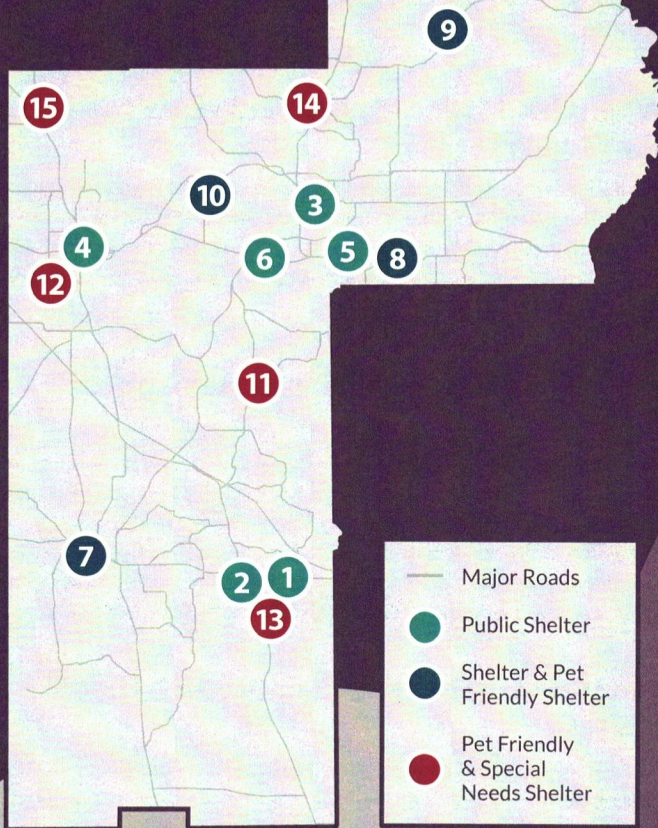


LAKE COUNTY PRIMARY SHELTER LOCATIONS



- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 East Ridge High | 9 Spring Creek Elementary |
| 2 East Ridge Middle | 10 Treadway Elementary |
| 3 Eustis High | 11 Astatula Elementary |
| 4 Leesburg High | 12 Leesburg Elementary |
| 5 Mount Dora High | 13 Lost Lake Elementary |
| 6 Tavares High | 14 Umatilla Elementary |
| 7 Mascotte Elementary | 15 Villages Elementary |
| 8 Round Lake Elementary | |



Office of
Emergency
Management

www.lakecountyfl.gov
352-742-4850

Learning About THE SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAM



V/1 • 09/2022

WHAT ARE SPECIAL NEEDS?

Special needs is defined as “persons who would need assistance during evacuations and sheltering because of physical, mental, cognitive impairment, or sensory disabilities.” People who are medically dependent on electricity may also be considered special needs. Each local emergency management agency in the state shall maintain a registry of persons with special needs located within the jurisdiction of the local agency.

Why should special needs individuals register?

It is important that individuals with special needs register with the Lake County Office of Emergency Management. During a disaster such as a hurricane, Emergency Management officials need to be aware of individuals with special needs to plan accordingly and have the ability to check on their condition.

How do I register for special needs?

Individuals can register online at www.lakecountyfl.gov/specialneeds. To receive a paper special needs application, call the Office of Emergency Management at 352-742-4850. Mail the completed application to: Lake County Office of Emergency Management, P.O. Box 7800, Tavares, FL 32778. A Florida Department of Health representative reviews each application and determines the applicant's special needs category.

SPECIAL NEEDS CATEGORIES

Category I

The applicant qualifies for sheltering at one of the County's special needs shelters. Shelter evacuees should bring a caregiver with them if they choose to evacuate to a County shelter.

Category II

Applicants in this category have been determined by the Florida Department of Health in Lake County to have a medical condition that requires more complex care than can be provided in the County's special needs shelters. These applicants are encouraged to work with their healthcare provider to find alternative shelter arrangements.

Category III

Applicants in this category have been determined by the Florida Department of Health in Lake County to be appropriate to shelter in a general population shelter and do not qualify for special needs accommodations.

How will I know if I meet the requirements for special needs?

The Office of Emergency Management will mail out a letter to all applicants of the program based on their medical needs. If your health, residence, or contact number changes, please call the Office of Emergency Management at 352-742-4850 to make appropriate changes to your special needs information. Every year in May, special needs registrants will be contacted by phone to update their special needs information. If we are unable to contact the registrant by phone, we will mail a postcard.

When should special needs individuals shelter at a County facility?

If a resident with special needs lives in a manufactured home and has not made evacuation plans with family members or friends, sheltering at a County facility is recommended. As shelter conditions are basic at a County facility, special needs residents are encouraged to seek shelter at a site-built home of a family member.

When will Emergency Management officials contact me?

After successfully completing the special needs registration process, you will be contacted in the event of an emergency. We will advise you to prepare and activate your family disaster plan. If you have not made personal evacuation measures or have not secured an alternate sheltering location with a family member, sheltering at a County facility is a temporary safe haven. For those who need transportation, we will contact you directly.

Can I bring my pet to a County special needs shelter?

Pets are only accepted at designated Pet-friendly shelters. Pets must be brought in a carrier that is marked with the owner's name, address and two phone numbers. Owners must have documentation of up-to-date rabies vaccinations for their pets. Owners are responsible for taking care of their pets. It is recommended pet owners bring minimal pet supplies, such as food, water and any medications to a County special needs shelter.

What will the accommodations be like at the County special needs shelter?

Conditions at County evacuation shelters are basic. Special needs evacuees will receive 60 square feet of floor space for themselves and their caregiver. Beds may be available but are not guaranteed. Special needs shelters will have medical staff available to provide limited care for shelter evacuees. Evacuees must bring medications, special equipment (oxygen concentrator, CPAP machine, nebulizer, etc.) and supplies, and any food needed for dietary restrictions with them to the shelter.