

Prepare Was the Key Word From Emergency Operations Briefing

Sep 5, 2008

Date: Friday, Sept. 5, 2008

Time: 16:45

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Prepare was the key word coming out of a Lee County Emergency Operations briefing today at 3 p.m. in Fort Myers. Officials pointed out that the County is well within Hurricane Ike's five-day forecast cone and will enter the three-day forecast cone over the weekend.

Residents have the weekend to get their hurricane kits ready with food, water, fresh batteries, medications and games for the children. It's time to prepare important papers, clothing, shoes, soap, toiletries and linens in case an evacuation is ordered for mobile homes, low lying areas and sub-standard housing. It's also time to identify the flood zone and hurricane storm surge zone of your home on the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) flood map.

Residents in need of sand bags should contact their local fire department. There will be 260 tons of additional sand delivered Monday. Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is still at activation level two, meaning prepare, but will move to a level one activation on Monday morning.

Once Hurricane Ike's path narrows Monday, any protective action that must be taken by residents will be announced. Protective action, such as evacuations and shelter openings, will be discussed during a briefing at the Lee County Emergency Operations Center, 2665 Ortiz Avenue, at 8 a.m. Monday, September 8, 2008.

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