



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Lake Alfred, FL – FOWA is ready to deploy resources to respond to Hurricane Idalia.

The Florida Onsite Wastewater Association (FOWA) Headquarters and its members are ready to deploy pump trucks throughout Florida as needed in a preemptive strike to contain sewage spills with the approaching hurricane.

FOWA is offering aid to minimize the negative impact that Hurricane Idalia will have on Florida's waterways.

As everyone learned from past hurricanes, the extra rain that hurricanes bring overtax sewer lines causing breaches that lead to the discharge of millions of gallons of raw sewage that can spread over playgrounds, roads, and into Florida's natural water system. Sewer lift stations that can't keep up with the excess are diverted into local waterways to avoid sewage backing up into homes. Power outages from hurricanes can cause septic systems with dosing pumps and lift stations to shut down also causing septage to flow back into homes.

Until these lines have been updated and generators are available for every lift station, the best option available is to have these pump trucks nearby and ready to go. Using pump trucks to properly contain and manage the raw sewage will mean less sewage entering our waterways and aquifers.

FOWA is the state's largest organization for the onsite wastewater industry. Its mission is to promote the science and art of manufacturing and installing onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems (OSTDS). Furthermore, FOWA seeks to advance the standards of manufacturing, installing, repairing, and maintaining onsite treatment receptacles by working toward a uniformly enforced state code containing stringent standards for the design, installation, and service of OSTDS. It does so with a commitment to protecting public health, water resources, and the environment, including the reduction in nutrient loading to Florida's waters.

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