



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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4:00 p.m.

Division of Emergency Management
Pasco Emergency Operations Center
Public Information Office
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Pasco County Urges Storm Preps

~~Florida under State of Emergency as Hurricane Irma Approaches~~

PASCO COUNTY, FL ---- As Hurricane Irma approaches Florida, Pasco County Government is urging residents to make preparations now.

Be Prepared and Sign Up for Critical Emergency Alerts/Information: Citizens can get information regarding the storm through the MyPasco APP and Alert Pasco.

- ✓ Download the **MyPasco App** on Google Play or the App Store.
<http://bit.ly/2eHooYy>
- ✓ Sign up for **Alert Pasco** here: <http://egov.pascocountyfl.net/AlertPasco> or on the MyPasco App.
- ✓ Know your evacuation zone, pack your disaster kit and prepare for flooding, hurricanes or other disasters all on the Pasco Emergency Management webpage at:
pascoemergencymanagement.com.
- ✓ The Pasco County Customer Service line is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please call 727.847.2411 with any questions or concerns.

All Pasco County residents should start preparing for what could potentially be a heavy rain/high wind event. Here are some suggestions:

- ✓ **Have a plan** for you and family members. (Accommodations, child/elder/pet care, etc.)
- ✓ **Secure loose items** around your home and yard. (Lawn chairs, umbrellas, trash cans, etc.)

- ✓ **Stockpile disaster** supplies including food, water, medications, batteries, flashlights, etc.
- ✓ **Manufactured homes** can only withstand windspeeds of 70-90 mph. If you live in a manufactured home, monitor the storm's path closely and consider evacuating, if necessary.
- ✓ **Low-lying areas** are prone to flooding. If you live in a low-lying area, monitor the storm's path closely and consider evacuating, if necessary.
- ✓ **Take photos** of the contents of your home, and the exterior, in case you need to file an insurance claim.
- ✓ **Maintain a list** of important family numbers and contacts.

Retirees and other citizens who are able to, please consider relocating now to avoid traffic backups in case an evacuation is called for.

Keeping you and your family safe through preparedness is our top priority. The Pasco County Office of Emergency Management encourages all Pasco County residents to review the Pasco County Disaster Planning Guide, which you can find here: <http://bit.ly/2bMm7Jp>