

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?



Before the Storm

Prevent storm debris by preparing your property for hurricane season (June 1 – Nov. 30). You can help reduce a storm's impact by cutting back trees and vegetation from power lines or other areas that could damage your home and property. Move all outside furniture and decorations inside when a storm is approaching our area.

Depending on the severity of the storm, residents should anticipate delays, and possibly suspension in their regular collection services including trash, recycling and yard waste. Delays and/or suspension may occur before and after a storm.

If you live within the city limits of Sarasota, Venice or North Port, or the Town of Longboat Key, you will need to contact the city to determine when your garbage is collected. Processes may vary between unincorporated Sarasota County and local municipalities.

Garbage collection:

- ▶ City of North Port: 941-240-8050
- ▶ City of Sarasota: 941-365-7651
- ▶ City of Venice: 941-486-2422
- ▶ Town of Longboat Key: 941-316-1988

After the Storm

Instructions for how to prepare storm debris will be released via Sarasota County's website (scgov.net) and its social media accounts as soon as possible after a thorough damage assessment by emergency responders. Some items may be eligible for bulk collection at the curb, requiring minimal preparation, while other items will need to be properly prepared for regular curbside collection. After a major storm event, yard waste associated with land clearing and landscape improvement activities is not eligible for collection; disposal of this type of debris is the responsibility of the property owner at the property owner's expense.

It's important to separate your debris into the following categories for collection:

- ▶ Garbage: including spoiled food in containers, or double bagged.
- ▶ Household goods: furniture, clothes, books, toys and carpet.
- ▶ Vegetative: tree limbs and trunks.
Note: Small branches and leaves are not considered storm debris. They should be prepared for regular curbside collection.
- ▶ Construction materials: drywall, roof shingles, aluminum.
- ▶ Appliances: refrigerators, water heaters, televisions and computers.

PLEASE NOTE: Hurricane Irma produced vegetative debris equivalent to almost two years' collection of yard waste across the county or 300,000 cubic yards of debris. Irma brought almost 3 million cubic yards of debris to the Florida Keys. It may take time to reach all areas of the county for collection based on the extent of storm damage. Debris removal may require multiple passes to complete.

Avoid stacking debris:

- ▶ By utility poles.
- ▶ Under power lines.
- ▶ On top of water meters or other water connections.
- ▶ By fire hydrants.
- ▶ By vehicles.
- ▶ Next to mailboxes or fences.
- ▶ On storm drains.
- ▶ In the street.
- ▶ Do not place damaged fences, garbage, or other items close to vegetative storm debris piles because it interferes with removal crews and operations.

Priority access for the county landfill:

As soon as the landfill can open after a storm, priority access will be given in the following order:

- ▶ Disposal of spoiled food from shelters, food stores and restaurants.
- ▶ Contracted haulers for Sarasota County, the cities of Sarasota, Venice, North Port and Town of Longboat Key.
- ▶ Debris contractors.
- ▶ Local residents and businesses.

If you hire a contractor to perform any type of work involving debris:

The contractor is responsible for disposal of the debris from the property. Once a contractor prepares debris on a residential property, the debris is considered commercial material and is no longer eligible for pick up by debris contractors. The contractor performing the services is required to dispose of debris properly; they cannot place it in the road's right-of-way.




Florida Power & Light

Power outages: 1-800-4-OUTAGE (468-8243), fpl.com



1660 Ringling Blvd.
Sarasota, FL 34236

941-861-5000
www.scgov.net

 @scgovEOC and @SRQCountyGov

 @SRQCountyGov and @srqemergencyservices

PRIVATE ROADS AND PRIVATE PROPERTY

Residents who live on a private road must grant the county the right to enter the roadway for debris removal PRIOR to any debris removal. This requires a completed Right of Entry/Hold Harmless form that is signed by the legal owner of the road or a legal representative, such as a homeowners association. **A completed Right of Entry form must be filed after each storm event.**

PLEASE NOTE: Sarasota County will not enter private property to remove debris. Residents are responsible for getting all debris to the curb/right-of-way for pickup. To learn more about debris removal on private roads or to obtain the Right of Entry/Hold Harmless form, call the **Sarasota County Contact Center at 941-861-5000.**