

South Bay Emergency Operations activated as Tropical Storm Watch Issued

South Bay continues to monitor Hurricane Dorian's track. We are encouraged by the latest updates, which keep the storm just off the coast of Florida. We know from experience, however, that the forecast can change.

Officials will continue working to ensure the well-being and safety of our community. As we learn more about the timing of weather impacts on our area, we'll begin to make decisions about opening parks and facilities. As a reminder, City offices and waste collection services are closed Monday, September 2 in observance of Labor Day.

STORM WATCHES & WARNINGS

- A Tropical Storm Watch is in effect for inland Palm Beach meaning tropical storm-force winds are expected within the next 36 hours in our area.

According to the National Hurricane Center, Damaging winds, storm surge, river flooding, and isolated tornadoes are all still possible with Dorian, but the severity of the impacts will be dependent on the future track of the storm. It is too soon to determine when or where the strongest effects will occur. Conditions may be dangerous following the storm. There may be flooded streets, downed trees and power lines. Residents should prepare to shelter in place until an all-clear notice is given.

FLOODING: Flooding is a possibility, even if Hurricane Dorian stays off our coast. So, we will continue to monitor all our streets, our canals, and waterways. Please remember to keep storm drains clear of debris to minimize flooding. Our number one goal is to protect lives and property. South Bay residents should have their hurricane plan in place and listen to the advice given by local emergency officials.

WASTE COLLECTION UPDATE

- Solid Waste collection is **CANCELLED** for Monday, September 2, 2019, and Tuesday, September 3, 2019, in anticipation of Hurricane Dorian.
- Local landfills are closed on Monday and Tuesday.
- **DO NOT** place any household waste, recycling, bulk items or debris at the curb – they will not be picked up and can become dangerous projectiles in the storm.
- Debris left curbside can clog storm drains and exacerbate flooding.

EVENT & FACILITY CLOSURES AND CANCELLATIONS

- City offices and facilities are closed Tuesday, September 3rd in anticipation of the storm
- All parks and facilities are closed, and all programs cancelled until further notice as we continue to monitor Hurricane Dorian.

SCHOOLS CLOSED MONDAY & TUESDAY

- Palm Beach County District offices and schools will be closed on Tuesday, September 3rd.

SHELTERS

- Shelters operated by Palm Beach County, including two special needs shelters and one pet shelter, are open on Sunday. You must preregister for the special needs shelter. Visit Palm Beach County Emergency Management's Shelter Information website for details.
- Palm Beach County Shelters will open at 1:00 PM, Sunday, September 1, 2019 at the following schools:
 - o Park Vista High School
 - o Lakeshore Middle School
 - o Palm Beach Central High School
 - o Palm Beach Gardens High School
 - o Independence Middle School
 - o Bethune Elementary School
 - o Pahokee Middle School
- The South Florida Fairgrounds (Special Needs Shelter) is our closest special needs shelter. For information, visit Palm Beach County's Special Needs Sheltering webpage.
- Palm Beach County's Pet-Friendly Shelter is located inside the West Boynton Recreational Center at 6000 Northtree Blvd., Lake Worth, FL 33463 and is only available to Palm Beach County residents who reside in a mandatory evacuation zone, in a mobile home, or in sub-standard housing. Proof of residency will be required.

We urge all residents to make the necessary preparations now:

- DO NOT do any major yard work until after the storm passes.
- DO NOT place any debris at the curb until the storm has cleared.
- Get your water supply now: a gallon of water per person per day for five days.
- Keep storm drains clean to minimize flooding. Large piles of new vegetation trimming may clog storm drains.
- Secure any patio furniture or yard waste, as these may become projectiles in a storm.
- In the event of an emergency, dial 911.

We are hoping for the best, we are also preparing for prolonged heavy rainfall leading to possible localized flooding and Tropical Storm force winds. Our primary focus is to make sure our residents are safe. We encourage everyone to prepare now for Hurricane Dorian. Do not wait. Do not be complacent. Now is the time for everyone to prepare. Stay Safe Wellington!