

Sarasota County EVACUATION LEVELS & CENTERS



County Evacuation Guidelines

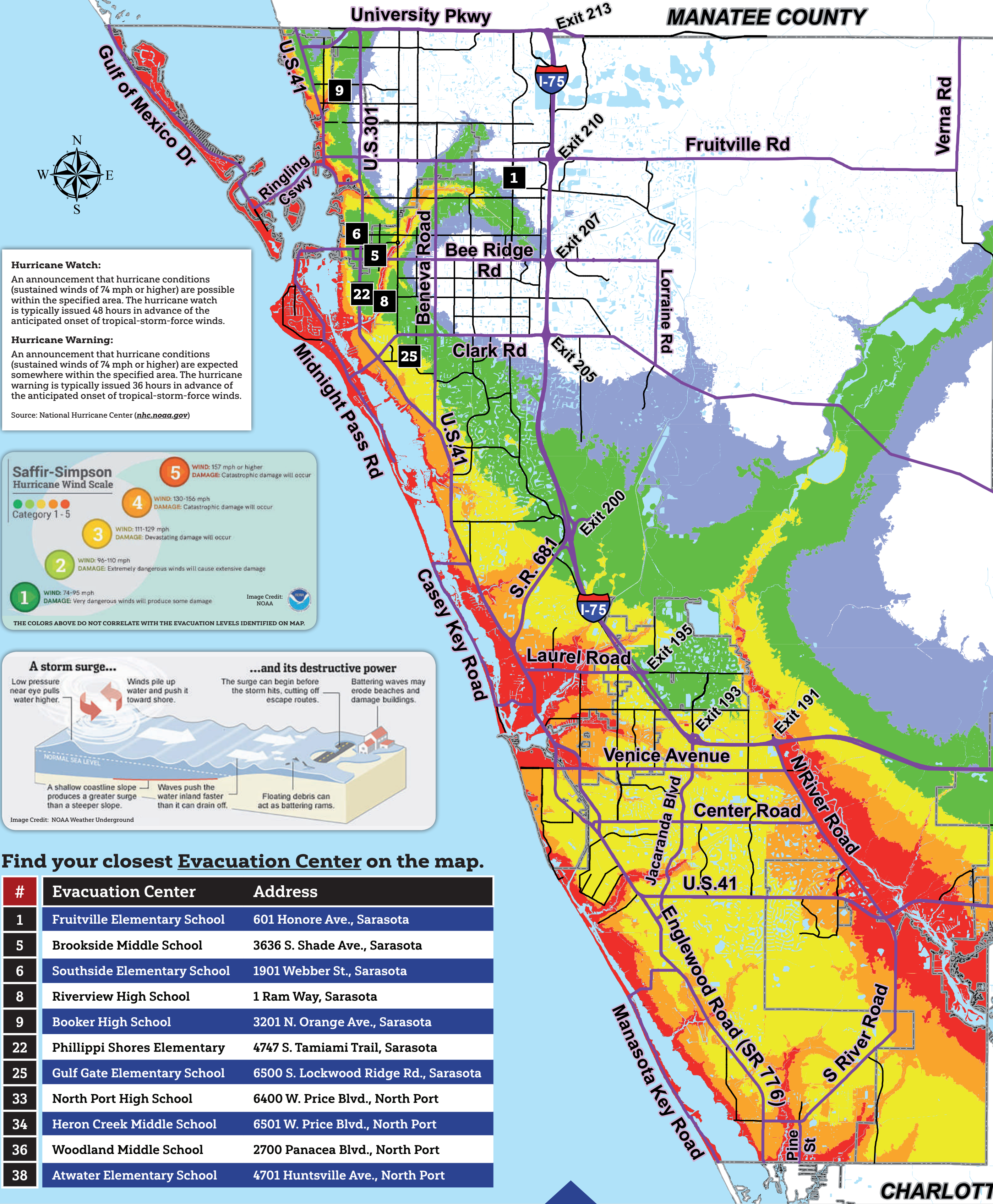
Potential Storm Surge Heights (in feet)		
A Up to 10'	Evacuate red areas and all mobile home/RV residents	
B Up to 14'	Evacuate red and orange areas and all mobile home/RV residents	
C Up to 18'	Evacuate red, orange, and yellow areas and all mobile home/RV residents	
D Up to 26'	Evacuate red, orange, yellow, and green areas and all mobile home/RV residents	
E Up to 32'	Evacuate red, orange, yellow, green, and purple areas and all mobile home/RV residents	

Evacuation Routes

Find your home's Evacuation Level at:
scgov.net or ags3.scgov.net/knowyourlevel

My Evacuation Level is (fill below):

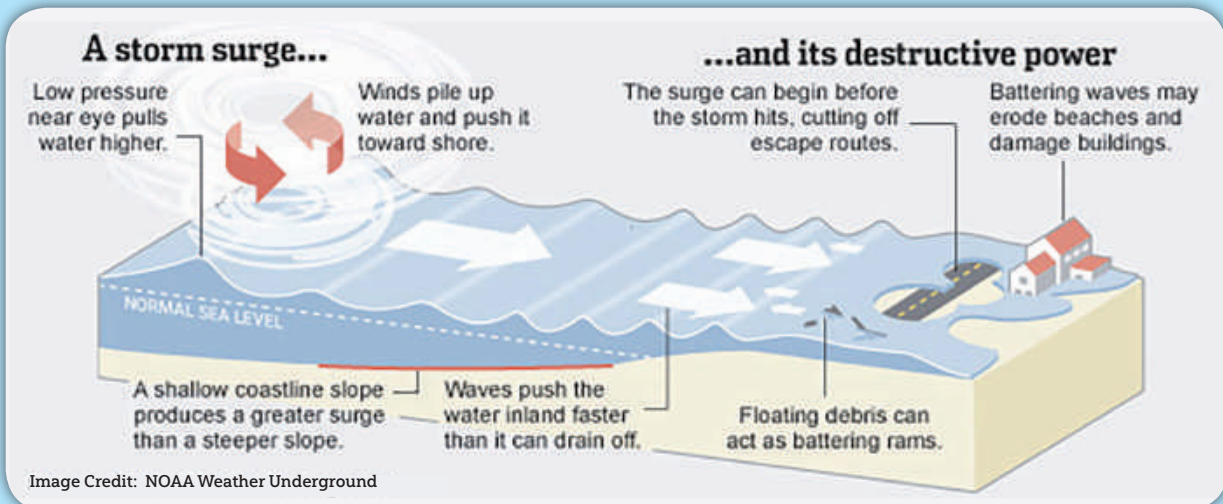
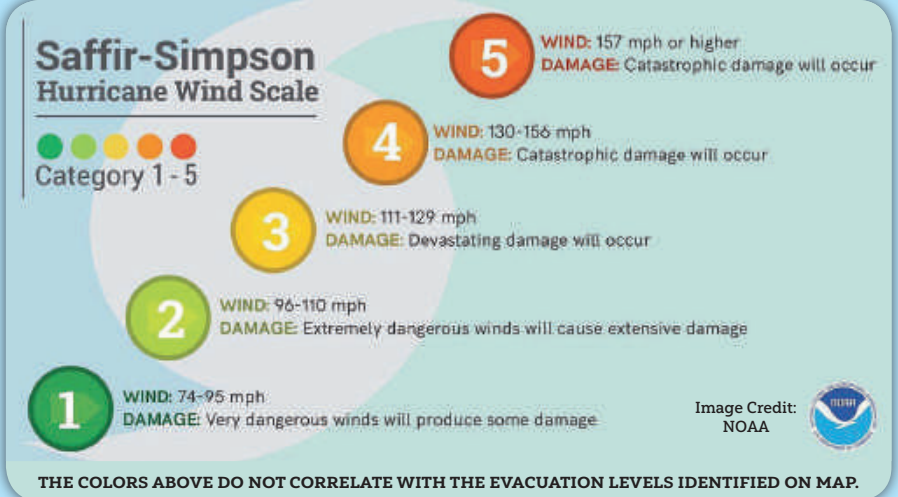
Residents in mobile homes, RVs, and manufactured homes **MUST EVACUATE** no matter where they are located in the county.



Hurricane Watch:
An announcement that hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are expected within the specified area. The hurricane watch is typically issued 48 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical-storm-force winds.

Hurricane Warning:
An announcement that hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are expected somewhere within the specified area. The hurricane warning is typically issued 36 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical-storm-force winds.

Source: National Hurricane Center (nhc.noaa.gov)



Find your closest Evacuation Center on the map.

#	Evacuation Center	Address
1	Fruitville Elementary School	601 Honore Ave., Sarasota
5	Brookside Middle School	3636 S. Shade Ave., Sarasota
6	Southside Elementary School	1901 Webber St., Sarasota
8	Riverview High School	1 Ram Way, Sarasota
9	Booker High School	3201 N. Orange Ave., Sarasota
22	Phillippi Shores Elementary	4747 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota
25	Gulf Gate Elementary School	6500 S. Lockwood Ridge Rd., Sarasota
33	North Port High School	6400 W. Price Blvd., North Port
34	Heron Creek Middle School	6501 W. Price Blvd., North Port
36	Woodland Middle School	2700 Panacea Blvd., North Port
38	Atwater Elementary School	4701 Huntsville Ave., North Port

Shelter-in-Place

You may be able to shelter-in-place if you live outside of a flood hazard area in a home built under the 2002 Building Code or after. Additional measures such as placing shutters over windows and having doors that can withstand wind pressure and debris impact can make your home a safer place to ride out a storm.

Your shelter-in-place location should contain enough non-perishable food, blankets, communication equipment (such as radios), alternate power sources, first aid supplies, necessary medications, and any required durable medical equipment (e.g., hearing aid batteries, catheters) to allow self-sustainability in that location for a minimum of 72 hours.

For a detailed list of supplies recommended for home emergency supply kits, consult ready.gov.

How do I know if I need to go to an Evacuation Center?

Local authorities will give evacuation orders for areas with significant risk of damage resulting from a high wind or surge event. If you are not in the identified areas, you can choose to remain in your home. **Evacuating unnecessarily can cause overcrowded Evacuation Centers and traffic jams.**

Evacuation Centers

In the event of a community emergency, Sarasota County has Evacuation Centers for residents and visitors available as a last resort.

A hurricane Evacuation Center is a facility that provides increased protection to the public from high winds and/or storm surge. They are designated by Sarasota County and operated in partnership between Sarasota County and the Sarasota County School Board. It is a place to ride out the storm that may or may not be comfortable with very limited provisions.

Become familiar with the information provided and make sure everyone in your household knows the following facts:

- o Current Evacuation Center information is available from local radio and television stations, the Sarasota County Contact Center at **941-861-5000**, and Access Sarasota (Comcast ch. 19/Frontier ch. 32). More information is available on the county website, scgov.net.
- o Evacuation Centers will open based on the nature and timing of the threat to the county.
- o All Sarasota County Evacuation Centers welcome properly crated and supplied dogs and cats. Current vaccination records are required for dogs and cats.
- o Never go to an Evacuation Center unless local officials have announced it is open. Stay tuned to local media for a listing of Evacuation Centers that will be open. Openings may differ by size and intensity of a disaster. [See map list above.](http://scgov.net)

Evacuation Centers are opened for the single purpose of protecting life. We open them based on the ability of that facility to withstand the forecasted wind effects and storm surge.

Evacuation Centers do not have generators and offer no services other than a very basic food provision, water, and 20 sq. ft. per person of floor space. There are no cots, pillows or blankets provided. Evacuees must bring their own bedding and supplies.

Power loss results in no air conditioning. It is a public environment where there are large numbers of people in close proximity to each other. The one thing all evacuees have in common is they are seeking protection from intense weather.

Medically-Dependent Evacuation Centers

Sarasota County residents with qualifying medical needs are encouraged to apply NOW for registration as a medically-dependent person (MDP).

Examples of qualifying medical needs include the use of oxygen or use of medical equipment that requires electricity.

It is important to apply in advance for this program so, if qualified, you will be on the county's registry for transportation and sheltering at a medically-dependent Evacuation Center during a disaster. Pre-registration helps us to help you when time is limited. To apply or for more information visit scgov.net and search for "medical needs" or call **941-861-5000**.



Medically-dependent (upon prior registration): 60 sq. ft. of space is available for one medically-dependent person, one caregiver, and all necessary items.



Important: The online registration process will cease when landfill is expected within 60 hours.

Using Your County Map Hurricane Threat

1. Locate where you live and work on the map.
2. Determine whether you are in an evacuation area, and if so, what level (color).
3. If you are in an evacuation area, or live in a mobile home/RV, decide where you will go if ordered to evacuate.

Your choices include:

- o Home of a relative or friend outside the evacuation level.
- o Hotel/motel outside the evacuation level (make arrangements early).
- o Go to a public Evacuation Center.
- o As a last resort, leave the area entirely.

4. If you must go to a public Evacuation Center, use your county map to decide which one is convenient. Make sure you verify that the Evacuation Center is open **before you go.**

- o The color coded areas on the map are vulnerable to storm surge. Storm surge is produced by water being pushed towards the shore by the force of the winds moving around the storm.
- o Storm surge creates a path of destruction, wiping out structures as it rapidly surges inland and then recedes. This is a life threatening situation for anyone who ignores evacuation orders and stays in vulnerable areas.
- o Hurricanes are categorized on a scale of 1 to 5, depending on wind strength and destructive power. The evacuation levels are color-coded to designate the level of storm surge likely to occur.
- o If you live in an area ordered to evacuate, gather your family/pets and emergency supplies, secure your home, and leave the evacuated area. Failure to obey an evacuation order is a violation of state and local laws.

NOTE: All persons living in mobile homes/RVs must evacuate for all evacuation orders, regardless of where you are located in the county, due to threat of tornado or high velocity winds.

Storm Debris

Residents are encouraged to watch or listen to local news outlets, follow Sarasota County's social media channels or check scgov.net for updates after a storm. Depending on the severity of the storm, residents should anticipate delays, and possibly suspension in their regular collection services including trash, recycling and yard waste.

- Storm debris must be separated by category for collection. Examples of these types of categories include the following:
- o **Vegetative:** tree limbs and trunks.
 - o **Garbage:** place spoiled food in containers, or double bag it for pick-up.
 - o **Household goods:** furniture, clothes, books, toys.
 - o **Construction materials:** drywall, roof shingles, carpet, aluminum, vinyl, wood fencing.
 - o **Appliances:** refrigerators, water heaters, televisions, computers.

TIPS: Avoid stacking debris by utility poles, under power lines, on top of water meters or other water connections, by fire hydrants, by vehicles, next to mailboxes or fences, or on storm drains. Do not place any storm debris in the street.

Live on a private road? If so, the homeowner must grant the county the right to enter the roadway for debris removal. For further information, or to obtain the Right-of-Entry/Hold Harmless form, call **941-861-5000**.

Functional Needs Support Services

Functional Needs Support Services (FNSS) are services that enable children and adults to maintain their usual level of independence in a general population Evacuation Center. Those requiring FNSS may have physical, sensory, mental health, cognitive and/or intellectual disabilities affecting their ability to function independently without assistance. Individuals will not be turned away from general population Evacuation Centers, or inappropriately placed in other environments.

Upon arrival to a Sarasota County general population Evacuation Center, inform center management staff of your request for services to ensure the most effective approach. Sarasota County will make every effort to meet functional and access needs at approved Evacuation Centers upon request.

Transportation Plan (Hurricane Evacuation Centers)

For those who cannot drive or otherwise be transported by family, friends or neighbors, Sarasota County will provide last-resort, free bus transportation for you and your pets (along with a limited amount of supplies) to and from a general population Evacuation Center. Transportation will be offered at designated rally points throughout the county.

Complete the online registration form on scgov.net. All county libraries are available to help with online registration for those without a computer. The form will include guidance for those who cannot drive or walk to a designated rally point.

Rally points may change depending on the severity of a storm. Residents who pre-register will receive an automated telephone message with information about the location of rally points and when they will be picked up. This program is activated only when Sarasota County has a declared county emergency, an activation is ordered, and Evacuation Centers are opened.

Visit scgov.net for more information, or call **941-861-5000**.

Important: The online registration process will cease when landfill is expected within 60 hours.

Prescriptions

Your prescription medications are one of the most important things to include in your disaster survival kit. But in a declared emergency, what happens when your insurance company claims it is too early for you to get a refill?

The Florida Emergency Prescription Refill Bill (FS 252.358 and 462.0275) requires all insurers to suspend refill-too-soon restrictions when a patient seeks a refill in a county that is (1) under a NWS Hurricane Warning, (2) under a state of emergency declared by the Governor, or (3) the County Emergency Operations Center is activated.

If you evacuate out of the county, this law also allows patients to get an emergency 72-hour refill if the pharmacist is unable to obtain refill authorization from the doctor. Keep a list of each medication you take, including the name of the doctor who wrote the prescription, dosage instructions, and the name and phone number of the pharmacy where you had it filled.

Dogs & Cats

Sarasota County allows dogs and cats at all Evacuation Centers indicated on the list in this guide. If you are unable to meet these requirements, please make other arrangements to protect your pet.

- o Pet must be in an appropriate pet crate.
- o Provide all items required for your pet.
- o You are responsible for your pet while in the Evacuation Center.

Hotel or Motel Evacuation

If you plan to evacuate to a hotel or motel, you will need to check for availability and make your reservation well in advance. Some hotels/motels have standing reservation hurricane programs and some relax their pet restrictions in an emergency. Again, make sure your destination is not in an evacuation zone.

Leaving Coastal Areas

If you are leaving the area, remember to take supplies with you. Move inland away from the storm surge and inland flooding; however, it is recommended that residents evacuate "tens of miles, not hundreds" if possible.

Roads will be heavily congested. You run the risk of being caught on the highway without a safe refuge or running into the storm if it takes a different track.

911 Use for Hearing Impaired Callers

Sarasota County 9-1-1 Communications Center is equipped with the TTY/TDD system. TTY: 7-1-1 or 1-800-955-8771.

- Accepted abbreviations adopted to ensure accuracy:
- o GA means 'go ahead'.
 - o SK means 'stop keying'.
 - o Q means 'question'.
 - o xxx indicates a mistake.

A call to 9-1-1 will always be responded with "9-1-1, what is your emergency Q GA?"

- The TTY/TDD's are designed to follow a few simple rules:
- o Punctuation is not used.
 - o Contractions are written as one word.
 - o Apostrophes are replaced with a single space.
 - o "Hang up now" indicates help is on the way.

For more information about 911 services call the Sarasota County Call Center at **941-861-5000** and ask for Public Safety Communications.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO.

SARASOTA COUNTY CONTACT CENTER	941-861-5000 scgov.net
EVACUATION INFORMATION	941-861-5000
TTY-DEAF COMMUNICATIONS for Sarasota County Contact Center	941-861-1833 or 1-800-955-8771
MEDICALLY-DEPENDENT REGISTRY	941-861-5000
AMERICAN RED CROSS SWFL CHAPTER	941-379-9300
SUNCOAST COMMUNITIES BLOOD BANKS	Call toll-free: 1-866-97-BLOOD or visit: scbb.org
CATHOLIC CHARITIES	941-355-4680
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	941-861-5000
SALVATION ARMY	941-954-4673
UNITED WAY	941-366-2686
SUNCOAST 2-1-1	2-1-1 Call 2-1-1 for a free and confidential service that helps people find the local resources needed. Text your ZIP code to 898-211 for more resources
ANIMAL SERVICES	941-861-9500
FLORIDA POWER AND LIGHT	800-468-8243
HIGHWAY PATROL	941-492-5850
SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	941-861-5800
SOLID WASTE	941-861-5000
NOAA WEATHER RADIO	FREQ 162.40 MHZ FIPS code 012115
NOAA Weather Radio can provide you with valuable hurricane information as well as vital warning information for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and other dangerous weather phenomena.	RADIO AM WLSR 930 WSRO 1220 WTMY 1280 WERO 1430 WSDV 1450 WVPR 1490 WENG 1530
It also broadcasts warning and post-event information for all types of hazards such as chemical releases and significant matters of public safety.	RADIO FM WJIS 88.1 WFSR 89.1 WCTO 92.1 WMLR 96.5 WHPT 102.5 WKZM 104.3 WTFB 105.9 WRUB 106.5 WZZS 106.9 WSRZ 107.9

SARASOTA COUNTY NOTIFICATION /WARNING SYSTEM
Sarasota County utilizes a free, secure, advanced, and effective community notification system that allows you to receive calls, email alerts, or text messages about events that could impact your neighborhood or help protect your family or property. This system allows us to send critical communications to all or targeted areas within the county when immediate actions are required. Your contact information remains private, and will only be used for public health, safety, and wellness purposes.

Anyone with a physical address in Sarasota County may participate. Visit scgov.net for more information, to register now or update information, or call **941-861-5000**.

DO NOT CALL 9-1-1 FOR DISASTER INFORMATION

Web-Based Hurricane Information.
Sarasota County Government maintains a special webpage to relay important hurricane information for local residents. You can find out which, if any, evacuation level (zone) you live in, your nearest public Evacuation Center (shelter), medically-dependent (special needs) registration forms, and much more.

For more information, visit scgov.net, keywords: "all hazards", or [facebook.com/szgemergencyservices](https://www.facebook.com/szgemergencyservices).

Manasota Medical Reserve Corps

The Manasota Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a community-based group of medical and non-medical volunteers. Training is provided to help members fulfill their roles. Examples include dispensing of medication or vaccinations, serving in hurricane Evacuation Centers, assisting with disease outbreak investigation and community outreach.

Please call **941-741-3005** or visit manasotamrc.org if you would like to volunteer. Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members are invited to join the team!