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Hurricane Preparations

District staff have been preparing for the upcoming storm event and have mobilized all of the necessary equipment to minimize the impact of the storm to our community. Staff will be onsite through the duration of the storm to maintain facility operations. The District hopes to maintain water and wastewater service throughout the storm event; nonetheless it is best to prepare for the worst and hope for the best. If you have any questions please contact Bay Laurel Center CDD at 352-414-5454.

Due to power outages, water treatment and wastewater treatment facilities, including wastewater pumping stations will be operating under limiting conditions. Over use of toilet flushing or water going down drains may cause wastewater pumping stations to overflow and backup into your home.

Remember, just because power has been restored to your home, it does not mean that power has been restored to all wastewater pumping stations, water and wastewater treatment plants within your neighborhood. To reduce the risk of complete water loss or sewer failures please perform the following:

Before the Hurricane

- Fill aluminum or plastic containers with potable water once a hurricane warning is announced. Plan for at least one gallon of water per person per day for 3 to 7 days, and a half-gallon of water per pet per day.
- Place a drain plug in your bathtub and fill your bathtub with water.
- Turn off all irrigation systems.

During/After the Hurricane

- Limit the amount of toilet flushing, "If it's pee let it be, if it's brown flush it down!"
- Limit the use of clothes washers and dishwashers.

- Limit the amount of water used during a shower or the amount to fill a bathtub.
- Turn off all irrigation systems.
- Do not wash your driveways off with water, use a broom or blower.

Making Your Drinking Water Safe

During a storm event, trees can uproot water mains allowing the underground pipes to be exposed to contaminated ground water or create a drop in pressure. Boil water notices will be issued by Bay Laurel Center CDD staff in the event any of these conditions occur. If a precautionary boil water order is issued, all water for drinking, cooking, brushing teeth, making ice, and washing dishes should be boiled for at least five (5) minutes. To make sure your water is safe to drink please perform the following:

Drinking Water

- Water should be brought to a full rolling boil for at least five (5) minutes to ensure that it is safe for consumption.
- Boiled water may be stored at room temperature in a closed container until needed.
- If you do not have power and cannot boil water, add eight (8) drops of unscented chlorine bleach per gallon of water. Let the water sit uncapped for at least ten (10) minutes before drinking.

Dish Washing

- Add fifteen (15) drops of unscented chlorine bleach per gallon to use for rinsing dishes.