

Press Release
City Clerk's Office
1070 Shoreline Drive
Gulf Breeze, FL 32561



City of Gulf Breeze
Telephone 850-934-5115
Fax 850-934-5114
<http://cityofgulfbreeze.us/>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
OCTOBER 12, 2026

HURRICANE ISAIAS RECOVERY UPDATE FOR BREEZERS:

The City of Gulf Breeze thanks residents for their patience and cooperation as recovery continues following Hurricane Isaias. City employees, first responders, utility crews, contractors, and community partners have worked continuously to address storm impacts. With emergency roadway clearing complete, the City is focusing on organized debris removal, restoring normal services, assisting affected residents, and improving pedestrian safety before schools are expected to reopen Wednesday, October 14.

Initial Damage Assessment - City

City inspectors completed an initial structural damage assessment of 118 residential properties. Of those, 9 homes sustained major damage, 48 sustained minor damage, and 61 were classified as affected. These figures reflect the City's initial assessment.

Storm Debris Collection - City

The City's debris contractor, CWR, is scheduled to begin organized storm debris collection Tuesday, October 13. Residents should place storm-generated vegetative debris along the roadside, but not in the roadway, and keep it separate from construction materials, roof shingles, household garbage, and other nonvegetative debris. Tree limbs should be sized for collection by the contractor's large clam trucks. Do not place debris beneath overhead power lines, near fire hydrants, or where it could obstruct sidewalks, traffic, or stormwater inlets. Crews will prioritize safety hazards and areas with restricted access. Because of the substantial volume of debris, collection will require multiple passes.

Transfer Station - City

The Gulf Breeze Transfer Station at 325 S. Sunset Boulevard will be open free of charge to residents within the incorporated City limits Tuesday, October 13, through Saturday, October 17, during regular business hours. The Transfer Station will be closed to non-City customers during this recovery period. Residents able to transport their own storm debris may use this option, subject to the facility's acceptance requirements.

School Reopening and Tree Safety - City

With schools expected to reopen Wednesday, October 14, the City's Parks and Recreation Department is identifying and marking hazardous trees along school bus routes, public streets, and sidewalks. Damaged trees and hanging limbs may pose risks to children walking, bicycling, or waiting for school buses. Parents and motorists should use extra caution around marked trees, utility equipment, downed limbs, and active debris collection operations. Do not attempt to remove any tree or limb entangled with a power line.

Water and Tarps - City

Bottled water and tarps are available for pickup at the Gulf Breeze Community Center, 800 Shoreline Drive. Water is limited to 3 cases per residence per day. Tarps are available to residents needing temporary protection for storm-damaged property while supplies last.

Community and Faith-Based Assistance - Community

The City's Interfaith Disaster Resources partners are coordinating assistance for residents with unmet emergency recovery needs, including older adults, medically vulnerable individuals, and families experiencing significant property damage. Residents needing help may contact City Hall at 850-934-5100 so staff can help coordinate available resources.

Power, Water and Sewer - Community

Florida Power & Light continues restoring electrical service following widespread damage. Treat all downed or damaged electrical lines as energized; trees or branches touching power lines must be handled only by qualified utility personnel. Residents should watch for electrical hazards as power returns. The City's regional water system reports that precautionary water main shutoffs implemented before the hurricane were lifted by late Friday night, October 9. Water and sewer crews continue inspecting infrastructure and addressing localized service issues.

Regular Household Garbage Collection - City

Regular residential household garbage service is resuming. Place garbage containers where collection crews can safely see and access them, recognizing that curbside storm debris may complicate collection. Household garbage and storm-generated vegetative debris are collected separately and should not be mixed.

“Gulf Breeze has faced major storms before, and what has always stood out is the willingness of our residents to help one another,” said Mayor JB Schluter. “Recovery will take time, especially with the amount of tree damage across the City. But we are making steady progress, and our commitment is to keep residents informed, provide practical assistance, and restore our community as safely and efficiently as possible.”

Residents should continue monitoring official City communications for updates about debris collection, municipal services, and available recovery assistance.

###