Citizens can access the link at www.leoncountyfl.gov under "Spotlights", or directly at www.leoncountyfl.gov/pubworks/survey. The Leon County Board of County Commissioners has dedicated funding toward converting sections of the Solid Waste Management Facility (landfill) located at 7550 Apalachee Parkway into a regional park. The County is implementing phase one of the plan, which is construction of multi-purpose recreation fields at the west corner of the property, adjacent to Apalachee Parkway. The fields will accommodate youth football, soccer, t-ball, coach pitch baseball, and volleyball programs. Phase one will be complete this fall.

A citizens advisory committee will be established in the near future to review the results of the survey and make recommendations on the additional phases. For more information, contact Public Works at 488-8003.

September 2004

- 14 Commission Meeting** 5 p.m.
Public Hearings 6 p.m.
Leon County Courthouse, Commission Chambers
- 20 Intergovernmental Agency Meeting** 3 p.m.
Leon County Courthouse, Commission Chambers
- 21 Commission Meeting** 5 p.m.
Public Hearings 6 p.m.
Leon County Courthouse, Commission Chambers

The Link is produced by Leon County Public Information, 488-9962.