



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**August 15, 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 **seven** 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 **seven** 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**

## Pasco sinkhole correction (August 15, 2017)

Pasco County Emergency Management has reduced the number of homes posted for demolition from 8 to back to 7. On Monday 8/14 we had listed a home located at 3203 Canal Place as one of the homes posted for demolition. This home should not have been included on the list.

This was an error on our part as the tag on the home was a tag originally placed when the sinkhole opened as a precaution to the homeowner but was counted by field crews as a new condemnation. We apologize for this error. Pasco County Emergency Management plans on developing new tags in the future to make it more clear to homeowners and field staff.

### **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)
- The following link is a before debris removal and after debris removal released on August 14, 2017. <http://www.pascocountyfl.net/DocumentCenter/View/30912>

### **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 (or taking vehicles out of the sinkhole area) is expected to be completed on 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

## **HELP FOR SINKHOLE VICTIMS (Continued)**

- 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@pascocountyfl.net](mailto:pio@pascocountyfl.net)

## **PREVIOUSLY RELEASED INFORMATION**

See attached link for information released by date:

<http://www.pascocountyfl.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@pascocountyfl.net](mailto:Dtobin@pascocountyfl.net)
  - Tambrey Laine, Pasco County PIO: [tlaine@pascocountyfl.net](mailto:tlaine@pascocountyfl.net)
- Pasco Sheriff's PIO Information:
  - Chase Daniels: [cdaniels@pascosheriff.org](mailto:cdaniels@pascosheriff.org)

