

What Happens after Registration

Flagler County Emergency Management and Florida Department of Health - Flagler will review the application to determine eligibility at the Special Needs Shelter.

A phone call to applicants will occur, in order to verify information and discuss eligibility.

Flagler County will contact enrolled Special Needs Shelter clients no more than twice a year to verify information and to continue enrollment.

What Happens if I Need to Evacuate

If Flagler County orders an evacuation for your area and/or for special needs clients, you should immediately implement your personal/family emergency plan, including gathering items necessary for an evacuation.

Your first choice should always be to evacuate to a friend/family home, hotel/motel, or other safe housing outside of the evacuation area.

Flagler County will contact you via phone to inform you of the special needs shelter opening, determine if you will be evacuating to the shelter, and ascertain if you will need transportation assistance.

If you are a Special Needs client, believe you are in an area that has been ordered to evacuate, and you have not been contacted by the County, please verify the evacuation order at:

www.flaglercounty.org/emergency

and/or contact us at

(386) 313-4970

What to evacuate with and/or bring to the Shelter

All items listed on the recommended emergency supply kit, found at www.flaglercounty.org/emergency.

- At least 5 days (preferably 7) worth of all medications, in original containers.
- Any required medical supplies and equipment.
- At least 5 days (preferably 7) worth of non-perishable food necessary for dietary needs or preference.
- Bedding materials to include pillows, blankets, and linens. Clients *may* have access to a cot; caregivers may not.
- Personal items, glasses, hygiene items, clothing, entertainment, etc.
- Important documents: including identification, medical history, insurance (home, rental, medical, etc.).



Special Needs Shelter Program

Flagler County
Emergency Management
1769 E Moody Blvd, Bldg. 3
Bunnell, FL 32110
(386) 313-4970

www.flaglercounty.org/emergency

What is a Special Needs Shelter

A Special Needs Shelter, like other disaster shelters, is a place to stay, when you have no other sheltering option. It should only be used as a back-up to your personal emergency plan.

A Special Needs Shelter provides more care and supervision than a general shelter to help meet your special medical needs during an evacuation.

To the extent possible under emergency conditions, the Special Needs Shelter will provide a safe sheltering environment and basic assistance to maintain your current level of health.

Service animals (for example, dogs or miniature horses) are allowed. Their care is the sole responsibility of the owner.

A caregiver should come with you to maintain, if possible, the level of care you used to getting. The shelter staff will not be able to provide you with one-on-one care.

What to Expect

Special Needs Shelters will have the following:

- Basic food and water- If you require and special food or snacks, you must bring them with you. Food must be non-perishable.
- Basic medical assistance and monitoring; complex medical equipment or care is *not* available.
- An area for you and a caregiver to sleep.
- Limited supply of cots, prioritized by whose conditions need them most.
- Electricity for lighting, air conditioning, and essential medical equipment.

Service Animals and Pets

Flagler County realizes that individuals and families may choose not to evacuate if the safety of their pets is not also ensured.

Flagler County offers a pet-friendly shelter (non-special needs). Information regarding this shelter is available at www.flagleremergency.org/emergency.

While we may not be able to house your pets in your immediate vicinity at the Special Needs Shelter, steps have been taken to ensure that you can evacuate with your pet.

Flagler County has arranged to shelter pets belonging to special needs clients, or their caretakers, in a different building and/or at a different shelter site within the county. Pet owners remain responsible for providing at least 5 days (preferably 7) of food, medications, and supplies for their pets.

As with all emergency shelters within Flagler County, trained **service animals** (as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act) may remain with their owner as long as the service animal remains under control of the individual with the disability and is harnessed, leashed, or tethered (unless devices interfere with the service animal's work, or the individual's disability prevents using these devices.)



Special Needs Shelter Eligibility

Not all individuals will be eligible to shelter in the Special Needs shelter. You may be eligible if you:

- Are dependent upon a health professional to administer medication, including oxygen therapy.
- Require electricity for life supporting medical equipment
- Require daily or more frequent dressing changes by a health care professional.
- Need daily assistance by a health care professional, such as those restricted by immobility, relying on others for basic care.
- Require daily assessment of an unstable medical condition by professional nursing personnel.
- You have special medical needs but do not require hospitalization.
- You need assistance with basic everyday tasks.

REGISTER NOW

All individuals who think they may qualify for evacuation to a Special Needs Shelter should register today, before a disaster impacts our community.

To obtain an application for the Flagler County Special Needs Shelter Program, please contact Flagler County Emergency Management at:

www.flaglercounty.org/emergency

OR

(386) 313-4970