

# **Sunset Harbor Owners Association, Inc.**

3873 South Banana River Blvd. • No. 5000 • Cocoa Beach • FL • 32931

## **HURRICANE / DISASTER PREPAREDNESS**

April 2019

# EMERGENCY ACTION

**In the event of a mandatory evacuation, Sunset Harbor will be placed in a sub-operational configuration with very limited facilities. Inconveniences can be anticipated, possibly for a long period of time, even upon return to the community after a disaster. When evacuating, do not wait until the last moment as you can expect congested roadways especially since we will be evacuating from the Barrier Island and evacuation routes are limited. Cooperation, tolerance and consideration for others are very important in times like this.**

Check early: Be sure that you have all supplies that you might need prior to a hurricane approaching our area. Take all necessary preparations to ensure that your family, your pets, your condominium unit and your community are as safe as possible.

## **Before leaving your condo:**

- In advance, turn your refrigerator down to a lower setting so that it will stay cold longer during a power outage.
- Disconnect all other appliances, televisions and computers.
- Fill your vehicle's gas tank.
- Notify family and/or friends where you will go if evacuation is necessary.
- Remove all personal items from the exterior of your condominium unit, walkways and balconies, including welcome mats and all furniture. Flying objects and debris can cause extensive damage.
- Organize important papers, including the insurance policy for your unit. Protecting these in a water proof container is recommended.
- Videotape or photograph your property and belongings. This will help later with insurance claims.
- In case of mandatory evacuation, know your evacuation route and shelter locations.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Power and water/sewage are lost during severe storms. **DO NOT** attempt to flush toilets, use dishwashers, or washing machines once power and/or water use is lost. **DO NOT** use the above until city officials give notice that utilities are operational.

### **Plan for the following at a shelter:**

- Be sure to take enough non-perishable food and supplies to last several days. Including special diet foods, as food may not be available at a shelter. Take disposable dishes and trash bags
- Bring bottled water (2 quarts/person/day and other beverages/juices/soft drinks.
- Bring a manual can opener, utensils, paper plates, cups and napkins/paper towels
- Have a 2 week supply of medications and a First Aid kit
- Cash or travelers checks
- Sleeping bags, blankets, pillows, folding chairs. BEDDING IS NOT PROVIDED IN PUBLIC SHELTERS
- Personal hygiene items and changes of clothing
- Flashlight, battery powered radio/TV and spare batteries, cards, games, books
- Pets, except for Guide Dogs, will only be allowed at pet-Friendly Shelters
- **ALCOHOL is not** allowed in shelters
- **WEAPONS are not** allowed at shelters

Become familiar with evacuation routes and the location of shelters in our area.

Residents requiring special assistance for physical or medical reasons should register with Brevard County Emergency Management at 321-637-6670. The County's Special Needs Program will assist you in leaving our Community in case of an emergency and offers shelter for people with special needs.

Have a list of family and emergency contact phone numbers, support persons, emergency shelters, police, and fire department etc.

Should a hurricane approach, the Association will take the necessary steps to secure the property. Should an evacuation order be issued, we also will leave the Community. Board members will return to the Community as soon as it is safe for us to travel on the roads.

## **IMPORTANT**

Listen to Hurricane updates on the television and the radio. Follow recommendations issued for prior to, during and after a hurricane.

PLEASE, do not be complacent! Do not underestimate the potential dangers associated with ALL hurricanes.

If advised to evacuate, please do so. By not following issued instructions you are not only endangering your safety but also the safety of other residents of our community, the safety of area residents and the safety of emergency workers.

Should a mandatory evacuation be declared and you chose to remain in your condominium unit, emergency personnel will have no obligation to respond to your calls for assistance.

### **“KNOWLEDGE is POWER”**

Take responsibility and KNOW what to do before, during and after any potentially devastating storm.

## **DEFINITIONS**

### **Tropical Disturbance**

This is the first stage of unstable weather that could escalate. No strong wind but there is rotary circulation.

### **Tropical Depression**

Clearly defined low-pressure area with highest wind speeds of 38 mph

### **Tropical Storm**

A low-pressure area with a defined rotary circulation. Winds range from 39 to 73 mph.

### **Tropical Storm Watch**

An announcement that a tropical storm or one that might be developing poses a threat to an area, generally within 36 hours.

### **Tropical Storm Warning**

An announcement that tropical storm conditions with 39 to 73 mph sustained winds may hit a specific area within 24 hours.

### **Hurricane**

Is a violent storm originating over tropical or subtropical waters with sustained winds over 74 mph. The winds, as in tropical depressions and storms, blow around the center in a counterclockwise direction. The diameter of these storms may range from 200 to 2,000 miles

### **Hurricane Watch**

An announcement that a hurricane poses a threat to specific area, generally within 36 hours

### **Hurricane Warning**

An **ALERT** that a hurricane is expected to hit a specific area within 24 hours. In instances where the course of a hurricane is erratic, this alert may be issued only a few hours before hurricane conditions begin.

### **Storm Surge**

Rapidly rising tides as storm makes landfall. Salt water flooding cripples communications, overwhelms storm sewers, and may contaminate drinking water supplies. Check the County Emergency Management Web Site to find surge area information for our area.

### **Hurricane Categories**

Category 1; 74 - 95 mph

Category 2; 96 - 110 mph

Category 3; 111 - 130 mph

Category 4; 131 – 155 mph

Category 5; greater than 155 mph

### **Tornado**

The most violent of atmospheric phenomena. Winds whirl at up to 300 mph. A spinning tornado may sound like the roar of an aircraft or train. Tornadoes move at an average speed of 30 mph and may be very erratic. Tornadoes are usually short-lived and may be extraordinarily destructive over a small area.

### **Water Spout**

A tornado over water

### **Tornado Watch**

An announcement that a severe weather condition exists that may spawn a tornado.

### **Tornado Warning**

Means a tornado was sighted. The announcement generally gives the expected course of the tornado.

## **EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

Brevard County Emergency Management	(321) 637-6670
Police & Fire Emergencies	911
Cocoa Beach Police Department Non-Emergency	(321) 868-3251
Brevard County Sheriff Department Non-Emergency	(321) 633-7162
Utilities	
City of Cocoa Water & Sewer	(321) 433-8700
FPL – Outages	(800) 4 OUTAGE
Federal Emergency Information Line Only activated during disasters	(800) 345-3557
FEMA	(850) 413-9900
American Red Cross – Space Coast Chapter	(321) 890-1002
Department of Elder Affairs	(800) 963-5337