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County seeks public's help in completing private road indemnity agreements

Sarasota County is asking for the public's help to collect "hold harmless" and right-of-way agreements from owners of private roadways, in advance of the hurricane season. According to Solid Waste Manager Lois Rose, debris cleanup on private roads after a natural disaster is at the discretion of county commissioners, but having signed indemnity agreements on file will allow cleanup to begin sooner for the areas impacted.

"We've already obtained information from some of the legal owners of private roadways within homeowner associations, however, there are still quite a few that we need agreements with," said Solid Waste Manager Lois Rose.

Rose says some of those roads lie in older areas where homeowners associations may have disbanded years ago. In those cases, residents will need to contact the county individually, so they can sign the agreements. The forms will be required if the county removes debris from these areas and then seeks financial reimbursement from FEMA.

"We're asking residents to check and see if their community is among those that have completed the forms," said Rose. "If they haven't, then we are asking them to please contact the legal owner of their roadway and let them know about the project or provide us with the information so we can contact the legal owner."

For more information on which of Sarasota County's roads are public or private, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask for Solid Waste. To see a list of communities that have completed the agreements, visit www.scgov.net.

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