

## **Lisa A. Burns**

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**From:** SWA PBC NEWS <swa.pbc.news@swa.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 10:26 AM  
**To:** SWA PBC NEWS  
**Subject:** As hurricane threatens, limit yard work to what is necessary

Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County News

Sept. 5, 2017

Contact: Willie Puz, Public Affairs and Recycling, 561-640-8914 (o); 561-379-2405 (c)

As hurricane threatens, limit yard work to what is necessary

While Palm Beach County is not yet in the cone of uncertainty of Hurricane Irma, this week is NOT the time to do major yard work or begin construction projects.

The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County asks all county residents to:

- Refrain from cutting down whole trees or doing major yard or construction projects until after the storm passes
- Not place any debris at the curb after a Hurricane Watch or Hurricane Warning is issued

Excess yard waste placed curbside may put a strain on collection and disposal efforts, and large piles of new vegetation trimming and construction debris may be left at the curb should the storm impact our area. Mass cutting places a tremendous burden on the collection and disposal processes and there is not enough equipment or manpower to handle the additional material before the storm makes landfall.

Governor Scott has declared a state of emergency for every Florida county to ensure “that local governments have ample time, resources and flexibility to get prepared for this dangerous storm and are not hindered, delayed or prevented from taking all necessary actions to keep communities safe.”

The SWA is working with the PBC Emergency Operations Center to monitor the storm’s potential path to make a determination on any facility closures or cancelled garbage, recyclables and yard waste collections in the unincorporated

parts of the county. But, we need the help of every resident for the efficient removal of debris leading up to and after the storm.

For additional information on debris collection in unincorporated parts of Palm Beach County, contact SWA Customer Information Services at 561-697-2700 or 866-792-4636 (toll-free), or visit [SWA.org/Hurricane](http://www.swa.org/Hurricane).

Residents living within city boundaries should call their local municipality for their bulk collection guidelines. Check the SWA website for municipal contact information <http://swa.org/222/Municipal-Service-List>.

Helpful hurricane resources:

- Learn how to prepare your family by visiting [www.ReadyPBC.org](http://www.ReadyPBC.org).
- Get the PBC Dart app <http://discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/dem/Pages/dart.aspx> on your smart phone.
- Watch a short video from the SWA for tips on putting debris out to the curb [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjREEFIsaOY%22%20target=%22\\_blank](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjREEFIsaOY%22%20target=%22_blank).
- Learn about SWA collection priorities after a storm <http://www.swa.org/153/Before-During-and-After-the-Storm>.
- Learn more from the National Hurricane Center <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>.
- Learn more from the Florida Division of Emergency Management <http://www.floridadisaster.org/getaplan/>.

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The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County is a Dependent Special District that was created by the Florida Legislature in 1975. Since then, the SWA has developed an award-winning integrated solid waste management system to handle the county's waste and recyclables. We call ourselves AWAY: whether you throw it, recycle it or flush it AWAY, we put your waste to work. Each year, we:

- Process approximately 90,000 tons of recyclables <http://www.swa.org/RecycleRight> each year
- Burn approximately 1.8 million tons of trash each year to generate electricity at renewable energy facilities <http://swa.org/364/Renewable-Energy-Facilities>
- Produce enough electricity to power 74,000 homes
- Recycle 150,000 tons of wastewater treatment residuals <http://swa.org/353/Biosolids-Processing-Facility> (sludge from flushes) into environmentally-friendly fertilizer amendment

- Safely dispose of more than 3.6 million pounds of home hazards<<http://swa.org/171/Home-Chemical-Disposal>>
- Collect water off of the roofs of Renewable Energy Facility 2<<http://swa.org/375/Palm-Beach-Renewable-Energy-Facility-2>> and store it in a 2 million gallon cistern, which is used as part of the energy making process

With the recent changes to the SWA's website, anyone can now sign up to receive SWA news, calendar updates, jobs, or other Web postings of interest by signing up online<<http://www.swa.org/list.aspx>>. Should you sign up online to receive SWA's news releases, we can remove you from this distribution by sending a REMOVE reply to this email.

Connect with the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County - [www.SWA.org](http://www.SWA.org)<<http://www.swa.org/>>

<<http://www.facebook.com/SolidWasteAuthority>> <<https://twitter.com/swapbc>>  
<<https://www.linkedin.com/company/solid-waste-authority>> <<https://www.youtube.com/user/SolidWasteAuthority>>  
<<http://www.pinterest.com/swapbc/>> <<http://instagram.com/swapbc/>>

Please note: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most communications to or from the Solid Waste Authority are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, your e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.