

BSI Canal Committee Column November 15, 2022

If you are like me, IAN has left an indelible mark in my psychic that will be with me the rest of my life. Now—having said that, I know that with the right attitude most disasters can end on a positive note. I believe that we can and will rebuild to be stronger than we were before IAN. If you haven't figured it out yet—I'm a "glass half full" type of guy---

Moving on—a few notes-

- 1) The Boating Alliance has re-instituted the "dock sharing" program—if you are interested, contact the Boating Alliance for detail.
- 2) The city has been out reviewing and assessing the condition of our canals. But they recognize the possibility that they may miss some potential problems, such as sunken obstacles. They asked if I would ask our BSI members: as we move through the canals here in BSI, if you find sunken obstacle (specifically any obstacles shallower than 8' at low tide) to notify the city canal maintenance department, defining the location, (probably best with GPS coordinates) of the obstacle and any additional detail of said obstacle. These items will then be added to their work list.
- 3) The city is soliciting potential contractors, able to offer canal clean up services. The city expects the cost of this work to be funded through FEMA. However, this may take some time and they are asking residences to help with cleanup as they can, since there is no timeline on to when said FEMA funded cleanup work can begin. What has been suggested:
 - a. Something like a tree or stump or other large floating object, that can be tied to a dock, or other fixed point, please do so and notify the city of the location of said tree and they will endeavor to remove it quickly.
 - b. General floating trash, etc. to please pick up and collect and add to your general curb side trash pickup. I realize this will require some effort on our part, but this is probably one of the best things we can collectively do to help our community.
- 4) BSI residence are responsible for mitigating soil erosion on their properties. This includes re-directing any flowage such as gutters, etc. to channel flow away from the erosion, including covering with plastic or adding gutters to flow water into the canal. They said that they are very restricted when it comes to private property. So the best advice they can offer it to do

everything you can to stop erosion before it starts creeping up to your foundation.

A final note--- I get to scratch off “surviving a Cat 5 Hurricane” from my bucket list!

Till next time---

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