

Flood Hazard Area Guide

City of Palmetto Public Works Department

If an official evacuation order is issued...

June through November is hurricane season. These are months when flooding storms, and property damage usually occur. Evacuation areas of City of Palmetto are color coded on reference maps located in the Verizon telephone book, the Manatee County Hurricane Guide, and the Manatee County website, www.mymanatee.org. Click on "Emergency Management." These references also outline the evacuation levels based on the intensity of the hurricane.

Personal Disaster Kit

- Prescription drugs
- Hygiene items
- Clothing
- Water
- Important papers
- First aid kit
- Flashlight/Batteries
- Radio/Batteries
- Non-perishable food

Important Note

All mobile home residents in the City of Palmetto MUST evacuate at all evacuation levels. No exceptions.

Be sure to tell family and friends the location of the shelter where you intend to stay.

What is a floodplain?

A floodplain is any land area susceptible to being inundated by water from any source.

What is a wetland?

A wetland is a transitional area between water and land which supports unique vegetation.

The City of Palmetto is an extremely flat area which consists of numerous wetlands and floodplains. During rainfall, the wetlands and floodplain provide important, natural storage areas for your excess water. During the dry season, low lake levels, dry sloughs, creeks, drains, and other dry retention areas may often provide a false impression that flooding is not a problem.

Protecting family/property

- Secure your boat.
- Clear your yard of loose objects.
- Turn off main water, gas, and electric.
- Board up or shutter your windows.
- Move valuable contents to a safe area.
- Elevate furniture if possible.
- Plan a destination-notify family/friends.
- Plan a flood-free evacuation route.
- Store drinking water in clean containers.
- Plugged sewer? Avoid flushing toilets.
- Listen to weather information/updates.

For assistance locating evacuation zones, routes, shelters, or to register for special needs evacuation assistance contact Manatee County;

www.mymanatee.org.

Click on "Emergency Management."

Warning systems include an automated telephone notification system and door-to-door by police or fire vehicles using a public address system.

Other Emergency Weather Sources

Television:

- Bay News 9
- WFTS 7
- WFLA 8
- WTSP 10
- WTVT 13
- MGA-TV 622 (BH)

Radio

- WJIS-FM 88.1
- WYNF-FM 105.9
- WMTX-FM 100.7
- WFLA-AM 970
- WBRD-AM 1420
- WCTQ-FM 106.5
- WWPR-AM 1490

City of Palmetto Contact Information

Public Safety	941-723-4580
Palmetto Police Dept.	941-723-4587

Additional Information

www.mymanatee.org (Hurricane Guide),
www.fema.gov, www.floridadisaster.org



This brochure is being mailed to all properties located in the City of Palmetto

Palmetto Public Works
600 17th Street West
Palmetto, FL 34221

City of
Palmetto
Mayor:

Shirley
Groover
Bryant

City of
Palmetto
Commission:

Ward 1
Harold
Smith

Ward 2
Tambra
Varnadore

Ward 3
Brian
Williams

At-Large
Jonathan
Davis

At-Large
Tamara
Cornwell

What is a storm surge?

An abnormal rise in the sea level, 50-100 miles wide, that sweeps across the coast near where the "eye" of the hurricane makes landfall. The surge of high water topped by waves is devastating. Along the immediate coast, storm surge is the greatest threat to life and property.

What is a Special Flood Zone Area?

Areas in the floodplain subject to a 1% or greater chance of flooding in any given year. These zones are designated with the letter "A" or "V" on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM).

Do you live in a Special Flood Hazard Area?

Verify the flood zone category of your property. A current survey of your property may contain the flood zone category under the comment section.

Verifying flood zones

Land information maps showing flood zones are available on the city's website: www.palmettofl.org for a general reference only. Select the tab 'City Departments' at the top of the page, then 'Building Department', then 'Flood Zone Information.' From there you will click on '2014 Flood Maps.'

For any questions contact:
Palmetto Building Department
600 17th St. W.
Palmetto, FL. 34221
941-721-2166



Emergency/Disaster Shelter Locations

- Buffalo Creek Middle School 7320 69th St. E, Palmetto
- Mills Elementary School 7200 69th St. E, Palmetto
- Tillman Elementary School 1415 29th St. E, Palmetto

Will homeowners insurance protect you in case of a flood?

No. However, the City of Palmetto participates in the National Flood Insurance Program so you are able to purchase a separate flood insurance policy. If you have a mortgage that is federally funded or insured you will be required to have flood insurance. Along some of the bays in the City of Palmetto, land has been designated as part of the Coastal Barrier Resource System. If you have flood insurance, verify the dollar amount and make sure you have contents coverage. Areas outside the Special Flood Hazard Area (C, B, or X) may also flood and preferred rate policies are available. Contact an insurance agent for more details. Don't wait for the next flood to get insurance, as there is a 30-day waiting period before coverage takes effect.



Important Note

The absence of prior flooding problems does not ensure that future flood events will not occur.

Protecting your home

Some common protection methods which can help reduce the cost of flood insurance include; elevating the structure, relocating the structure, or adding flood panels.

Important note

Any alteration to your building or land, including changing the existing grade or fill activities in the floodplain, may require a permit from the Building Department.

Home reconstruction after storm damage

A substantially damaged or reconstructed building must be brought up to the same standards as new construction.

Substantial damage and substantial improvement

If your structure is in a Special Flood Zone Area and the cost of repairs equals or exceeds 50% of its fair market value before it was damaged or altered, this is considered substantial damage or substantial improvement... the same requirements apply as new construction. Contact the Building department for further information.

Verifying contractor licensing and insurance

To verify if a contractor is licensed and insured and to provide recourse if a contractor's performance is unsatisfactory, contact: Palmetto Building Department
600 17th Street West
Palmetto, Florida 34221
941-721-2166 www.palmettofl.org

Helping the community

If requested, Public Works or the Building Department will visit a property to review drainage or flood problems and explain ways to prevent damage. Contact us at 941-723-4580.

Protect our natural functions

Dumping or throwing anything into drainage ditches is a violation of the City of Palmetto's Code of Ordinances. Grass clippings and branches plug canals and storm drains. Please contact us on any of these topics at 941-723-4580.

Call for help

Illegal Dumping	941-723-4580 x2111
Debris/ blockages in city maintained ditches, streams, or roadside ditches	941-723-4580 x2111
Sewer drainage/backup or water main break	941-723-4580 x2107
Building without a permit	941-721-2166

Do not walk or drive through a flooded area

Drowning is the number one cause of flash flood deaths, especially in automobiles. Six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet. If you walk in standing water, use a pole to determine the water depth. Flood waters may be contaminated with oil, gasoline, or raw sewage and may cause serious health problems. Road barriers indicate the road/bridge may be washed out. Electrocution from electrical current in flood waters is another potential danger. Please report downed power lines.

Florida Power & Light	(800) 4-OUTAGE
-----------------------	----------------