

Collier County Government

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Damage Assessment of Residential Structures and Colored Placards Information

Collier County building inspectors, as well as others licensed and contracted by the county to do so, conduct damage assessment of residential structures following a hurricane event.

Building inspectors conduct damage assessments to inform property owners about the visible levels of damage to structures to protect resident's safety and welfare along with guiding recovery efforts. Additionally, this information is shared with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to support disaster declarations. Damage assessment teams may continue to provide assessments in the weeks that follow a hurricane event as required and when requested.

Color coded placards are placed on assessed structures that show visible levels of damage. All placards provide information in English, Spanish, and Creole languages. A description of each placard is below.

Red Tag: The structure is UNSAFE. The structure has been determined to be seriously damaged and may be unsafe to occupy. People entering any part of the structure should use extreme caution. A building permit will be required to repair the structure.

Yellow Tag: The structure should be reserved for RESTRICTED USE and requires cautious entry and use. People entering any part of the structure should use caution. A building permit will be required to repair the structure in most cases.

Blue Tag: The structure shows EVIDENCE OF FLOODING and damage to the foundation and or structure may have occurred. People entering any part of the structure should use caution. A building permit will be required to repair the structure in most cases. Federal law may require additional inspections.

If you have any questions regarding the safety of a structure or if a permit is needed for any damage incurred, please contact the Growth Management Department from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday located at 2800 N. Horseshoe Drive, Naples, Florida 34104 or call (239) 252-2400 and at the Immokalee Permitting Office at 310 Alachua St., Immokalee, Florida 34142 or call (239) 252-5733.

Building permits addressing damages due to a hurricane event will be made a priority. To apply for a building permit online go to <u>http://cvportal.colliergov.net/cityviewweb</u>. Emergency repair work to secure and stabilize structures is allowed to be performed, however, applications for building permits are needed to complete the repair work. Please be advised that permitted repair work must be done by a licensed contractor or as an owner builder.

If you believe a tag was issued in error or would like to have a structure assessed, please call 239-252-2400.