ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
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COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY
James R. Guy, President
Mike Alderson, Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 26, 2026

St. Mary's County Government Declares Local State of Emergency, Announces Consolidated Shelter Location and Recovery Efforts

LEONARDTOWN, MD – November 26, 2026 – In response to significant coastal flooding and storm-related impacts experienced throughout St. Mary's County on Thursday, Nov. 26, 2026, St. Mary's County Government has declared a local State of Emergency and continues to coordinate emergency response and recovery efforts to assist affected residents.

Emergency Shelter

St. Mary's County Government, in coordination with the American Red Cross and St. Mary's County Public Schools, will open a centralized emergency shelter at:

- Leonardtown High School
  23995 Point Lookout Road in Leonardtown

Residents displaced by flooding or otherwise needing or wishing to seek shelter may report to this location. The previously announced temporary shelter locations at the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department and Second District Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad will no longer serve as shelter locations following the transition to Leonardtown High School.

Residents seeking shelter are encouraged to bring essential items, including necessary medications, identification, personal hygiene items, cell phones and chargers.

Ongoing Emergency Response

The county's Emergency Operations Center will continue to coordinate emergency response operations. Emergency personnel continue to respond to storm-related incidents, and the Department of Public Works & Transportation is actively working to clear debris from roadways and maintain access for emergency response vehicles.

Residents are strongly encouraged to limit unnecessary travel overnight to allow emergency personnel and road crews to safely conduct operations.

- MORE -

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Public Safety Reminders

Residents are encouraged to remain vigilant overnight:

- Limit unnecessary travel, particularly in flood-prone areas.
- Never drive or walk through floodwaters.
- Do not drive around road closure barricades.
- Stay away from downed power lines and damaged electrical equipment.
- Remain alert for roadway debris and changing conditions.

St. Mary's County Government continues to coordinate with local and state partners to address immediate needs, assess storm-related impacts and prepare for recovery efforts. For life-threatening emergencies, call 911.

For the latest weather forecasts and alerts, visit weather.gov/lwx. For more information on SMGC, please visit www.stmaryscountymd.gov or follow St. Mary's County Government on Facebook, X, and Instagram for regular updates.

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