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News Release

Mitigation Experts Continue to Offer Rebuilding Advice

BRANDON, Fla. – As Floridians rebuild, survivors of Hurricane Ian can get free advice on how to rebuild stronger and safer against storms.

FEMA mitigation specialists will be at several locations to answer questions and offer free home improvement tips and proven methods to prevent and lessen damage from future disasters. This information is geared for do-it-yourself work and general contractors.

Mitigation is an effort to reduce the loss of life and property damage by lessening the impact of a disaster. The FEMA specialists will be available during the following dates and locations:

Fort Myers Hurricane Recovery EXPO

Walmart Supercenter 4770 Colonial Blvd, Fort Myers, FL 33966-1034 Saturday and Sunday, November 19 and 20, Noon to 5 p.m.

This location will end on Sunday, Nov. 20:

Home Depot, 3402 Forum Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33905 Hours: Sunday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday – Saturday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Ongoing:

Home Depot 4040 Park Blvd, Pinellas Park, FL 33781 Hours: Sunday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday – Saturday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This location will begin on Monday, Nov. 21:

Home Depot

11941 Bonita Beach Road SE, Bonita Springs, FL 34135 Hours: Sunday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday – Saturday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. The FEMA Mitigation line is available to survivors who are interested in talking with a mitigation specialist about rebuilding stronger. Survivors can call 833-336-2487 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET.

For the latest information on Florida's recovery from Hurricane Ian, visit <u>floridadisaster.org/info</u> and <u>fema.gov/disaster/4673</u>. Follow <u>FEMA Region 4 (@femaregion4) / Twitter</u> and at <u>facebook.com/fema</u>.

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FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.

All FEMA disaster assistance will be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age, disability, limited English proficiency, economic status. If you believe your civil rights are being violated, you can call the Civil Rights Resource line at 833-285-7448.