



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
September 26, 2022

Media Contact: Sarah Lux, Lead Public Information Officer
Cell: 352-455-0445 • Email: Sarah.Lux@LakeCountyFL.Gov

TROPICAL STORM IAN STORM UPDATE: News from the Lake County Emergency Operations Center

Lake County, FL. – Lake County Emergency Management has released new details to help residents prepare for the oncoming storm. Please see below.

New information:

- The Lake County Emergency Operations Center is now at a Level 2 - Partial Activation.
- Lake County Connection - in order to provide special needs transportation - will only provide door to door transportation for dialysis and major medical appointments. All other trips will be canceled.
- Lake County will open eight emergency shelters for residents on Tuesday, September 27. The shelters will open to the public at 4 p.m. And all locations are pet friendly. Special needs shelters are notated with two asterisks (**). The locations of the shelters are:
 - ** Villages Elementary – 695 Rolling Acres Road, Lady Lake
 - ** Leesburg Elementary – 2229 South Street, Leesburg
 - ** Umatilla Elementary – 401 Lake Street, Umatilla
 - ** Lost Lake Elementary – 1901 Johns Lake Road, Clermont
 - ** Astatula Elementary – 13925 Florida Avenue, Astatula
 - Treadway Elementary — 10619 Treadway School Rd, Leesburg
 - Spring Creek Charter — 44440 Spring Creek Rd, Paisley
 - Mascotte Charter — 460 Midway Ave, Mascotte
- Lake County Schools has confirmed plans for early student dismissal on Tuesday and school closures Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. All schools will follow a Wednesday schedule on Tuesday, Sept. 27, dismissing students an hour early so the district can start preparing schools to be used as evacuation shelters. Schools and district offices will be closed on Wednesday, Sept. 28; Thursday, Sept. 29, and Friday, Sept. 30. The district expects to resume normal school and district office operations on October 3.



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Ongoing Information:

- On Sunday, September 25, the Lake County Board of County Commissioners declared a local state of emergency. More information can be found on the [County's website](#).
- Starting Monday, September 26, limited assistance will be available at two sandbag locations for residents with disabilities. Inmates will be deployed to help pack and load sandbags for those who are unable to do so themselves. Depending on level of assistance needed, residents with disabilities may experience an extended wait time.

The two sandbag locations offering assistance are:

- The Minneola Athletic Complex
 - P.E.A.R. Park in Leesburg
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- Across Lake County's five locations, residents collected more than 3,600 sandbags on Sunday, September 25.
 - The Citizens Information Line (CIL) will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Residents needing information should call [352-253-9999](tel:352-253-9999).
 - Sandbags will be available at five Lake County locations starting September 25 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Residents must bring their own shovels and are limited to 10 bags of sand per household. No tools will be provided at sand deployment sites and residents are responsible for filling their own bags. Sandbags will only be offered before the storm – no sandbags will be dispensed during storm conditions.
 - Astor Area
 - 23023 State Road 40, Astor
 - East Lake Sports and Community Complex
 - 24809 Wallick Road, Sorrento
 - P.E.A.R. Park
 - 26701 US Hwy 27, Leesburg
 - North Lake Regional Park
 - 40730 Roger Giles Road, Umatilla
 - Minneola Athletic Complex
 - 1300 Fosgate Road, Minneola



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Members of the media seeking additional information on Emergency Management programs should reach out to the Lake County Office of Communications' Lead Public Information Officer, Sarah Lux, at [352-455-0445](tel:352-455-0445).

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