



August 28, 2023

Re: Hurricane Updates

Dear Residents:

The entire state of Florida was put under a state of emergency as Tropical Storm Idalia gradually strengthened and gained speed. As you review any of the storm tracker maps, it appears this Tuesday evening, Parrish may be in the path of this storm. A Hurricane warning and storm Surge Warning have both been issued for our community. As a result, the RW board has been in contact with our Guard company, Weiser Security Services, and our Landscaping Team, headed by Paul Jones, to ensure all plans are in place to respond before and after a potential event. The board has reviewed our emergency procedures, and this week we will be preparing the community property within these procedures.

In addition, it is time for you to make your personal preparation plans. Planning for an emergency will help you and your loved ones stay safe and connected if a disaster occurs. **As you know from our previous email, a Mandatory Evacuation for Level A and Voluntary Evacuation for Level B areas of our community have been issued, starting at 2 PM today (Monday, 8/28/23).** A map was also shared in that email detailing which areas of our community are in which Evacuation Level. Consider contacting your neighbors surrounding your property to see if they need any assistance with preparations. But always ensure your safety FIRST!

In addition to making a disaster plan, there are other ways you can

prepare for an emergency:

Sign up for Alert Manatee emergency notifications:

[Manatee County Alert Manatee](#)

Build an emergency kit:

[Manatee County Build a Disaster Kit](#)

Know your evacuation level:

[Manatee County Evacuation Levels](#)

Find nearby emergency shelters:

[Manatee County Emergency Shelters](#)

Sign up for the Special Needs Registry if you will need assistance in an evacuation:

[Manatee County Special Needs Registry](#)

MAKE A PLAN FROM READY.GOV

Make a Plan: [Ready.GovPlan](#)

Seniors: [Ready.GovSeniors](#)

Individuals with Disabilities: [Ready.GovDisabilities](#)

Pets and Animals: [Ready.GovPets](#)

Financial Preparedness: [Ready.GovFinancialPreparedness](#)

Sandbag distribution - The County operates several sandbag filling locations ahead of significant storm events. These locations are open Sunday and Monday this week. **Residents (ID required) are allowed to fill ten bags per household.** Here is a link to the locations, dates, times for sandbags in Manatee County:

[Manatee County Sandbag Distribution](#) . It is recommended you keep the sandbags in storage through the end of hurricane season.

Sandbags can be placed at the curb alongside your trash bin for regular garbage collection.

Here are just a few tips that bear emphasizing. The links above will detail most of the suggested areas for planning:

Place all your important papers in a plastic bag that is easily accessible if you need to “grab and go”.

Consider taking a video of your belongings, furniture, etc. within your home and uploading it to your “cloud” storage.

Have you tested your flashlights, backup battery chargers or handheld radios? Now is the time.

If you are leaving your home, turn off the main water supply, unplug any devices you are leaving behind, e.g., televisions, electronics, small appliances, etc.

Freeze extra ice now, fill your tub or buckets with water so you can flush your toilet.

Yard Waste or Recycling – There will be no Yard Waste or Recycling collections on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Note: In the event the winds get to a consistent 35 MPH we will be maintaining our gates in an open position, as per Manatee County Summary of Standards for automatic gate systems and in accordance with Chapter 252 Florida Statute Emergency Management. Please DO NOT post on social media that our

gates are open as that could be an invitation for problems.

Once the winds reach a certain level, Law Enforcement and Emergency Services will not be able to respond.

911 will be very busy with calls even if the deputies cannot respond. When possible, use the non-emergency number: 941-747-3011 ext. 2260.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact our Community Manager, Steven Higbee at

steven.higbee@rwhoa.org or 941-981-5520, or reply to this email.

Hoping that Princess Sara de Soto and Chichi-Okobee continue to protect the Sarasota Bay and all preparation was for naught.

Stay Safe!

Yours truly,

The

HOA website: www.rwhoa.org

The River Wilderness of Bradenton Foundation, Inc.

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