



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**August 14, 2017**  
**11:30 a.m.**

**Division of Emergency Management**  
**Public Information Office**  
**8744 Government Drive, Building A**  
**Phone: 727.847.2411**  
**dtobin@pascocountyfl.net**

## **Land O' Lakes Sinkhole UPDATE**

*~~Here are the latest updates from Pasco County~~*

**LAND O' LAKES, FL ----** Pasco County Government responded to a sinkhole that opened at 21825 Ocean Pines Drive in Land O' Lakes, Florida on Friday, July 14, 2017. The first 911 call came into Pasco County Emergency Communications at 7:21 a.m. By late Friday (07.14.2017) afternoon, the sinkhole had destroyed two homes. There are now a total of **eight** homes that have met the *Criteria for Demolition* as a result of this sinkhole activity.

Here is the latest information as of 11:30 a.m. on Monday, August 14, 2017:

### **NEW INFORMATION IN RED**

- Debris and water removal ended on 8/13/2017.
- Demobilization began on August 14, 2017
- USF will continue data collection and surveying on Monday, August 14, 2017 and as need throughout the week.

### **HOMES THAT MEET CRITERIA FOR DEMOLITION:**

A total of **eight** homes have been issued notices that meet the *Criteria for Demolition*:

Two original homes destroyed on 7/14/17

- **21825 Ocean Pines Dr**
- **21835 Ocean Pines Dr**

Saturday 8/5/17

- **21815 Ocean Pines Dr**
- **21814 Ocean Pines Dr**

Sunday 8/6/17

- **3153 Canal Place**
- **21748 Ocean Pines Drive**
- **21845 Ocean Pines Drive**

Friday 8/11/2017

- **3203 Canal Place**

### **SINKHOLE SIZE:**

- The last measure of the sinkhole was 260-feet wide at its widest point
- Most of the sinkhole is about 180 feet wide

### **DEBRIS REMOVAL:**

- Contractor *Ceres Environmental Services* (pronounced *seer-eez*) is the main debris removal contractor. Debris removal operations continuing until further notice
- 758 dump trucks of uncrushed lime rock or 13,644 cubic yards were brought into the sinkhole area (updated as of 8/14/17)
- Monday, August 7, 2017 *EviroWaste* started taking out water from the scene and taken to a water treatment facility.
- Removal of debris from sinkhole and stabilize banks ended on 8/13/2017.
- Next phase will be decided by the Board of County Commissioners at a future date.
- University of South Florida is expected to do additional tests. Media contact for USF is [larawade@usf.edu](mailto:larawade@usf.edu)

### **CLEANUP OF SINKHOLE:**

- Current estimate for Phase 1 (*removal of debris*) not to exceed \$1.3 million as approved by the Board of County Commissioners. Ceres currently as of 8/7/17 expects costs to come in around \$1 million. Phase 1 including demobilization is expected to be completed around Monday, August 14, 2017.

### **HELP FOR SINKHOLE VICTIMS:**

- Citizens who need help can reach out to the following:
  - American Red Cross
  - The Salvation Army of Pasco County
  - Pasco County Customer Service, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., 727.847.2411
  - United Way of Pasco County @ 211
- The United Way of Pasco County has raised more than \$27,000.00 in the Sinkhole Relief fund
- Citizens can call **211** for help or call Pasco County Government services from 8 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday
- Ways to give:
  - \* Text the word SINKHOLE to 41444
  - \* Donate online - [www.unitedwaypasco.org](http://www.unitedwaypasco.org)
  - \* Click on link for more information: <http://bit.ly/2tcfuEF>

### **REPORTER ACCESS/SAFETY ISSUES:**

- Due to safety concerns with heavy construction equipment, *Ocean Pines Drive* is closed to all vehicle and foot traffic. Only construction and homeowners are allowed on road.
- See map for designated reporter areas, parking, live shots  
<http://www.pascocountyfl.net/DocumentCenter/View/30828>
- Reporters can access *Ocean Pines Drive* to drive to the designated parking area only (see map above) but need to beware of heavy equipment on the road. Road cannot be blocked with any tripods, camera equipment, etc.

- Please be aware that reporters are entering an active construction site and it is dangerous, reflective vests, closed toed shoes are a must as construction debris/nails are possible in the area.
- Unless media have an agreement with a property owner, media are asked to refrain from entering private property, unless accompanied by an authorized party.
- Drone usage: Emergency Management is requesting news organizations do not fly drones lower than 100-feet, use FAA certified drone pilot and submit a flight plan with the Public Information Office [pio@pasocountyfl.net](mailto:pio@pasocountyfl.net)
- NO PARKING ON OCEAN PINES DRIVE (this is a construction entry and exit)
- Reporters if you get access from a homeowner to do live shots please let PIO know at [pio@pasocountyfl.net](mailto:pio@pasocountyfl.net)

### **PREVIOUSLY RELEASED INFORMATION**

See attached link for information released by date:

<http://www.pasocountyfl.net/DocumentCenter/View/30829>

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/MATERIALS:**

- Pasco County Property Appraiser has an online tool allowing homeowners to look up whether there has been sinkhole activity on their property here: <http://www.pascopa.com>
- Drone video from Pasco County Libraries of the sinkhole in Land O' Lakes:
  - Aerial drone video available here: <https://youtu.be/aXqaUoKvyLo>
  - Ground drone video available here: [https://youtu.be/F7\\_5ihadScU](https://youtu.be/F7_5ihadScU)
- Initial 911 call available here: <https://youtu.be/eanzesU2nK4>
- Follow @PascoCountyPIO for updates on Twitter.
- 'Like' Pasco County Facebook: [www.Facebook.com/PascoCounty](http://www.Facebook.com/PascoCounty).
- Follow @Pasco\_FL\_OEM for updates on Twitter.
- Follow @PascoSheriff for updates on Twitter.
- County PIO Information:
  - Doug Tobin, Pasco County PIO: [Dtobin@pasocountyfl.net](mailto:Dtobin@pasocountyfl.net)
  - Tambrey Laine, Pasco County PIO: [tlaine@pasocountyfl.net](mailto:tlaine@pasocountyfl.net)
- Pasco Sheriff's PIO Information:
  - Chase Daniels: [cdaniels@pascosheriff.org](mailto:cdaniels@pascosheriff.org)

