

# Flood Evacuation Recovery News

Lee County

6/21/2016

County Judge Paul Fischer

*Advice for residents returning to their premises for repair or to rebuild a house after a flood, including renovations and plumbing*

**What if I'm rebuilding my house to exactly as it was pre-flood?** If you intend rebuilding or repairing your house 'like-for-like' because your house was damaged by the flood, keep ALL receipts. Contact Dale Bolt, Permitting Department at 979-212-8070 for any county requirements prior to any new construction or repairs due to the recent flooding.

**How can I make my house more flood resilient?** You could consider raising your house and use building products that have higher water resistance ratings. You may also wish to consider the actual flood level recently reached on your site.

**Insurance:** Lee County advises residents to consider the following insurance advice. If you have insurance please check first with your insurance provider before making any changes. Make every effort to take photos of your damaged belongings. If throwing things out, make a note of brands and model of electrical items.

**Be Aware:** If you plan to construct a new home, modify an existing home, construct a new business, modify an existing business, move a home to a property or any other development you will need to complete a Development Application. Lee County will also be inspecting septic systems within the affected area. Septic systems may need to be replaced and/or repaired to comply with County regulations. The inspection of septic systems will start Monday, June 27, 2016. Development Applications, Fee & Penalty Schedule can be found at <http://www.co.lee.tx.us>

## A Message from the County Judge

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Effective June 22, 2016, Lee County has been declared for individual Assistance in the Presidential Declaration. Survivors from the May severe weather in Lee County can start registering for FEMA Assistance by calling 1-800-621-3362 or online at [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov). If you have already registered with FEMA for this incident period, you do not need to do so again.

Last Friday a visual check of the lake was conducted – the lake is draining at full capacity.

The County has been in contact with Catholic Charities of Central Texas, who are looking into available housing in the area.

In the future each household in flood affected areas can be better prepared for and respond to flood events by developing household emergency plans.

When making repairs, protect your property from future flood damage.

Anyone that would like a copy of the water reports can stop by the office.

(Permitting Department). For more information contact:  
Dale Bolt – Permitting Department, 898 E. Richmond, Suite 102 Giddings, TX 78942; Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8am-5pm; Office 979-212-8070/Cell 979-676-2566/ E-mail: [dale.bolt@co.lee.tx.us](mailto:dale.bolt@co.lee.tx.us).

**Lee County Early Warning Alert Service: Early Warning Alert Service**

County provides Lee County residents with a free severe weather alert that includes notice of severe thunderstorms, destructive winds and potential flooding. The alerts are location-based, so residents only receive warnings if their registered residential address may be impacted. Alerts are sent by email and can also be sent by SMS and a recorded message to a nominated landline.

Visit <http://tools.cira.state.tx.us/users/0089/RNS.pdf> to register for email, home phone or SMS updates in case of an emergency.

**Pets at Animal Shelter:** If your family pet is still at the temporary shelter:

- \* Dog food is needed
- \*A few dogs are in need of medical attention

\*Check with the animal shelter daily (979-540-3919)

**Zika Virus concerns:** The County's Health Officer Tersea Kinsfather and the State of Texas is monitoring for Zika Virus outbreaks. At present there is no reported outbreak. The state will continue monitoring conditions. Property owners are advised to remove standing water.

**How can mosquitoes be controlled around the home?**

Get rid of standing water in which mosquitoes can breed. If there are any places around your home where water collects, you may be raising mosquitoes.

**What specific steps can people take to control mosquitoes outside a home?**

Take the following steps to help cut down on the mosquito population:

- Get rid of or empty and clean on a weekly basis any cans, buckets, bottles, old tires, empty pots, plant saucers and other containers that hold water.
- Keep gutters clear of debris and standing water. Remove standing water around structures and from flat roofs.
- Change water in pet dishes at least once a

day. Change water in wading pools and bird baths at least weekly.

- Fill in low areas in the yard and holes in trees that collect water.
- Cover trash containers so they will not collect water.
- Water lawns and gardens carefully so water does not stand for several days.
- Repair any leaking plumbing and outside faucets.
- Screen rain barrels and openings to water tanks or cisterns.
- Keep drains and ditches clear of weeds and trash so water will not collect.