



# Media Alert

**For Immediate Release – Oct. 6, 2016**

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## **Leesburg City Hall to Close at Noon, Oct. 6 In Prep for Hurricane Matthew**

**LEESBURG, FL** –In anticipation of potential impacts from Hurricane Matthew, the City of Leesburg has activated its emergency operations plan and will close Leesburg City Hall and other government operations buildings today at 12 noon. City Hall and other government buildings will reopen Monday, Oct. 10 at 8 a.m. City officials urge residents to get prepared.

Depending on its path, Hurricane Matthew is capable of causing widespread power outages and catastrophic property damages. In addition, restoration may be hampered by flooding, downed trees or other obstacles. Leesburg Electric crews are prepared to work long hours after the storm passes, restoring service to customers as quickly and as safely as possible.

Take action now! Create a hurricane survival kit that includes first aid supplies, a battery powered radio, tarps, batteries, and flashlights. Make sure to have a few days' supply of any needed prescription medicine, baby food and diapers, pet food, canned food and drinking water (at least one gallon per person, per day). Have extra cash on hand and make sure you have a full tank of gas in your car and proper fuel on hand for a gas grill and/or generator.

To determine a hurricane evacuation route, visit [www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org).

For information regarding locations of Lake County shelters, visit [www.lakecountyfl.gov](http://www.lakecountyfl.gov).

If you use a portable generator: DON'T run a generator in the house, DON'T run a generator in the garage, and DON'T plug a generator directly into a house's main electrical system. The first two could lead to suffocation and the third could send an electrical charge back to the power grid, which would create an electrocution hazard for utility workers. DO set up generators outside in a well-ventilated area, and DO plug individual appliances directly into the generator.

Leesburg is a progressive city of more than 21,000 residents in northwest Lake County. The city government serves twice as many people with its electric, gas, water, wastewater and fiber-optic public utilities. Leesburg also is a central hub for commerce, attracting 50,000 people to work each weekday. For more information, visit [www.leesburgflorida.gov](http://www.leesburgflorida.gov).

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