



Pinellas
Continuum
of Care

Ending Homelessness Together



Tropical Storm Helene Update

September 24, 2024

Good evening,

This email is to provide a quick update on and resources for Tropical Storm Helene in Pinellas County.

Pinellas County Government and the Pinellas Continuum of Care are monitoring [Tropical Storm Helene](#), which is forecast to become a major hurricane by Thursday.

A Hurricane Watch, Storm Surge Watch and Flood Watch are in effect for Pinellas County. Significant and possibly life-threatening winds, storm surge flooding and flash flood conditions are possible in Pinellas County. The current forecast calls for higher storm surge than Tampa Bay has experienced in recent history, impacting the county for a longer time period than during Hurricane Idalia. The biggest impacts are currently expected during the day on Thursday. Though no evacuations have been ordered at this time, we

encourage everyone to sign up for emergency alerts through Alert Pinellas. To check your zone and sign up for alerts go to disaster.pinellas.gov.

Emergency Shelters may open on Wednesday 9/25. [Click here](#) for status updates. Upon opening, [Special Needs Hurricane Shelters](#) are available to residents of all ages who have special needs including requiring oxygen, mobility assistance, transportation assistance, etc. Call [727-464-4333](tel:727-464-4333) to register.

Residents are urged to check their [emergency plans](#) and [evacuation zone](#), sign up for [Alert Pinellas](#).

Residents with storm preparedness questions can call the County Information Center at [727-464-4333](tel:727-464-4333). For the latest forecast information, see hurricanes.gov and weather.gov/tampa.

Resources

Message Pinellas
County's Information
Center

Call Pinellas
County's Information
Center at 727-464-
4333

Pinellas County
Emergency
Information

KNOW YOUR ZONE

There are several ways to find
out your evacuation zone:

- disaster.pinellas.gov
- Ready Pinellas
mobile app (Android, iOS)
- 727-464-3800



Subscribe to
Alert Pinellas
for updates about storms & emergencies

Emergency and Community Notification Service for
Pinellas County, Local Municipalities and the Sheriff's Office
ALERT Pinellas
In emergencies, stay informed.

www.pinellas.gov/alert-pinellas

READY ▶ SET ▶ PROTECT

Prepare for Hurricane Evacuation

MAKE A PLAN

Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority **BSTA** runs most regular routes during evacuations.

- Hurricane evacuation shelters are made available throughout the County. Bus rides to shelters are free.
- Bus service may stop several hours before conditions become dangerous.
- Special needs and pet-friendly shelters are also available.
- Pets are allowed on the bus: cats and small dogs in a crate; large dogs on a muzzle leash.
- All are welcome at any evacuation shelter. No ID required.
- Food and water are provided.
- **Only bring essential items:** sleeping bag, blanket, medications and prescriptions, toiletries, personal hygiene items, important phone numbers, cell phone/charger, change of clothes, reading material.
- For assistance, check with social service agencies and street outreach teams.
- Call the County Information Center (*only during emergencies*) at (727) 464-4333.
- After the storm, when shelters close, you can ride the bus free of charge back to your initial pickup location.

STAY INFORMED

For alerts to your cell phone or email, sign up for Alert Pinellas at disaster.pinellas.gov or download the Ready Pinellas app.

Pinellas County complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To obtain accessible formats of this document, please call (727) 464-4062 (V/TDD). Funding for this card provided by Pinellas County Emergency Management and Pinellas County Human Services. Produced in cooperation with the Pinellas County Communications Dept.



Prepárese ▶ Listo ▶ Protéjase

Prepárese para evacuar en caso de huracán

Haga un Plan

Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority **BSTA** opera la mayoría de las rutas regulares durante las evacuaciones.

- Habrá refugios de evacuación por huracanes a lo largo del condado. Los viajes en autobús a los refugios son gratuitos.
- El servicio de autobús puede suspenderse varias horas antes de que las condiciones sean peligrosas.
- También hay refugios para personas con necesidades especiales y que aceptan mascotas.
- Se aceptan mascotas en el autobús: gatos y perros pequeños en una jaula; perros grandes con correa y bozal.
- Todos son bienvenidos en cualquier refugio de evacuación. No se requiere identificación.
- Se ofrece agua y comida.
- **Lleve sólo lo imprescindible:** saco de dormir, manta, medicamentos y recetas, artículos de aseo y de higiene personal, números de teléfono importantes, teléfono móvil/cargador, cambio de ropa, material de lectura.
- Para obtener ayuda, consulte con las agencias de servicios sociales y los grupos de ayuda en la calle.
- Llame al Centro de Información del Condado (*sólo durante emergencias*) al (727) 464-4333.
- Después de la tormenta, cuando cierren los refugios, puede volver en autobús sin costo alguno a su lugar de recogida inicial.

Manténgase Informado

Para recibir alertas en su teléfono celular o correo electrónico, inscribese en Alert Pinellas en disaster.pinellas.gov o descargue la aplicación Ready Pinellas.

El Condado Pinellas cumple con la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades. Para obtener formatos accesibles de este documento, llame al (727) 464-4062 (V/TDD). Esta tarjeta fue financiada por Manejo de Emergencias del Condado Pinellas y Servicios Humanos del Condado Pinellas. Producido en cooperación con el Departamento de Comunicaciones del Condado Pinellas.



Tropical Storm Helene

Pinellas County, FL

Only Get Information from Trusted Sources:

Storm Tools: storm.pinellascounty.org

County Information Center: [727-464-4333](tel:727-464-4333)

Alert Pinellas: pinellascounty.org/alert-pinellas

National Hurricane Center: www.nhc.noaa.gov



Pinellas
Continuum
of Care



**The County Information Center is
open for questions (727) 464-4333.**

Live chat: www.bit.ly/PinellasChat



Emergency Preparedness Information

psta.net/weather



Pinellas County Closures During Tropical Storm Helene

All Pinellas County government departments will close effective 5 p.m. on Wednesday, 9/25, with some having partial closures throughout the day due to storm-related response. Please call their offices in advance of visiting to verify schedules. All departments will remain closed Thursday, 9/26, while staff works in various storm support capacities. A decision about Friday, 9/27, closures will be made at a later time.

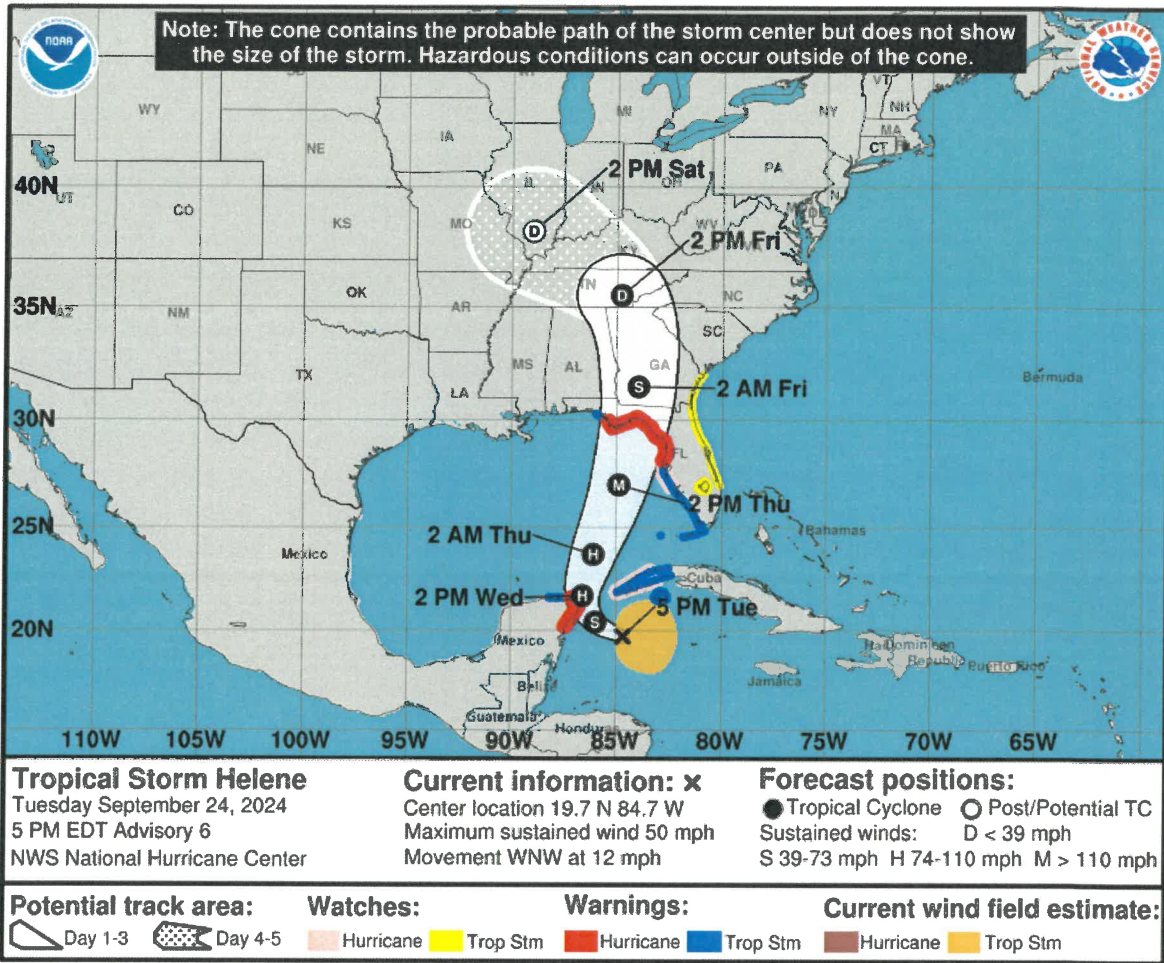
All county parks will be closed Wednesday and Thursday, 9/25 and 9/26. John Chestnut Sr. Park will be open only for sandbag distribution from 7 a.m. to noon.

The Animal Shelter will be closed Wednesday and Thursday, 9/25 and 9/26.

Pinellas County Schools are closed Wednesday and Thursday, 9/25 and 9/26.

Tropical Forecast

September 24th 5pm



Homeless Leadership Alliance of Pinellas | 647 1st Ave. N. | St. Petersburg, FL 33701 US

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