

## **Tropical Storm Fay Alert from Mayor Larry Friedman**

8/18/2008

I just returned from an Emergency City Council meeting called to review approaching Tropical Storm Fay and “providing for emergency governmental operations related to (the storm), if deemed necessary and in conjunction with Charlotte County.” We were shown seven projected storm tracks, each predicated on a different computer model, and basically looking like the projected band that you have no doubt be watching on TV. Unfortunately, the model that our County emergency personnel most rely on shows Fay passing over Cape Haze, as a category 1 hurricane, around 2 p.m. tomorrow afternoon (Tuesday). The maximum anticipated storm surge should not affect homes/property above seven feet.

- As of 2 p.m. this afternoon (Monday), our canal system is declared closed and residents may cross-tie their vessels from both sides of their canal.
- Garbage and recyclables will not be collected tomorrow, for those scheduled for Tuesday service. Do not place garbage/recyclables outside tonight or tomorrow morning, as they represent potential projectiles.
- If anyone requires sandbags, both sand and bags will be available at our Henry St. Public Works facility. You will need to bring your own shovel and fill the bags yourself.

I will be attending a 4:30 p.m. meeting with City Council and staff at our Emergency Operations Center, at which I'll no doubt learn much more. I will send an update email out to you all, as soon as this meeting ends. And remember, the latest information and advisories should be available on our City website:

[www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us](http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us)

Stay prepared, stay safe and stay calm. We all survived Charley and, at worst, Fay will be a far distant relative.

Larry Friedman  
Mayor