



Fort Myers, FL

2017 Hurricane

Physical Address

MDS
Riverside Camp and Retreat Center
7305 County Rd 78
Ft Denaud, FL 33935

Mailing Address

7305 County Rd 78
La Belle, FL 33935

Telephone/E-Mail

717-682-6999 Project Director
717-413-5445 Project Office
fortmyers@mds.mennonite.net

Directions: Go South on I-75, then go east at exit 141 and travel on State Rte 80 for 12 miles. Take a left on Broadway St for one mile, cross over a draw bridge. Take a right on N River Rd/County Rd 78 for 5 miles. You should see signs for the Retreat Center on the left – the Retreat Center itself is on the right. **If you plan to use GPS, use the Ft Denaud address to give you more accurate directions.**

Location

Fort Myers is a city of 77,000 and is the commercial center of Lee County, FL. Fort Myers is a gateway to the Southwest Florida region and a major tourist destination within Florida. The area here has a tropical savanna climate, with short warm winters and long hot, humid summers. Many historical figures have had winter estates that are still available to visit here, including Thomas Edison and Henry Ford.

Disaster

Hurricane Irma was the strongest observed hurricane in the Atlantic since Wilma in 2005 in terms of maximum sustained winds. Throughout its long lifetime Irma caused major damage in the Caribbean and the Florida Keys. Irma first made landfall in Florida as a category 4 hurricane and then a second time as a category 3 hurricane.

MDS

Weekly volunteers are working primarily on repairs from Hurricane Irma. We are grateful to be staying at the Riverside Camp and Retreat Center, where we are staying in bunkhouses, with bath houses and dining facilities right onsite.

Transportation Options

It is the responsibility of weekly volunteers to plan, schedule, and pay for their transportation to and from the project in Fort Myers. If you choose to fly in or take a bus or train, you will need to be sure to arrange for transportation from the station to the project, as MDS is not able to pick up weekly volunteers. If you have questions about this, please call the Coordinator for Weekly Volunteers at 800-241-8111.

- The Southwest Florida International Airport is the closest airport, about 15 miles away. Rental cars are available through multiple companies, such as Enterprise (800-736-8222). Taxi service is also available.
- Greyhound has a bus station in Fort Myers about 25 miles from the project site, and can be reached at 800-231-2222.