



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Office of Emergency Management**  
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## **Pasco County Emergency Operation Center to be ready**

*~~EOC ready as County braces for potential heavy rains~~*

**PASCO COUNTY, FL ----** Pasco County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be ready to help Pasco County citizens in case the facility is needed. The EOC is undergoing renovations and was not expected to be ready until July or August, 2016. But when the forecast showed potential heavy rain associated with a low pressure system in the Gulf of Mexico, Pasco County Emergency Services Director Kevin Guthrie asked if plans could be moved up.

“The decision was made Wednesday to go ahead and finish as much as we can,” said Guthrie. “It was remarkable to see Facilities and Information Technology staff furnish, wire the EOC and make it operational so quickly.”

While not everything is complete in the EOC, it will be functional if needed. The Pasco County EOC will be partially activated this weekend as Emergency Management staff will closely monitor the weather system in the Gulf of Mexico.

The low pressure area is expected to develop near the Yucatan Peninsula over the weekend and then track northeast across the eastern Gulf of Mexico and the Florida peninsula Monday and Tuesday.

Meanwhile, citizens who have experienced street flooding and those who live in low lying areas are urged to prepare for six to twelve inches of rain over a short period of time next week.

“The models show rainfall quite widespread, but I would rather be over prepared than underprepared,” said Guthrie. “Keep a close eye on the weather this weekend.”

Citizens who would like more information about preparations for flooding, hurricanes or other disasters can go to the Pasco Emergency Management webpage at:

[www.pascoemergencymanagement.com](http://www.pascoemergencymanagement.com).

The Pasco County Customer Service line will be available Saturday, June 4 and Sunday, June 5, 2016 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please call 727.847.2411 with any questions or concerns.

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