

NRE Hurricane Preparedness Plan

Management Directives and HOC Board of Directors

Community Mass Communications- If an impending hurricane or dangerous weather event for SW Florida is reported, notification from management should be conveyed to owners throughout mass media formats, eblast/websites and all Facebook venues. As the storm gets closer, we need to make every effort to locate any special needs residents through any mass media platform and make plans for those residents if possible. Some of this can be done in advance of any storm event just through conversations with other owners or directed at community meetings. It can be painstaking, but it is necessary. If an owner has convinced themselves that they want to stay through a storm event, then office/management should have a list of the residents so those units can be checked when first responders are allowed back in the park to start damage evaluations. The time to prepare for a hurricane is before the season begins, when you have the time and are not under pressure. If you wait until a hurricane is on your doorstep, the odds are that you will be under duress and will make the wrong decisions.

Take the time now to create and write down your hurricane plan. Know who issues evacuation orders for our area and community, determine locations on where you will ride out the storm, and start to get your supplies now. Being prepared before a hurricane threatens makes you safer from the hurricanes impact of wind and water. It could mean the difference between being a hurricane victim or a hurricane survivor.

1. Emergency Alert System (EAS)

The [Emergency Alert System \(EAS\)](#) is a national public warning system that allows the president to address the nation within 10 minutes during a national emergency. [State and local authorities](#) may also use the system to deliver important emergency information such as weather information, imminent threats, AMBER alerts and local incident information targeted to specific areas.

2. NOAA Weather Radio (NWR)

[NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards \(NWR\)](#) is a nationwide network of radio stations that broadcast continuous weather information from the nearest National Weather Service office based on your physical location.

3. FEMA Mobile App

The [FEMA App](#) allows you to receive real-time weather and emergency alerts, send notifications to loved ones, locate emergency shelters in your area, get preparedness strategies and more.

4. Insurance Check Up

Call your insurance company or agent and ask for an insurance check-up to make sure you have enough insurance to repair or even replace your home and/or belongings. Remember, home insurance doesn't cover flooding, so you'll need a separate policy for it.

Flood insurance is available through your company, agent, or the National Flood Insurance Program at [floodsmart.gov](https://www.floodsmart.gov). Act now, as flood insurance requires a 30-day waiting period and if there is a named storm out in the ocean or gulf, they will not write an insurance policy until the named storm has dissipated.

5. Hurricane Evacuation Plan

Find out if you live in a hurricane evacuation zone. You may also need to leave if you live in a flood prone area or in a mobile home outside a hurricane evacuation zone. Now is the time to begin planning where you would go and how you would get there.

You do not need to travel hundreds of miles. Your destination could be a friend or relative who lives in a well-built home outside flood or wind prone areas. Be sure to account for your pets in your plan.

As hurricane season approaches, listen to local officials on questions related to how you may need to adjust any evacuation plans based on the latest [health and safety guidelines from the CDC](#) and your local officials.

6. Sheltering for a Weather Emergency

Owners are ultimately responsible for their safety plans. It is not the responsibility of the HOC, Board of Directors, or Management to make sure each owner's home or individuals are safe. They maintain the park as a whole (common areas, common area buildings, fences, roadways etc.), but you are responsible for securing your units. Letting the park know if you're staying in your unit or leaving- **that is a priority for owners**. When management and safety personnel are allowed back into the park for the initial evaluations, locating owners and retrieval of owners is a priority for first responders. If we do not convey that prior to the event, it makes management's job that much harder. If you are dead set on staying in your mobile home during the event, please use the check list below, it might give you the best chance for survival. Whether you're evacuating or planning to ride out the storm in your home, make sure it is in good repair and up to local hurricane building code specifications to withstand wind impacts. Many retrofits are not as costly or time-consuming as you may think.

Have the proper plywood, steel, or aluminum panels to board up the windows and doors. Remember, the garage door is the most vulnerable part of the home, so it must be able to withstand the winds.

Many people rely on their neighbors before and after a disaster, and there are many ways you can help them. Learn about all the different actions you and your neighbors can take to prepare for and recover from the hazards associated with hurricanes.

Start the conversation now with these Neighbor Helping Neighbor strategies but remember you may need to adjust your preparedness plans based on the latest [health and safety guidelines](#) from your local officials.

For shelters and escape route information, see the attached Evacuation and Rally Point list.

Here are some tips for sheltering in place:

- Local authorities may not immediately be able to provide information on what is happening and what you should do so be aware of the possibilities before the storm happens.
- Pay attention to local media outlets for official news and instructions as they become available.
- Lock doors, close windows, air vents and fireplace dampers if applicable.
- Turn off fans, air conditioning and forced air heating systems.
- Take your emergency supply kit unless you have reason to believe it has been contaminated.
- Go into an interior room with as few windows as possible.
- Seal all windows, doors, and air vents with a substantial material such as plywood or some type of metal hurricane product.
- Be prepared to improvise and use what you have on hand to seal gaps so that you create a barrier between yourself and any contamination.

Below is a list of supplies you should probably have in an emergency.

- Water (one gallon per person per day for several days, for drinking and sanitation)
- Food (at least a several-day supply of non-perishable food)
- Prescription medications
- Non-prescription medications
- Eyeglasses
- Cash
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert
- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Extra batteries
- Whistle (to signal for help)
- Dust mask (to help filter contaminated air)
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape (to shelter in place)
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties (for personal sanitation)
- Wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities)

- Manual can opener (for food)
- Local maps
- Feminine supplies
- Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery
- Paper and pencils

There is a more in-depth Emergency Kit list attached. Please read.

If you are set on staying in your mobile home (Note it is recommended by every government agency and hurricane preparedness agency that you should never stay in your mobile home, it is UNSAFE!) But if you do decide to stay, try to get to the inner most portion of your home if possible. If the worst happens and the structure is compromised, try to get to the bathroom tub/shower structure and cover yourself with a mattress or something like that to protect your body from flying debris.

Mass Care Shelter (best option if you live in a mobile home)

Mass care shelters provide life sustaining services to disaster survivors. Even though mass care shelters often provide water, food, medicine and basic sanitary facilities, you should plan to take your [emergency supply kit](#) with you so you will have the supplies you need. Mass care sheltering can involve living with many people in a confined space, which can be difficult and unpleasant.

- Be prepared to take cleaning items with you like, soap, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes or general household cleaning supplies to [disinfect surfaces](#).
- All shelters accept service animals, but many public shelters and hotels do not allow pets inside. Know a safe place where you can take your pets before disasters and emergencies happen.

Search for open shelters by texting **SHELTER** and your **ZIP code** to **43362**. **Example: Shelter 01234** (standard rates apply).

Learn more by visiting: <http://www.disasterassistance.gov/>.

Hurricane aftermath and returning home.

- Management and the Board of Directors should take the lead on recovery and repair efforts, unless a committee has been set up prior to the event, but normally management will have the resources and experience to direct the clean-up and recovery of the community. The Board should have a recovery team and a set recovery vendor list for the community to ensure all services are safe for owners/residents returning to the park for the storm cleanup process.
- Safety should be their first concern and the ability to have the community roadways cleared of debris for relatively safe travel back to residents' units. The maintenance staff should be mobilized to clear roadways.
- Owners should not be allowed to return to their homes unless roads are cleared of power lines, fallen trees, unit debris and utility inspections have been done.
- Unit owner utility service shut down check. The recovery team should go to each unit to make sure the power and water have been shut down to each unit prior to owners returning to the park, if possible. If the utilities have been compromised enough, your preset vendors will have to survey the electrical utilities for power and your plumbing supply/sewer chains are in good shape and have not been compromised. That may very well be a governmental requirement for the community, but it should be the standard for the community in any event.
- Management should also make sure that common area buildings, individual units and amenity utilities are shut down prior to allowing residents back in the park. This will reduce the chances of liability for the association in case someone sustains an injury on common property or even their own personal unit.
- Management should also have a list of clean up/debris removal vendors for community wide clean up and a process for unit removal for owners if needed. There should also be a volunteer force within the community and that should be activated whenever a weather event takes place and unit owner volunteers are allowed back to the community.
- Food and supplies for residents that may have their units compromised due to the storm event. There may be no power and water for units. Have a site plan to help community members in place (a central location, main clubhouse-kitchen facilities), food, water, and power supplies to one main area of the community. Have a large generator reserved with one of the main equipment rental companies in our area to help provide power for unit owners who need a sheltered area and their basic needs for their short-term survival.

Cleaning up and rebuilding in any event like a hurricane as we have found out is a long and tedious process. It is crucial that the Board of Directors and especially Management have a clear-cut plan to rebuild and supply all the essential needs of the community members. It is

also equally important for each owner to accept what has happened and to work as a team helping others if possible. Management or the disaster team leader must take the lead on the repair process. It should be one central voice moving the community forward and back to normal as much as possible.

Listed below are some basic procedures for owners and team members for cleanup once the recovery process begins.

- Pay attention to local officials for hurricane aftermath information and special instructions.
- Be careful during clean up. Wear protective clothing, use appropriate face coverings or masks if cleaning mold ridden debris or any other debris. People with asthma and other lung conditions and/or immune suppression issues should not enter buildings with indoor water leaks or mold growth that can be seen or smelled, even if these individuals are not allergic to mold. Children should not help with disaster cleanup work.
- Wear protective clothing and work using the partner system in case of injury. During emergencies, communication systems will most likely be down and we need to depend on the buddy system for our personal safety.
- Do not touch electrical equipment if it is wet or if you are standing in water. If it is safe to do so, turn off electricity at the main breaker or fuse box to prevent electric shock to each home or common area and wait for the electrical vendor to inspect and deem it safe to reenergize that area or home.
- Do not wade in flood water, which can contain dangerous pathogens that cause illnesses. This water also can contain debris, chemicals, waste and wildlife. Underground or downed power lines also can electrically charge the water.
- Save phone calls for emergencies. Phone systems often are down or busy after a disaster. Use text messages or social media to communicate with family and friends when possible.
- Document any property damage with photographs. Contact your insurance company for assistance.
- Keep an eye out for community wide communications either by text, eblasts or social media such as Facebook. Communication will be at best slow or non-existent. Even a central location where a community chalk/caulk board would be located is another solution when power and communications are down/slow to communicate with owners. Look to your neighbors or that centralized location within the community for a power source if you are without power.

- The Board of Directors and/or management should make every effort to get one location back up and running if we have an event, that should be a top priority for the Board and/or Management.

Evacuation Centers

1. Booker High School - 3201 N. Orange Ave. Sarasota
2. Fruitville Elementary- 601 Honoré Ave. Sarasota
3. Southside Elementary- 1901 Webber St. Sarasota
4. Philippi Shores Elementary- 4747 S. Tamiami Tr. Sarasota
5. Riverview High School- 1 Ram Way Sarasota
6. Gulf Gate Elementary- 6500 S. Lockwood Ridge Rd. Sarasota
7. Woodland Middle School- 2700 Panacea Blvd. North Port
8. North Port High School- 6400 W. Price Blvd. North Port
9. Heron Creek Middle School-6501 W. Price Blvd. North Port
10. Atwater Elementary- 4701 Huntsville Ave. North Port
11. Taylor Ranch Elementary- 2500 Taylor Ranch Trail, Venice

Rally Points

- A. Laurel Park 509 Collins Road, Nokomis B.
- B. Venice Community Center 326 Nokomis Ave. S., Venice
- C. Suncoast Technical College N. Cranberry Blvd., North Port
- D. Garden Elementary School 700 Center Road, Venice
- E. George Mullen Activity Center 1602 Kramer Way, North Port
- F. North Port Library 13800 Tamiami Trail, North Port
- G. Buchan Airport Community Park 1390 Old Englewood Road, Englewood
- H. Englewood Sports Complex 1300 S. River Road, Englewood

If you cannot drive to an evacuation center

Sarasota County will provide bus transportation for you and your pets (along with a limited number of supplies) to and from a general population evacuation center.

This program is activated only when Sarasota County has a declared county emergency, an activation is ordered, and evacuation centers are opened. Transportation will be offered at designated rally points throughout the county.

Keep in mind...

- Transport will be provided by Sarasota County Area Transit and school district buses.
- Space on buses will be limited.
- Riders must bring a face mask and be prepared to wear it on the bus.
- Baggage is limited to two carry-on sized bags per person that can be stored under a seat or held in lap.
- Pets must be in a crate or carrier, and you must bring all pet supplies.
- Passengers cannot specify what shelter they will be transported to.
- All transportation will cease when landfall is expected within eight hours.

Local Hotels for Evacuation

1. Town Place Suites by Marriot- 2986 Executive Dr. Venice Fl. 941-879-9100
2. Ramada by Windham, Hotel Venezia- 425 US HWY 41 Bypass, Venice 941-315-8474
3. Best Western Ambassador Suites- 400 Commercial Ct. Venice 941-480-9898
4. Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriot- 2935 Executive Dr. Venice 941-488-4343
5. Home 2 Suites by Hilton- 227 Albee Rd. Nokomis 941-412-0064
6. Holiday Inn Express- 380 Commercial Ct. Venice 941-584-6800
7. Bentley's Boutique Hotel- 1660 s. Tamiami Tr. N Osprey 941-485-8255
8. Motel 6- 281 Venice Bypass N. Venice 941-485-8255

Emergency Kit is crucial to prepare for a disaster and it's important to make sure you didn't forget something vital. The list below should give you a start, but it is not comprehensive. This is

something we should be starting to put together now for the 2023 Hurricane season. Many things are on the list you might not need, but we will list them just so you think about them as our preparing to evacuate or go to a shelter.

- Batteries
- Blankets, Pillows, Towels
- Can Opener (not electric)
- Cash
- Charcoal if you're sheltering in place.
- Clock-Battery Operated
- Clean-up Supplies
- Clothing/Rain Gear
- Cooking Tools/Fuel
- Cooler & Ice
- Fire Extinguisher
- First Aid Kit
- Flashlight
- Fuel Tanks Filled
- Important Documents in a watertight receptacle
- Keys
- Masking Tape
- Matches/Lighter
- Mosquito Repellent
- Non-perishable Food
- Paper Towels
- Plates, Cups, Utensils
- Photo ID
- Prescriptions for 1 Month
- Safe Shelter Plans
- Sleeping Bags/Mats
- Toilet Paper
- Toiletries
- Tools for cleanup

- Trash Bags
 - Water & Purification Kit
 - Weather Radio
 - **Pet Owners**
 - Pet Carrier
 - Pet Food
 - Pet Medicines
- *Blue bucket w/lid from Lowes-seals, holds lots of stuff, MANY good uses
 - *Heavy duty foil- use on ground for charcoal-(contains protective of ground/area - military/camping/scout truck) wraps food
 - *Batteries- hearing aid
 - *Ace bandages
 - *Peroxide
 - *Car/house/Shed/Safe keys/VIE fob
 - *Baggies-asst sizes
 - *Tylenol/Aleve
 - *Phone etc charges - (when u have power)
 - *Gal jugs H2O several for washing, flushing, drinking
 - *Contacts AND Glasses
 - *Write down important phone numbers you may need. i.e. family, dear friends, medical, emergency of any kind... you may not be able to reach by cell but may be by land lines....
 - ***By all means pack your favorite wine, beer, or libation.... Heaven knows you may need the sippy cup 🧐

Please remember, this document does cover a lot of information, not all of it applies to each possible event. It is just meant to give you some ideas on what you might need if we have another hurricane in our area. Be smart and prepare early. It is your best chance at survival for you and your home.