



Vintage Grand Condominium Association
4012 Crockers Lake Boulevard
Sarasota, Florida 34238

December 19, 2016

To all Unit Owners:

Re: Emergency Preparedness and Need to Evacuate the Condominium

Dear Owners:

A second engineering firm was recently engaged to render an opinion on the condition of the buildings. The firm confirmed the findings of Delta Engineering Group and was extremely concerned about the ability of the weakened buildings to withstand a hurricane.

Based on input from the engineers, **NOTICE IS HEREBY PROVIDED THAT EVERY RESIDENT SHOULD AND MUST EVACUATE THE CONDOMINIUM IN THE EVENT OF THE ISSUANCE OF A HURRICANE WARNING FOR SARASOTA COUNTY.**

Attached are standard Emergency Preparedness Guidelines, Procedures and Requirements that should be of assistance to prepare for a storm. As noted above, evacuation will be mandatory until the structural deficiencies in the buildings are addresses so please disregard general statements in the attached materials about each person making a personal decision to stay or evacuate as there will be no choice.

Please contact management if there are questions.

Very truly yours,

Bill Wild, President

I. Emergency Preparedness Guidelines, Procedures and Requirements

Special thanks to Sarasota County, the Palmer Ranch Master Association, and The Isles and the Turtle Rock and Ballentre communities for so generously sharing information related to the development of this plan.

- A. **Purpose and Disclaimer:** These Emergency Preparedness Guidelines are intended to aid residents by giving a guide to follow in the event of a community disaster or emergency specifically addressing Hurricanes and Hurricane warnings. It is not intended to cover every eventuality or ensure individuals or property safety, but rather, to support residents in preparing for, dealing with, and recovering from a disaster.

The Board of Directors wishes to note that it does not have the resources or expertise to fully address needs with respect to all potential disasters and emergencies. In addition, please keep in mind that, depending on the extent of the emergency, maintenance personnel and management team members may not be able to report to work. In fact, Sarasota County emergency personnel do not respond to an emergency until winds fall *below* 45 miles per hour. (Do not let that prevent you from call 911 if needed.)

Everyone needs to pre-plan for potential threats and be ready for recovery after a disaster. The plan details are laid out in sections, as follows:

- B. Defining an emergency
 - C. Neighborhood points of contact
 - D. Essential internet links and phone numbers
 - E. Personal, family, and pet preparedness; including necessary supplies each resident should have on hand
 - F. Steps to preparedness
 - G. What to do in preparing for, during and after an event.
- B. **Disasters and Emergencies Defined:** Sarasota County recognizes the following disasters and provides information for dealing with each of them at the scgov.net website: flood, fire, tornado, violent crime/terrorism, hazardous material incident, and disease outbreak.

The most common anticipated emergency our community faces is that of threats and damages caused by storms. **Hurricane season begins June 1 and ends November 30.** We are all familiar with storm tracking models. The most damaging side of a hurricane is the right front quadrant of the storm. This is sometimes called “the dirty side” of the storm because forward speed adds to the winds and storm surge will range out from the eye up to 60+ miles.

In contrast to popular belief, Sarasota has been in the right front quadrant of at least two major, category three or above hurricanes. Tampa Bay was hit by a Category (CAT) 4 hurricane in September of 1848. This was the hurricane that created Casey’s Pass at

Venice and New Pass that separates Longboat from Lido Key. That same year, a separate hurricane struck Tampa one month later. Also, on October 6 of 1921, a CAT 3 hurricane hit Tampa. In 1935, there was the Great Labor Day Hurricane which tracked along the Gulf Coast wiping bare most of Longboat Key. In 2004, Hurricane Charlie was tracking to hit Tampa, but six hours before landfall on August 13, winds jumped from 110 MPH to 150 MPH and the hurricane veered to the right into Port Charlotte putting Sarasota on the benign side of the hurricane.

The probability of a hurricane striking the Tampa/Sarasota area in any specific year is about 4-5% or every 20-25 years. The probability of a 3+ hurricane probably drops to about 1-2% or every 50-100 years. But it only takes one and the area is long overdue.

Vintage Grand has been advised by Sterling Engineering in their structural analysis report that the structural at Vintage Grand will not with stand a CAT 1 hurricane or wind speeds up to 75 MPH and requires a mandatory evacuation primarily because building collapse.

Evacuation maps for Sarasota County are currently being revised using a new methodology. The expectation is that more people will have to evacuate from a larger area. Also, storm surge estimates will no longer be tied to the category of the hurricane. Instead, surge estimates will be based on the size and speed of a hurricane. As a result, evacuations may be demanded for hurricanes categorized as 3 or below and may become more common.

- C. **Neighborhood Points of Contact:** To be as prepared as possible, you should talk to your neighbors about your plans and needs in the event of an emergency. It is important that you complete the *Emergency Response Information Sheet* located in the Appendix, and available on the website, updating as needed, and returned to the Community Center. At the time of this writing, Vintage Grand does not have a Certified Emergency Response Team (CERT), but will be developing one. Sarasota County Emergency Management is pleased to provide Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training for community groups and citizens of Sarasota County. During the initial hours following the disaster, emergency personnel are overloaded, unable to reach areas, or are short of personnel to respond. CERT training gives you the decision-making and physical skills to offer immediate assistance to family members and neighbors in an efficient and effective manner without placing yourself in unnecessary danger. You can make a difference by using the training. This program is the Nationally Accepted Federal Standard for community response team training.

CERT Training is offered free of charge within the jurisdiction served by Sarasota County. Students must complete all 25 hours of course work and participate in the final "hands-on" exercise to become CERT certified. Seats in class are served in a first come, first served. If

you are interested in becoming part of a CERT team, please contact the Community Center.

D. Essential Internet Links and Phone Numbers

1. Sarasota County Government website: this website has extensive information on emergency preparedness, and includes detailed information for families, persons with special needs, businesses, pets, fire, and hurricane as well as health and other threats. We strongly recommend that you download the Disaster Planning Guide. It will help you in great detail, including addressing your “Stay in Place” and “Evacuation” plan. The guide is available at:

<https://www.scgov.net/AllHazards/All%20Hazards/2015%20Sarasota%20Disaster%20Planning%20Guide.pdf>

The state of Florida has an excellent, comprehensive guide to disasters for elders, available at:

http://elderaffairs.state.fl.us/doea/eu/2012/Disaster_Guide_2012_english.pdf

2. Police, Fire, Ambulance EMERGENCY: 911
Sarasota County Sherriff NON-Emergency: 941-861-5800
3. Hospitals
Doctor’s Hospital: 941- 342-1100 Sarasota Memorial Hospital: 941-917-9000
4. Florida Power and Light: 800-468-8243
5. American Red Cross: 941-379-9300
6. Salvation Army: 941-954-4673
7. Senior Friendship Center: 941-955-2121.

- E. **Personal Preparedness:** In most cases, the emergencies we might face can be best met by each household’s individual preparedness, and the intervention of official county personnel will not be required. However, in the event of a community disaster, local public emergency responders such as the Sheriff, fire, and Emergency Medical Teams, may not be able to immediately respond to residents’ needs. In this case your individual preparedness will be even more essential. Each resident should be prepared for the emergency by taking the steps noted herein and assembling a Personal/Family Preparedness Kit. The contents of the kit should be able to sustain the individuals for a minimum of five days.

Personal/Family Preparedness Kit (suggested contents)

- Medicines:** Keep an updated list of all family *and pet* medications and dosages along with doctor and pharmacy phone numbers. Keep two weeks supply of prescription medicines on hand. Put in a zip-lock sealed plastic bag.
- Documents:** Keep copies of the following for “grab and go” convenience in a fireproof safe or in the freezer. Keeping them electronically is also a good idea, however, if power is out for a continued period of time “hard copies” will be critical.
 - Special medical information: doctor’s names and phone numbers, medication name and dosage
 - Insurance policies, names of agents, account numbers and phone numbers. It may also be helpful to have a copy of the Florida building code.
 - Property inventories, photographs
 - Photos of family members and pets
 - Front and back of credit cards
 - Passport
 - Driver’s license
 - Bank statements
 - Bills such as electric, phone, gas, water, pool and lawn services, etc. Your bills will have your account number and contact phone numbers on them
 - Business and professional licenses
 - Birth and marriage certificates
 - Social Security Card
 - Medical and insurance cards
 - Living Wills, Health Care Proxies, wills, powers of attorney
 - If you have a pet, copies of current license, rabies, and other vaccinations.
- Food:** Keep enough food to feed the whole family for three to seven days. Choose things that do not need refrigeration or cooking (canned foods, protein bars, peanut butter, etc.). Do not forget any special dietary foods or baby food and formula, if needed. Replenish every six months.
- Drinking water/containers:** 1 gallon of water per person for drinking water plus water for cooking and washing (minimum 7 days). Stock up on a few cases of bottled water at home and office in the event that there is a “boil water” order.
- Flash light and batteries for each household member
- Portable radio, TV and lamps. Consider obtaining and monitoring a NOAA Weather Radio.
- Extra batteries for electronics
- Sunblock/sunscreen
- Bug repellent
- Fueled vehicles, in case of evacuation

- Infant items:** medicine, sterile water, diapers, ready formula, bottles, baby food, wipes, favorite toy.
- Pet items:** Proper ID collar and rabies tag; leash and a spare leash; chain or tether; carrier or cage; water and food bowls; water and food (recommend a two week supply); medications and care instructions; special comfort toy or bed. Write ID information on all belongings.
- First aid book and kit** including bandages, gloves, scissors, antiseptic, tape, compresses, aspirin and aspirin-free pain reliever, anti-diarrhea medication, and antacid.
- Cell phones and emergency charger for cell phones and other mobile devices (consider a solar powered alternative)
- Cash. With no power, banks may be closed; checks and credit cards unaccepted, and ATMs may not be operational
- Charcoal, matches, and a grill. Propane for gas grills. (Do not use indoors)
- Ice
- Non-electric can opener
- Fire extinguisher (small canister, ABC type)
- Instant tire sealer
- Whistle and/or distress flag
- Plastic tarp and screening
- Water purification kit (tablets, chlorine (plain) and iodine)
- Clean-up supplies (mop, buckets, towels, disinfectant)
- Garbage can or bucket with tight-fitting lid and kitty litter (for emergency toilet)
- Plastic trash bags
- Toilet paper, paper towels, and pre-moistened towelettes or baby wipes
- Tools such as duct tape, chain-saws, shovels, hammers, nails, and rope
- Maps of evacuation route.
- Evacuation Supplies: In addition to the above:
- Pillows, blankets, sleeping bags or air mattresses
- Extra clothing, shoes, eyeglasses, hearing aids (and batteries), etc.

- Folding chairs, lawn chairs, or cots
- Personal hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.)
- Quiet games, books, playing cards, and favorite toys for children.

F. Steps to Preparedness

1. For ALL Residents

1. Register yourself for Emergency Notifications at Sarasota.gov-Code Red. This is a free service. It is an automated system providing fast, effective, and thorough information concerning Public Health, Safety, and Wellness.
2. If you are a seasonal resident, or you are intending to be away for a period of longer than two weeks, you *must* remove all exterior items from lanais. Items must be secured *inside* the unit in order not to become projectiles. These items include, but are not limited to, patio furniture, hanging plants, pots, and decorative objects.
3. As a matter of course, keep your electronic battery devices fully charged. This should include auxiliary back-up batteries. Having cell phones, iPads, and similar devices fully charged at all times will assist in vital communications in the event of a power failure. In the case of an emergency, phone service is frequently interrupted; however, it is possible that “text messaging” is available even during this period.
4. Identify the location of the shut-off for electricity, gas, and water to your home. Learn how to operate the controls.
5. Prepare an Individual Notification Plan that includes all persons that you will need to contact in the case of an emergency. This should include family, friends, and business associates. The contact list should have names, phone numbers, cell numbers, email, and other information, such as Facebook, whenever possible. Provide this list to key individuals so they can check on you and share information with others. Pick one individual who is out of the area who will be the primary point of contact for all family members and key contacts. Family members should know to call this person in an emergency. If you are evacuating, let the key person know your plan.
6. Have a planned evacuation route and shelter location identified.
7. Each residence is responsible for enacting a preparedness plan. Prepare both “Stay in Place” and an “Evacuation Plan.”

8. As soon as Sarasota County issues a Tropical Storm or Hurricane Warning, residents must remove all outside objects from lanais. These must be moved inside to limit flying debris serving as projectiles.
9. Provide Vintage Grand with a complete Emergency Response Information Sheet, a copy is included in the Appendix and is available on the website. This form should be up-dated any time there is a change in the information.
10. If you live alone and/or think you will need assistance before, during, or after the emergency, talk to your neighbors and make sure they know your plan for evacuating.
11. If your family is not together at the time of the emergency, or if you become separated during the emergency, pick two places to meet.

12.

2. Persons with Special Needs

1. Households with persons with special needs should consider registering with the Sarasota County Department of Emergency Management to receive assistance. Persons with special needs include, but is not limited to, individuals on oxygen and those with limited mobility. Sarasota County provides a shelter program for those residents requiring special medically-related care. Special needs shelters will be available for persons requiring more skilled medical care than available in a public shelter but not requiring an acute care facility such as a hospital. If this type of extended care is needed, contact the Sarasota County Emergency Management office at 941-861-5000 or go online to www.scgov.net to be considered for registration into this program.
2. Register with Florida Power and Light as a person with special needs if you are reliant on electricity for breathing or other medical equipment.
3. If you use a care giver or care support service, find out what their support services entail.
4. Develop, along with your health care provider, a plan for “Stay in Place in Sarasota but not at the Condominium” and an “Evacuation Plan”.
5. Obtain the required documentation for evacuation. These include your physician’s signature for services and medications.
6. Have an adequate supply of needed medications and equipment on hand.

7. Have a back-up plan for items such as respirators or oxygen.

3. For Residents with Pets and/or Service Animals

1. Pet owners are responsible for disaster planning for their pets.
2. If evacuation and sheltering are necessary, *do not leave your pet behind* and do *not* use your pet as an excuse not to evacuate. The media will identify pet friendly shelters. These are, usually, limited to dogs and cats. The www.scgov.net web site provides a printable set of “Pet Shelter Rules” that must be agreed to by signature at the shelter. Shelters require a copy of the vaccination items mentioned above. Owners are responsible for the care of their pet and cohabitation of pets and owners is not allowed.

G. What to Do Preparing For, During and after an Event

1. **For hurricanes:** as noted above, *as soon as a hurricane warning* is issued by Sarasota County, residents must remove all items from lanais and evacuate. Items must be secured *inside* in order not to become projectiles. These items include patio furniture, hanging plants, pots, etc.

Pre-Event Plan: A *hurricane watch* is issued 36 hours before an expected storm is to “hit.” A *hurricane warning* is issued 24 hours out.

72 hours or three days prior to the expected storm:

- a. Monitor local news and storm movement
- b. Review preparedness plan
- c. Gather supplies
- d. Check batteries
- e. Refuel vehicles and equipment
- f. Begin securing loose items

48 hours or two days prior to the expected storm:

- a. Monitor local news and storm movement
- b. Activate preparedness plan
- c. Consider evacuation needs and options
- d. Begin securing home and pets
- g. Ensure you have necessary food, medicine, water, and supplies.

24 hours or two days prior to the expected storm:

- a. Monitor local news and storm movement and updates.
- b. If you have not evacuated, secure a room(s) in your home to use as a “safe room.” An interior room or hallway, with little glass, often a closet or bathroom

- c. If you have not secured all outdoor items, complete this task
- d. Fill bathtubs and sinks with water to ensure you have additional water
- e. Notify a key person on your Notification Plan on your plan to stay or evacuate.
- f. Invite friends and family members to stay with you, bringing their own supplies, if they are in an evacuation zone and you are safe.
- g. If you plan to evacuate, have your evacuation site planned. Make sure it is not in a zone specified for evacuation. Move at a steady pace. Do not panic. Turn off gas, water, and electricity; lock windows and doors.

During the Event: All residents must ensure their personal safety and those of family and pets. Sarasota County Emergency Personnel will not respond until winds are less than 45 miles per hour. However, if there is a *life-threatening* emergency, call 911.

After the Event: All residents must ensure their personal safety and those of family and pets. Residents should not open or leave their home until all signs of the storm have subsided and winds are less than 45 miles per hour.

Place a white or red cloth on the lanai indicating you need assistance.

Recovery Phase: Once the storm has subsided and the situation is assessed as to the health, wellbeing, and safety of the Vintage Grand community, the Turtle Rock Board of Directors Emergency Powers *may* be implemented.

Residents and owners, whenever possible, should photograph and video any damages. Residents should check on neighbors and help, whenever possible.

Residents who were off-site during the event should check local news and the Sarasota County website for updates on local conditions before attempting to re-enter the community. Whenever possible, the Vintage Grand website will be updated with critical information to help homeowners and residents. For those who evacuate, proper identification will be required for re-entry into Vintage Grand.

For non-hurricane disasters

Tornado

- a. Pay attention to the Code Red warnings
- b. Listen to local radio and TV
- c. Move to a “safe room” with family and pets. This should be an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor. If possible, get under a heavy piece of furniture or in a doorway. If you are using a bathroom, consider getting in the tub and, when possible, pull a mattress or similar over you to protect you from debris and glass.

- d. Stay away from windows, glass doors, and skylights.
- e. Do NOT try to outrun a tornado in your car
- f. If caught outside, lie flat and face-down in a nearby ditch or depression
- g. Provide assistance to neighbors whenever possible.

Flooding

- a. Listen to local radio and TV for flood up-dates.
- b. Check the supplies in your Preparedness Kit
- c. Move valuable objects to higher ground, placing them on shelves, tables and counters
- d. Shut off electricity to the entire house before the house is flooded
- e. Be observant of downed power lines
- f. Avoid walking in water
- g. Have a plan for evacuation
- h. Notify person identified within your Notification Plan as to your status and your plan to stay or evacuate
- i. Do not eat food that has come in contact with flood water
- j. Drink only bottled or purified water
- k. Contain and control all pets.

