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## Normalcy returns to coastal Levy and Dixie counties



James McCain (left) and Billy Quinn of Cedar Key Water and Sewer Service, check a storm drain pipe. Quinn is replacing the manhole cover here.

### Story and Photos

By Jeff M. Hardison © Oct. 11, 2018 at 7:38 p.m.

**TRI-COUNTY AREA** – Gilchrist County residents and visitors may have experienced some level of discomfort or inconvenience due to Hurricane Michael, but it did not seem to appear on any radar.



The Levy County Public Boat Ramp at Fowler's Bluff was barricaded at 9:40 and still at 11 a.m. on Thursday (Oct. 11), but the ramps are open for the Suwannee River and Gulf of Mexico in Levy and Dixie counties. The United States Coast Guard reminds boaters, nevertheless, that after a storm event

such as just happened, there is danger from debris floating or submerged and out of view when it was not there before the event.

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As this sign shows Cedar Key is Open. This sign was near the first bridge going into the island on State Road 24. It was photographed after 10 a.m. on Thursday (Oct. 11).



Steamer's Clam Bar and Grill is ready to serve diners.

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**Dr. Mike Allen, director of the Nature Coast Biological Station in Cedar Key, walks with a spray device used to combat mold on Thursday morning (Oct. 11) at the NCBS. Dr. Allen is not only a director and a scientific researcher, but as seen here, he is a mold fighter.**



**Dock Street parking in Cedar Key was a premium Thursday morning, as it often is.**

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**A marine turtle hides in its shell as it nears the safe grassy area before making it back into a ditch in Levy County on Thursday. This particular turtle was clever. It waited for the photographer to focus on oncoming traffic before making its way through tall grass – hidden from view – leading back to the water.**



**Sandbags in front of the museum-library in the Town of Horseshoe Beach on Thursday at about 12:30 p.m. showed the establishment was not on its regular schedule yet. According to signage on the door, it is open Thursdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.**

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**Structures right on the beachfront showed no damage from the passing storm.**



**A vehicle of some sort scoots around in the Town of Horseshoe Beach on Thursday. It looks a bit too sturdy to be called a golf cart.**

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**Dixie County Fire-Rescue Brush 62 of Horseshoe Beach was ready for service on Thursday.**

Meanwhile, in coastal Levy and Dixie counties, some people evacuated and many took precautions against flood damage that would result from storm surge.

Forecasters were off in regard to the significance of storm surge, although there was some. Some streets in Horseshoe Beach, the Town of Suwannee, Yankeetown and Cedar Key were covered by water.

The problem was short-lived, and now normalcy has returned to coastal Levy and Dixie counties.

A waitress at The Shrimp Boat restaurant in Horseshoe Beach, in the midst of serving lunch to customers on Thursday afternoon (Oct. 11) said the water did not even get on the floor of that eatery.

In Cedar Key, Steamer's Clam Bar and Grill on Dock Street is ready to serve customers, owner Dennis Gill said.

There is no significant damage in Levy County as a result of this storm, David Peaton of Levy County Emergency Management said on Thursday afternoon (Oct. 11).

Lt. Mandy Lemmermen of Dixie County Emergency Services echoed Peaton's words for Dixie County. She said the initial review showed some docks damaged in the Town of Suwannee, but it was not significant, especially considering the devastation that wreaked havoc farther up the Gulf Coast.