



The Leon County LINK

Connecting Citizens
with Leon County
Services

It's Hurricane Season Do You Have A Plan?

Tropical Storm Fay reminded us of the importance of being prepared for hurricane season. We have entered the most active part of the 2008 hurricane season and Leon County residents need to be prepared. Earlier this year, the National Weather Service's National Hurricane Center correctly predicted that this would be a very active hurricane season.

The first step is creating a plan. Leon County has worked diligently to make your planning easier than ever with a newly re-vamped hurricane survival guide and user-friendly Web site. These tools are aimed to help make you make that first, critical decision - whether to stay or go - based on individual risk factors. Visit www.HaveaHurricanePlan.com today to begin the first step in ensuring your family's safety this hurricane season. For more information, contact the Leon County Public Information Office at 850/606-5300.



Here are just a few examples of the useful tools you'll find on the website. For the comprehensive plan, go online or refer to your hurricane survival guide.

Guidelines to help you make the first decision:

Should I stay, or should I go?

The tools will guide you through the decision-making process and show you what steps you should take before the storm, as the storm approaches, and after the storm, including cleanup.

Survival Kit essentials, such as:

- 2-week supply of nonperishable foods
- 1-month supply of prescriptions
- Drinking water, 2 gallons per day, per person, for 2 weeks
- Flashlights
- Batteries
- NOAA weather radio
- Infant necessities

Resources Page linking to valuable information, such as:

- Evacuation Information
- Flood Information
- Home Health Care Patients and Elderly Residents
- Plan for your Pets
- Sandbags
- Shelters
- Volunteer Information

Important Contacts, such as:

- Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross
- Leon County Emergency Management
- Leon County Public Information Office

Learn more about your garbage

County offers solid waste education to residents

A new school year is finally here. Teachers, as you plan your lessons for the new school year, don't forget to add in guest speakers. A guest speaker benefits your class's learning experience. They bring more detailed information to a topic you are trying to cover and your students will have the opportunity to ask questions from an expert in a given field.

Do you want to know more about Solid Waste? Where does your garbage go when it leaves the curb? What happens to all those cans and bottles placed in recycling bins? Do you need ideas on reducing waste at home and at school? These questions and more can be answered in a presentation by Leon County's Community Education Coordinator, Carole Gentry. Presentations cover state benchmarks and Sunshine State Standards at all grade levels. Solid Waste Management Facility and Transfer Station tours are also available. There is no cost for a presentation or tour.

Presentations and tours are also available for scout groups, neighborhood associations, community organizations and home schooled students in Leon County. The more you know, the more you will want to Grow Green. Call 850/606-1827 to schedule a presentation.

If you are planning an event at a Leon County park and are interested in using the ClearStream containers, please call Leon County Recycling at 850/606-1823 or visit www.leoncountyfl.gov/recycling.



Do you know what to do with your storm debris?

County provides guidelines for the disposal of storm debris left behind by Tropical Storm Fay

As recovery from Tropical Storm Fay begins, Leon County wants to inform residents on placement and collection of storm debris. Storm debris is considered anything that was destroyed due to high winds or flooding. It can be bulky waste such as carpet, furniture, flooring, etc.; appliances such as refrigerators; yard waste (a.k.a. vegetative waste); regular household garbage; and recyclables.

Residents should follow the steps below ensure collection and timely pick-up:

- Bring all waste and debris to the curbside/public right-of-way
- Separate the waste and debris into the following categories: household garbage, recycling, appliances, bulky waste, and yard trash. Please leave 4 to 6 feet of space between each category of debris.
- Secure all household garbage in your trash container. Any excess household garbage can be taken to a Rural Waste Service Center at no charge.
- Do not place debris near a fence, mailbox, driveway, power line equipment, poles, transformers, downed electrical wiring, water meters or storm drains.
- Household Hazardous Waste should not be placed in any of the debris piles. Once roads are clear, it should be taken to the Apalachee Collection Center at 7550 Apalachee Parkway, one of the Rural Waste Service Centers, or held for a Household Hazardous Waste Round-up (generally, these are held monthly at Tallahassee Mall).

The County will use a private contractor to collect storm debris placed at the curb in a public subdivision. Other arrangements may be required for gated communities and residents living on private roads.

In the addition, the County asks for residents to be patient. Regular collection schedules may be disrupted and debris pick-up may take additional time. Public announcements will be issued regarding any pre-planned schedule changes.

For more information, log on to www.leoncountyfl.gov/solidwaste or call the Division of Solid Waste at 850/606-1800. If you have questions about your regular collection schedule or service, call the City of Tallahassee Utilities at 850/891-4968 or Waste Management, Inc. at 850/574-3000.

Geographic Information Systems Receives Award for Leadership with Geospatial Technology

The Tallahassee Leon County Geographic Information Systems (TLCGIS) Consortium was recognized by Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) for its outstanding leadership and vision with geospatial technology. ESRI is the market leader in development and design of GIS software, which is a tool for capturing, managing, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographic information.

The TLCGIS consortium allows public, business, and government access to numerous web sites regarding map and data inquiries. It has become a tool accessed daily by local businesses and local law enforcement agencies. This past week, TLCGIS was instrumental in assisting local and state emergency responders in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Fay. Flooded areas around the County were identified with the help of GIS. Businesses and property owners can use the GIS website to learn all the geographic information about their location, from flood zones to nearby fire and police stations.

ESRI presented the Special Achievements in GIS Award to Leon County on August 6, 2008 at the 28th Annual ESRI International User Conference in San Diego, California.

September 2008 Board of County Commissioners Schedule

- 2 Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting, 3 p.m.
Board of County Commissioners Public Hearing, 6 p.m.
County Courthouse, 5th Floor, Commission Chambers
- 3 Board of County Commissioners Budget Workshop, 10 a.m. -12 p.m.
Board of County Commissioners First Public Hearing on Tentative
Millage Rates and Tentative Budgets for FY 2008/2009
County Courthouse, 5th Floor, Commission Chambers
- 15 Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Meeting
City Hall, 2nd Floor, Commission Chambers, 300 S. Adams Street

Blueprint 2000 Intergovernmental Agency Meeting, 5 p.m.
City Hall, 2nd Floor Commission Chambers, 300 S. Adams Street
- 16 Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting, 3 p.m.
Board of County Commissioners Public Hearing, 6 p.m.
County Courthouse, 5th Floor, Commission Chambers
- 24 Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Meeting
City Hall, 2nd Floor, Commission Chambers, 300 S. Adams Street

*The Link is produced by the Leon County Public Information Office,
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