






JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

(850) 482-9633 www.jacksoncountyfl.gov 2864 Madison St. Marianna, Fl. 32446

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

 Mary Smith / Public Communications Officer
 (850) 573-1327
 smithm@jacksoncountyfl.gov

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Hurricane Helene – Jackson County Shelters

Jackson County, FL – Following an afternoon briefing with Jackson County Emergency Management, we have important updates regarding Hurricane Helene and local shelter options. The National Weather Service has placed Jackson County under a Hurricane Warning. While our area is expected to experience tropical storm force winds of approximately 50 mph and rainfall between 5 to 7 inches, the eastern half of the county may see hurricane-force winds. There is also an increased risk of tornadoes throughout Thursday. Residents in RVs or mobile homes are strongly encouraged by Emergency Management to evacuate to more stable structures for safety.

A **Special Needs Shelter** is planned to open at 9 a.m. on Thursday, September 26, at Marianna High School. This is intended for individuals who are medically dependent on power.

A **General Population Shelter** will also open at Marianna High School, anticipated to be operational at 11 a.m. on Thursday, September 26. Please note that no alcohol, illegal drugs, firearms, or pets will be permitted in the shelter.

Residents seeking shelter should bring the following items:

- Blankets, pillows, and sleeping bags
- Toiletries and personal items
- ID and any important documents
- Prescription medications and over-the-counter medications
- Non-perishable food for snacks
- Entertainment (books, tablets, games) for adults and children
- Special items for infants or elderly family members
- Battery-operated radios, flashlights, and extra batteries

As Hurricane Helene continues to develop, we will provide further updates and resources available to the community. For concerns or questions, please contact (850) 718-0020. Additionally, we encourage residents to sign up for **Alert Jackson** to receive real-time severe weather alerts at <https://member.everbridge.net/453003085614788/login>.

Please remain vigilant and ensure your family is prepared for the storm. We will promptly share any updates regarding changes to the storm's path or impact.

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