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## Hurricane Matthew

### Map Shows Tropical Storm Winds Forecast



#### Hurricane Matthew

Thursday October 6, 2016

8 PM EDT Intermediate Advisory 35A

NWS National Hurricane Center

#### Current Information:

Center Location 26.6 N 78.9 W

Max Sustained Wind 130 mph

Movement NW at 13 mph

#### Forecast Positions:

● Tropical Cyclone ○ Post-Tropical

Sustained Winds: D < 39 mph

S 39-73 mph H 74-110 mph M > 110mph

This map from the National Weather Service's National Hurricane Center shows a forecast for the 120 hours (five days) from 8 p.m. EDT on Thursday (Oct. 6) through 8 p.m. EDT on Tuesday (Oct. 11).

Published Oct. 6, 2016 @ 10:27 p.m.

## Gasoline shortages start in Levy County

By Jeff M. Hardison © Oct. 6, 2016 @ 4:07 p.m.

**LEVY COUNTY** -- As motorists from all over the southern and eastern portions of Florida leave those areas, they are using fuel.

Bronson is out of fuel and Williston is nearly out of fuel at their stations, according to information from Levy County Emergency Management.

Levy County Emergency Management also sent out the following notification with advise on where to park cars, and more.

"Levy County Emergency Management would like to remind all residents to be sure that they are prepared for the effects of Hurricane Matthew.

As of right now, Levy County residents can expect wind speeds of 35-40mph with wind gusts as high as 55mph in the outer rain bands. Residents should secure any outdoor debris, move vehicles out from under trees that may fall, prepare for sporadic

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power outages, and avoid major roadways as much as possible.

At this time, there are no evacuation orders or shelters in place for Levy County. Residents in unanchored mobile homes or travel trailers that are uncomfortable staying in their home should find alternative lodging for Friday afternoon and evening.

Schools, government offices, and the courthouse will be closed on Friday.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact Levy County Emergency Management at 352-486-5155 or 352-486-5576 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thank you and be safe."

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## Dixie County schools closed on Friday

Published Oct. 6 at 2:17 p.m.

on the Home Page of *HardisonInk.com*

**CROSS CITY** -- Due to the possibility of high winds tomorrow afternoon during bus hours, Dixie District Schools will be closed Friday, Oct. 7 for all students and staff, according to a press release via email sent Oct. 6 at 2:05 p.m. from Dixie County Superintendent of Schools Mark Rains' Office.

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## Gilchrist County schools and government closed Friday

By Jeff M. Hardison © Oct. 6, 2016 @ 2:07 p.m.

**TRENTON** -- According to a press release from Gilchrist County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Jeff Manning, provided via email at 1:58 p.m. today (Thursday, Oct. 6), the Gilchrist County Emergency Management would like to advise all residents and visitors in Gilchrist County of the following closures due to Hurricane Matthew:

- All Gilchrist County government offices, including the Gilchrist County Courthouse will be closed.
- Gilchrist County Solid Waste will be open as planned on Saturday with weather permitting.
- The Gilchrist County School Board has announced that school is **CLOSED** for Friday (Oct 7). No announcements for the Trenton High School football game have been announced, but both schools are in conversation about the status and safety for both sets of teams, students and fans. The same is true for the Bell High School football game.
- The Gilchrist County Sheriff's Office Administrative Offices will be **CLOSED** due to the storm as well.
- No Shelters are scheduled to be open at this time, but as the path of the hurricane changes shelters may be opened as needed.
- Gilchrist Emergency Management and local officials are monitoring the situation and encouraging all Citizens to stay tune to local weather reports and updates from the National Hurricane Center.
- At this time it is anticipated that Gilchrist County may encounter Topical Force Winds. Additional updates will be provided as information becomes available.

## Levy County government scheduled to be closed Friday

By Jeff M. Hardison © Oct. 6, 2016 @ 11:57 a.m.

**LEVY COUNTY** -- Levy County Emergency Management Director John MacDonald and Assistant Director David Peaton noted that the Levy County Emergency Operations Center combined with the Levy County Board of County Commissioners and the LCSO are issuing the following information via a combined message.

Hurricane Matthew is a very large and destructive storm. Everyone should remain vigilant and continuously monitor it.

Other facts noted in regard to **Levy County** and shared in an email at 11:18 a.m. today (Thursday, Oct. 6) are that:

- Courts, schools, and Local Government in **Levy County** are closed on Friday.
- Tropical Storm Warning in effect for **Levy County**.
- No evacuation orders have been issued.
- No storm evacuation shelters have been opened.
- No fuel shortages have been reported in Levy County
- Any reports of fuel shortages, please contact Levy County Emergency Management at 352-486-5155 or 352-486-5576
- If anyone experiences an emergency please contact 9-1-1
- If the track changes west, the protective actions and weather forecast will dramatically change
- Residents and visitors are urged to call Levy County Emergency Management if they have any questions: 352-486-5155 or 352-486-5576.
- No tidal surge is expected to affect Levy County based on the current storm track.

Based upon the current track of this storm the Levy County Emergency Operations Center reports that Levy County will begin to experience tropical storm force winds (25-35 miles per hour) mid-afternoon on Friday. Gusts between 40-50 miles per hour could be experienced as rain bands move through the area.

This storm continues to evolve and the track could change. Should the storm track move westward, it will radically change the effects Levy County will experience. Citizens should closely monitor this storm and continue their storm preparedness efforts.



## CF closes all locations cancels classes after 5 p.m.

By Jeff M. Hardison © Oct. 6, 2016 @ 11:17 a.m.

**OCALA**— Due to the potential impact of Hurricane Matthew, the College of Central Florida (CF) is cancelling classes and closing offices at 5 p.m. today (Thursday, Oct. 4 through Sunday), CF Marketing and Public Relations Director Lois Brauckmuller noted in an email this morning.

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The closing is for Ocala Campus, Citrus Campus, Hampton Center, Levy Center, Levy Campus, Appleton Museum of Art, as well as online classes.

CF classes and business operations are set to resume Monday, Oct. 10.

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## Levy County Schools Closed Friday

**TRI-COUNTY AREA** -- Levy County schools are scheduled to be closed tomorrow (Friday, Oct. 6).

Levy County Sheriff's Office spokesman Lt. Scott Tummond noted at 8:54 a.m. today (Thursday, Oct. 6), "Levy County School Board Assistant Superintendent John Lott has announced the closure of Levy County Schools on Friday October 7, 2016. Current storm forecasts which will affect Levy County will make conditions unsafe for transporting students."

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## DCHS Game Against Chiefland Is Tonight; Volleyball Is Varsity Only

**CROSS CITY** -- The varsity football game in Cross City where the Dixie County Bears are hosting the Chiefland Indians is happening tonight rather than tomorrow night at 7:30, according to information from Dixie County Superintendent of Schools Mark Rains' Office.

The DCHS Varsity Volleyball game set to be in Cross City against Newberry High School is going to happen as planned, but there will be no JV volleyball game, a spokeswoman in Rains' office said.

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## Gov. Rick Scott declares state of emergency due to Hurricane Matthew; *Levy County residents advised to monitor hurricane's track closely*

**By Jeff M. Hardison © Oct. 4, 2016 @ 1:47 p.m.**

**Updated Oct. 5, 2016 @ 11:47 p.m.**

**LEVY COUNTY** -- Levy County Department of Emergency Management is closely watching the track of the potentially dangerous Hurricane Matthew that is threatening the east coast of Florida, Director of Levy County Emergency Management John MacDonald said in a Tuesday afternoon (Oct. 4) press release.

Gov. Rick Scott yesterday (Oct. 3) issued a pre-landfall emergency declaration for the entire state.

Scott announced plans to visit the state's emergency operations centers along Florida's east coast, and he canceled Tuesday's Cabinet meeting to make the trip. He wants to make sure counties are prepared if the storm moves toward Florida, spokeswoman Jackie Schutz said. Scott signed an executive order on Monday declaring a state of emergency for every Florida county.

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Hurricane Matthew was listed as a Category 4 storm with maximum sustained winds of 145 mph Tuesday morning, the National Hurricane Center in Miami said.

MacDonald said this hurricane is expected to stay a major hurricane as it makes its way north and passes by the east coast of Florida.

Currently Levy County is outside of the cone of error for this storm, but it is still very early. The track for this storm has changed several times and will most likely change several times before the storm reaches the Florida area.

Levy County Assistant Director of Emergency Management David Peaton said there were partner briefings at 1 p.m. today (Tuesday, Oct. 4) to assure that every involved agency and leader in the county is preparing.

There have been no evacuations order in Florida yet, Peaton said, and the hurricane appears to currently be going to affect the southern and eastern parts of Florida the most, however, the track may change. Levy County residents will want to be certain to have a plan ready.

Levy County Emergency Management is closely monitoring the storm and taking all necessary protective actions.

"We are participating in multiple daily conference calls with our local, state and federal partners," MacDonald said. "We will continue to work with our local media partners to keep the residents and visitors informed."

Residents should take all necessary precautions early. Everyone in Levy County is advised to monitor local weather services for changes in the forecast and be prepared to take action if the storm changes direction.

Secure outdoor debris as soon as possible in the event that winds pick up. Make preparations in the event of power outages. Residents should make sure they are signed up for the Levy County Emergency Notification System by visiting <http://www.alertlevy.com> in order to receive emergency messages such as evacuation orders, tornado warnings, etc.

"In conclusion," MacDonald said in the press release, "although we are still outside the cone of error, this storm is a very strong storm and residents should be alert and prepared in case things change. You can get up-to-date information by visiting the National Hurricane Center website at <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/> visit us or visit our website at <http://www.levydisaster.com>."