

HELENE/MILTON UPDATE 11/5

(Please see previous updates for additional important information)

All updates available on townofnrb.com

FEMA Substantial Damage Estimates

We have been informed that most of the properties within the town has had the substantial damage estimate completed. This information will be entered into the FEMA calculation resource and letters will be issued regarding as to if the structure has or has not been damaged 50 percent or more.

We have inquired as to a timeline on the issuing of letters but do not have a definitive schedule today. We are continuing to request updates and as we are eager for owners to begin repairs, we will keep you updated with the latest news we have.

Water Damaged Electrical Wire and Cable (Reason for Megger Test)

From Building Official Randy Spears:

Wire and Cable exposed to floodwaters should be replaced to assure a safe and reliable electrical system. When wire and cable products are exposed to water or excessive moisture, the components may be damaged due to mildew or corrosion. This damage can result in insulation or termination failures. The problem can be more severe if the components have been subjected to salt water during hurricanes, etc., or inland flooding where there may be high concentrations of chemicals, oils, fertilizers, etc. Wire and cable that is listed for dry locations only, such as NM-B, should be replaced if it has been exposed to floodwater. NM-B cable contains paper fillers that can pull contaminated water into the cable, which can cause premature cable failure. Flood damaged cable should be replaced to assure a safe and reliable installation.

Products listed for wet locations, such as THWN and XHHW, may be suitable for continued use if no contaminants are present in the cable. There may be problems that show up later because of corrosion of the conductor. This could result in overheating of the conductor. If the ends of a conductor have been exposed to water, the cable may be purged to

remove the water. An insulation resistance test should be conducted before the cable is energized.

All wire or cable products that have been exposed to contaminated floodwater need to be examined by a qualified person, such as an electrical contractor, to determine if the cable can be re-energized. Flood damaged cable may not fail immediately when energized. It may take months for the cable to fail due to damage caused by floodwaters.

Holiday Events

Unfortunately, the lasting effects of Helene and Milton will extend through the holidays. The boat parade, house decorating and golf cart parade has been cancelled.

However, we are still planning on holding our annual tree lighting to the best of our ability. As the electricity was compromised at Radcliffe Park, we may need to change locations if we can't get it repaired in time, but we are determined to bring a bit of holiday cheer to the season. We will keep you updated on location, date and time.

Where can I find additional information?

For updated important information, please visit Pinellas County's Emergency Management website for a full list of resources at:

<https://pinellas.gov/emergency-information/>

Please see previous updates at townofnrb.com for additional town specific information