

# Sharks in the Streets, Houses Floating Away as Ian Leaves Mass Devastation

It's the fifth strongest hurricane to ever hit the American mainland, trapping people in flooded homes amid rising floodwaters.

Many who refused to evacuate probably wished they had.

Hurricane Ian made landfall as a Category 4 storm with 150 mile-per-hour top winds, striking Charlotte harbor, south of Tampa, sending a storm surge of 12 to 18 feet through the cities of Fort Myers and Naples.

Fort Myers was left under 4 to 5 feet of water, and half the streets of Naples are impassable.

Sharks were seen swimming in the streets. Video showed a door in Naples blown in from the water. Large boats were pushed around like toys. Houses were seen floating away.

*A shark has been spotted in the streets of Fort Myers. Stay safe, Florida.*

*– Barstool Sports (@barstoolsports) September 28, 2022*

The storm dumped as much as a foot of rain on some cities as it barreled across the Florida Peninsula.

Flash flooding is now a concern as it's expected to drop at least 30 inches of rain in some areas.

The first floor of a Naples fire station was inundated under more than 3 feet of water as firefighters worked to salvage equipment.

Ian will be remembered as one of the worst storms to ever hit the state of Florida, knocking out power to 2.5 million people. But Florida Governor Ron DeSantis says that number is going to grow.

“You’re going to see more power outages as this storm moves through the center part of our state and before it exits into the Atlantic,” DeSantis said.

Before Ian hit, 42,000 linemen were already in place, ready to restore power in 30 different areas across the state.

Rescue teams and state officials are fanning out to help victims and begin assessing damage.

Operation Blessing has already begun assisting in the emergency from their base in Ocala.

Alan Motes with Operation Blessing said, “We’re preparing some pallets of buckets for cleaning, we have plenty of pallets of water also for distribution, and then we have pallets of tarps, all those included in the trucks we’ll be sending out. We have chainsaws and plenty of people who know how to operate those chainsaws, so in the case that we need to do any downed trees or anything of that nature, we’re prepared to help.”

Now a tropical storm, Ian has moved into the Atlantic and is expected to make landfall again in Georgia or South Carolina this weekend, bringing heavy winds, rain and storm surge.  
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