



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 8, 2017
12:30 p.m.

Division of Emergency Management
Pasco Emergency Operations Center
Public Information Office
8744 Government Drive, Building A
Phone: 727.847.2411
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Updated Pasco County Government Service Closures; Public Support Needed

~~Multiple Services and Shelter Locations Available~~

PASCO COUNTY, FL ---- Due to severe weather expected from Hurricane Irma, all Pasco County residents are encouraged to use caution when venturing outside during the storm. In an effort to fully support all residents, the following requests are being asked of the community:

- All faith-based, chartered schools, or business locations are asked to consider being an alternate shelter in case of additional needs for residents as well as travelers into Pasco County. To register as an alternate shelter please email OEM@PascoCountyFL.net. Pasco County Building Inspectors will be sent to ensure the facility is hurricane ready.
- Any citizens that are able to donate water, nonperishable goods, and tarps are encouraged to do so, beginning at 1pm Friday, September 8, 2017. Donations can be dropped off at the Salvation Army located at 7745 Ridge Rd., Port Richey. For questions concerning donations please contact Pasco County Customer Service at 727.847.2411.
- For a full listing of shelter locations please visit: www.pascocountyfl.net

Residents should also be aware of closures regarding Pasco County services. The following list provides original closures as well as new closures across Pasco County:

- **NEW:** Pasco County Libraries will be closed Saturday, September 9, 2017
- **NEW:** Pasco County Extension Office will be closed Friday, September 8, 2017 and Monday, September 11, 2017
- **NEW:** Pasco County Building Construction Services will close all offices beginning at noon Friday, September 8, 2017

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- **NEW:** Pasco County Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources Department is closing eight parks beginning at 11am on Friday, September 8, 2017:
 - Anclote River Park
 - Anclote Gulf Park
 - Key Vista Nature Park
 - Eagle Point Park
 - Robert K. Reese Memorial Park
 - Robert J. Strickland Memorial Park

All county parks will be closing due to the approaching hurricane beginning Saturday, September 9, 2017 until further notice. Camping will cease Friday, September 8, 2017. No reservations will be accepted, until further notice, for Friday evening and beyond. Please observe all National Weather Service Coastal Hazardous messages, warnings and advisories for beaches and high surf areas.

- All parks located within the City of New Port Richey will be closed on Sunday, September 10, 2017 due to the weather conditions associated with Hurricane Irma.
- All Pasco County Public Schools are closed as of Friday, September 8, 2017
- SunWest Park is closed until further notice
- Pasco County Clerk & Comptroller and the Courts are closed until further notice
- PHSC is currently closed due to Hurricane Irma with plans to reopen on Monday, September 11, 2017

The following Pasco County Government Offices will continue to remain open; however, some non-essential Pasco County Government offices and services may be closed due to the threat of high winds, flooding and severe weather.

- **NEW:** Pasco County Animal Services will close to the public starting at 11 a.m. on Friday, September 8, 2017. Animal Control Officers will be available for emergency response as needed. Pet friendly shelter locations open at 11am on Friday, September 8, 2017. Any citizens that would like to volunteer their assistance for the pet friendly shelters are encouraged to email OEM@PascoCountyFL.net. For more information about pet friendly shelter locations and requirements to bring your pet please visit: www.pascocountyfl.net
- **NEW:** Residents are asked to secure all trash and recycling bins following Saturday's pick-up service. Suspension of commercial collection service is to be determined on a case-by-case basis by each individual hauler. Commercial customers should contact their service provider for information. Additionally, residents and business owners are asked to secure lawn ornaments, Port-a-Johns, construction dumpsters, and overall trash dumpsters.

- Pasco County Public Transportation bus services are currently running and there is no cost to utilize these services, although residents should expect delays. Bus service will be canceled if winds exceed 39 miles per hour. There is one bus running per route, however if transportation is needed to a shelter please contact the Pasco County Customer Service line at 727.847.2411. The pickup locations and shelters that PCPT will support start Friday, September 8, 2017 from 12pm - 2pm, with the following pickup and drop off locations:
 - **Going to Fivay High School:** North of Ridge Rd – Bayonet Point State Rd. 52 and US 19; Behind McDonalds: 9441 FL52 Hudson
 - **Going to River Ridge High School:** South of Ridge Rd – State Rd.54 and Rowan Rd by Checkers: 7415 FL54 New Port Richey
 - **Going to River Ridge High School:** East of Rowan Rd – Fox Hollow and Little Rd. In Shopping center of Peppin Academy: 9804 Little Road, New Port Richey
- The Pasco County Elderly Nutrition Division announces the temporary closing of all Pasco County Senior Center locations as the county continues to make preparations ahead of Hurricane Irma. All sites are closed effective immediately and will reopen on Monday, September 11, 2017, weather permitting. During the closure, all home delivery services will be canceled and resumed once weather conditions improve. For more information: [Pasco County Elderly Nutrition Division](#).

Citizens in the evacuation zones represent 83,780 addresses, with approximately 200,000 residents. All those in the evacuation zones are encouraged to utilize the services available to them, gather helpful information through www.ready.gov, and seek out safe shelter. Citizens should first attempt to find shelter with relatives or friends. If that is not an option citizens can self-evacuate to shelter. For a full listing of shelter locations please visit: www.pascocountyfl.net Citizens or businesses who need help or have questions can call the Pasco County Customer Service line at 727.847.2411. If you have an emergency, please call 9-1-1.

For the latest storm updates more information is available at: www.pascocountyfl.net, and by downloading the MyPasco App which is available for download here: <http://fl-pascocounty.civicplus.com/index.aspx?NID=2248>.

Citizens are encouraged to use social media to post flooding or other storm-related photos and information using the hashtags #pascocounty #irma.