

Grand Canyon

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the intensity of a hike.

Riesenberg is conscious of this reality. Her organization coordinates a group of trained Preventive Search and Rescue volunteers who monitor Grand Canyon's trails. These rangers talk to hikers, ask where they're going, and check if they're wearing the right shoes and have enough water and snacks.

It gets dangerously hot inside Grand Canyon

Average temperatures on the South Rim range from 81 to 84 degrees from June to August, according to the National Park Service.

But inner Canyon temperatures can range from 101 to 106 degrees. In July 2024, temperatures in the inner Canyon ranged from 106 degrees at Havasupai Gardens to 112 degrees at Phantom Ranch.

The "tremendously hot" weather, as state climatologist Erinanne Saffell phrased it, was part of a pattern of unusually high temperatures throughout the Southwest.

"This has been going on since last year, where we're

looking at these ridges of high pressure, these waves," Saffell told The Republic.

"In June 2023 it was so much colder than normal (in the Grand Canyon), I was concerned that a lot of the monsoon would happen and that was the case. ... We've had above average temperatures reaching the top echelons for most of the year. We got some relief with the winter precipitation, but it's been exceptionally hot."

How do you stay safe at the Grand Canyon?

Park rangers offer these tips for keeping safe at Grand Canyon:

- Wear sunblock and a hat, drink water and/or electrolyte drinks and take your time and rest often when hiking in summer.
- Check the weather ahead of time and be mindful of excess heat and the potential for rain or lightning. Grand Canyon's website provides updates on the daily heat risk.
- Carry as much water as you'll need for your trek. Potable water may not be available along your route. Bring a water filter or water treatment drops on extended trips. Do not drink untreated water.
- Call 911 in an emergency, but know that your phone may not work everywhere.

Inspections

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results in extra and unnecessary expenses.

The preventive approach has not been a hit with customers like Denise Lapp, 63, of Deerfield Beach, who recently received word that her Citizens policy was being canceled. Soon after her inspection last month, she said she got a call from her insurance agent informing her that Citizens was canceling her policy coverage because of a trampoline she recently purchased.

"That is the biggest BS story I ever heard," said Lapp, who works as a real estate agent.

A shifting model of liability

As property insurance companies' profit margins have grown slim to nonexistent in Florida and nationally, Citizens, which is backed by the state, and private insurers say they are acting to seek repairs and mitigation before costs to them are incurred. They say they are trying to prevent losses from happening by inspecting for leaks, hanging tree branches and out-of-date electrical equipment, to name a few.

Adams also told the Citizens committee that more inspections, which create a more complete record of a property's condition, are making it more likely that private insurers will underwrite a policy and take it out

of Citizens, which is also a long-held goal for the company.

Citizens is Florida's insurer of last resort and has sought to reduce the number of policies on its books in order to reduce its own financial exposure.

Because it has the power to impose assessments on all property insurance policyholders if its losses outstrip its means, the nonprofit's proceedings are subject to the state's open government policy.

The Citizens Board of Governors met last week in Lake Mary, in one of the 61 counties covered under an emergency declaration as Helene, a "major hurricane," prepared to hit the upper Gulf Coast.

Citizens' Actuarial and Underwriting Committee, charged with reviewing the company's level of exposure and underwriting policies, on September 24 unanimously agreed to add \$41.5 million to cover inspections through September 2029. The full board approved the expenditure Wednesday.

Citizens' governing committees also heard that the number of policies Citizens is carrying has dropped from last year's high of 1.412 million to about 1.25 million at present. The board heard that, by the end of the year, the number of policyholders is expected to drop to 891,184, a new low not seen since May 2022, before Hurricane Ian devastated the southwest coast.

Lapp said she couldn't believe her trampoline presented too much of a liability for Citizens.

"It has netting all around it" to catch anyone who falls, she said.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Martin County Board of County Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on **October 22, 2024** beginning at **9:00 A.M.**, or as soon thereafter as the item may be heard to consider adoption of the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE OF MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, REGARDING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT 24-23, THREE LAKES GOLF CLUB TEXT, AMENDING THE TEXT OF CHAPTER 4, FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE MARTIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING PROVISIONS, SEVERABILITY, AND APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR FILING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Three Lakes Golf Club LLC (also known as Apogee) submitted a text amendment, CPA 24-23 Three Lakes Golf Club to amend Policy 4.13A.18 (C)(8) concerning golf cottages.

All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard. The public hearing will be held in the Commission Chambers on the first floor of the Martin County Administrative Center, 2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida 34996. Written comments may be mailed to: Paul Schilling, Director, Martin County Growth Management Department, 2401 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida 34996. For further information, including copies of the original application or agenda items, contact Clyde Dulin, Comprehensive Planning Administrator at (772) 221-2327.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding are entitled, at no cost, to the provision of certain assistance. This does not include transportation to and from the meeting. Please contact the Office of the ADA Coordinator at (772) 320-3131, or the Office of the County Administrator at (772) 288-5400, or in writing to 2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL, 34996, no later than three days before the hearing date. Persons using a TTY device, please call 711 Florida Relay Services.

If any person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at the meetings or hearings of any board, committee, agency, council, or advisory group, that person will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record should include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

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