



1070 Laurel Rd. E, Nokomis, FL 34275 ~ (941)488-9674 ~ Website: royalcoachmanrvresort.com

## Manager's Corner



Summer is almost over, and many of our snowbirds will start making their way back to their Florida homes in September.

Our last summer party will be Labor Day weekend, and there will be live music, hot dogs, and beer and soda at the pool.

We hope all our summer guests enjoyed their stay at Royal Coachman and will come back and stay with us again next year.

We know that many of you are enjoying our new fishing pier, as well as our new "small dog" park. We hope to finish work on the large dog park this month, and work on the new pickleball court should commence in August. We also continue to add to our number of kayaks as they seem to be in great demand.

Remember we are always looking for people who will volunteer their time or talent to help out with our many activities during the winter. If you are a new owner, volunteering is a great way to get to know your neighbors.

Enjoy the last of the summer!

Sincerely,

*Bev Malouin*

Beverly Malouin, Resort Manager

### Inside this issue:

- ☺ Important Numbers for Hurricane Season on Page 5.
- ☺ 2020 Concert Series Information on Page 9.
- ☺ Save the Date 2020 on Page 17.
- ☺ Hurricane Guide/Important Information on Pages 19 & 20.



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# Royal Coachman RV Resort

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 Nokomis, FL 34275  
 941-488-9674 (phone)  
 941-485-5678 (fax)  
 Royalcoachman@equitylifestyle.com  
 Customer Service 941-232-3021 (after-hours)  
 Call 911 for Emergencies

## OFFICE HOURS

Daily	9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Camp Host	5:00 – 10:00 P.M.
Quiet Hours	10:00 P.M. - 8:00 A.M.
Check In Time	12:00 P.M.
Check Out Time	11:00 A.M.

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- Ping Pong
- Horseshoe Pits
- Basketball Court
- Recreation Hall & Club House
- Library
- Card & Game Room
- 2 Dog Parks
- Lounge
- Practice Golf Complex
- Billiards
- Mail Room
- Mini Golf Course
- Pavilion
- Internet Café-Complimentary Wi-Fi

## Utilities & Extras

### Florida Power & Light (FPL)


- Please supply the office with your FPL account number as soon as you have it to prevent incorrect billing.
- For guests that are not utilizing FPL and are with us for one month or longer, we will have your electric fee at the office.
- For those of you with FPL, please be sure to discontinue your service with them on your departure date and inform the office when you do so.

**Internet** Jabba Wi-Fi is available on the RV sites for daily weekly and monthly service. Comcast also offers internet service; please call them directly for rates at 800-266-2278.

**Wi-Fi** Complimentary wireless Wi-Fi service is available:

- Lounge/Internet Café/Pool: Royal Coachman Pool WIFI. Password: Password5015 (case sensitive)
- Clubhouse/Recreation Hall: RoyalCoachmanCH/RoyalCoachmanRH. Same password as above. Please remember that this is an open network so watch your password and privacy settings.

**PROPANE GAS DELIVERY:** Gapps Propane continues during the summer. There are bi-monthly deliveries on Wednesdays. You must still sign up in the Guest Lounge if you need propane. Remember to remove your tank and put it out by the road. Payment is YOUR responsibility.





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# HURRICANE SEASON IMPORTANT NUMBERS

~ Visit pages 19 & 20 for more hurricane information ~

**DURING A HURRICANE, DO NOT USE 911 UNLESS THE EMERGENCY IS LIFE THREATENING.**

**EMERGENCIES 911**

**DISASTER ASSISTANCE 211**

### SARASOTA COUNTY

Sarasota County Emergency Management	941-861-5000
Sarasota County Sheriff's Office	941-861-5800
South County Sheriff's Office non-emergency assistance	941-316-1201
Sarasota County Fire & EMS	941-861-5000
Sarasota County Public Works	941-861-5000
American Red Cross	941-379-9300

### FEDERAL/STATE AGENCIES

Florida Division of Emergency Management	850-413-9969; TTY 800-226-4329
Florida Department of Insurance	850-413-2842
Small Business Administration	800-827-5722
Florida Department of Financial Services	877-693-5236
National Flood Insurance Program	800-427-4661
Disaster Assistance	800-621-FEMA
Citizens Property Insurance Corporation	888-685-1555
To report a power outage: Florida Power & Light	1-800-4-OUTAGE (468-8243)

**VISITORS** All guests that have visitors coming in for the day to use the facilities/ amenities must register them with the office and pay a \$5 per guest fee. During their time at RCR all visitors must be accompanied by their registered guest. Anyone having visitors staying over 15 consecutive days *may* be required to pay \$5/per day, per visitor.

If you have a guest that stays longer than six (6) months, then that guest must submit a background screening application for residency. Please contact the resort office in writing if you have a special circumstance.



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## Full Capacity

I met a man visiting from Germany at a Rotary event. I noticed he wore a hearing aid manufacturer that I work with frequently. I saw him struggle to hear the Rotary presentation we were attending. Yet he was wearing a higher end model with a wide range of programming options.

I spoke with him after our meeting and he said he has trouble hearing in restaurants, at meetings, and talking with his wife. I groaned at the last one. Not listening to my wife, Karen, has gotten me into trouble over the years.

When he came into the office, I read out his hearing aids and only one program was being used. He travels the world, attends meetings, eats out regularly and socializes. He is wearing the top of the line model and did not have access to all the abilities of his hearing aid.

I taught him the full capacity of his hearing aids and established programs for his variety of situations. I also set a program that prioritized his wife's voice to use when they are at home together or in the car. This was their favorite setting.

I've met a lot of people who have under programmed hearing aids. Some common complaints are: "I sound as if I am in barrel", "everything is muffled" or "it sounds tinny." Less frequent complaints, "it sounds sharp", "everything is shrilly" and "her voice is too harsh." Some of the more entertaining ones are: "I sound like I'm underwater", "it sounds like there are bees everywhere" and "everything echoes." These sound irritants can be easily corrected with a slight program adjustment.

Programming a hearing aid is a skill I have developed in the 17 years working in this industry. Having worked with over a thousand people, I am very good at translating your description of sounds into what you want the program to deliver. If you struggle to hear well and wonder if there could be a better setting to your program, call for an appointment 941- 244-9300.

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# FROM YOUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Pat Lang, Coordinator of Volunteers



Via e-mail, Marianne and I have been working together on developing a resource for Lead Volunteers. We did some brainstorming and are hoping that it will answer questions that are frequently asked as leaders plan their events. Procedural guidelines, lists of “resource” people, and items available for use; guidelines for building use, set up and clean up; advertising and ticket sales; are some of the subjects included in this Handbook. Our plan is to meet with each Lead Volunteer of One-Time and Continuing Events early in the season – basically those items on the front of the monthly calendar.

New Guidelines for Volunteers are being developed by Beverly and Amanda. These will be disseminated in several ways when they are completed. Bev, Amanda, Marianne, and I met shortly after the Appreciation Luncheon in the Spring. Amanda is working on an exciting new way to show appreciation to the volunteers meeting the new Guidelines. Sounds great!

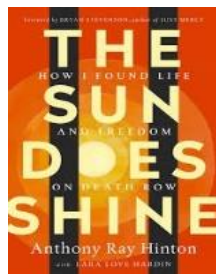
We are still in need of some lead volunteers for several events. When we are all back in “seasonal mode”, I am confident we will fill those vacancies. The list includes New Year’s, Line Dancing, and Pool Party. Please remember that while there are certain parameters or budget implications for these events, they do not have to be implemented in the exact same format. Discuss any new ideas with Amanda – change is often good.



Speaking of change, after many years with the same e-mail address, I am making a change. **Please add my new address to your contacts:** [pjokl@gmail.com](mailto:pjokl@gmail.com). If you frequently e-mail me, please send a quick note to me to make my creation of new contact lists easier. I appreciate your help! My phone number is not changing. Thanks.

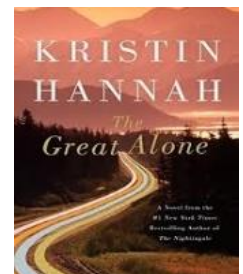
## RCR BOOK CLUB 2020 SELECTIONS

**January 14<sup>th</sup>**  
*The Sun Does Shine & The Little Old Lady Who Broke All the Rules*



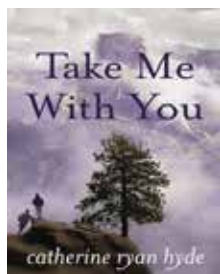
**Meetings at 1pm in the Rec Hall. All are invited!!**

**February 11<sup>th</sup>**  
*The Great Alone & Before We Were Yours*



**No Dues! Come whether you have read the book or not!**

**March 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
*Take Me With You & Exit West*





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## 2020 CONCERT SERIES AT RCR

**Ticket Sales for the 2020 Season will begin Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. in the Card Room.** Ticket prices for the 2020 Season will remain \$18 per show, per person. Tickets will be sold in concert series sets only to guarantee seating. Each site may purchase no more than 2 tickets. **Each Set of 3 concerts is \$54 per person, \$108 per couple.** Series also includes pre-concert reception. If the series doesn't sell out, then individual shows will be sold at the door of first show and remaining tickets will be available during normal ticket sales after first concert January through March.

**Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup> NASHVILLE GOLD - 50 years of Country Music** ~ NASHVILLE GOLD featuring the



music of the greatest country artists of all time. Each facet of country music is included – from everyone's favorite kings and queens of country to musical outlaws, urban cowboys and honky-tonk heroes. Nashville Gold is an unforgettable night of nothing but country music's biggest hits from artists like Dolly, Hank, Patsy, Waylon and Willie, George Strait, Garth, Shania, Loretta, Tammy, and many more. It is a multimedia presentation featuring top notch music, video, and story-telling which combine to relive how country has evolved from its hillbilly roots to the rockin' Country of today! You'll feel like you've got a front row seat at the Grand Ole Opry or the Country Music Hall of Fame!! 50 years of country in one show! Hear it all in NASHVILLE GOLD

**Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>**



**Rock Me Gently Into The 1970's** ~ From Jim Croce to Dan Fogelberg, and Carole King to James Taylor, ROCK ME GENTLY presents an unforgettable two hours of some of the greatest American music to come from the 1970s. From the end of the 1960s, it became common to divide mainstream rock music into soft and hard rock with both emerging as major genres of popular music. In the early '70s, rock music mellowed creating the distinctive, laid-back sound of soft rock. The

smooth and easy feeling this music inspires is perfect for life's most meaningful moments. Quite simply, these are the songs that just make you feel good! ROCK ME GENTLY re-creates the best of the soft rock era rocking you gently with the hits of Jim Croce, Carole King, James Taylor, America, Dan Fogelberg, Neil Young, Gordon Lightfoot and many more amazing singer/songwriters.

**Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> Not Fade Away - The Buddy Holly & Friends Party Concert!** ~ Get your saddle shoes



and pompadours ready because you are in for an incredible night of Rock n' Roll! This is NOT your typical Buddy Holly tribute! Not only will you be twirling down memory lane to the unforgettable sounds of Buddy, Ritchie Valens and The Big Bopper...you'll be taken to a world of legends with hits by Bill Haley, The Beach

Boys, Roy Orbison, Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis, The Beatles and more! You've never heard the legends of Rock n' Roll quite like this! With our guys (and gals) jumping up on instruments, soloing behind their heads, and powerful new renditions of these classic hit songs, this national act will have you dancing alongside them from coast to coast!

## RCR CAMPING AND YOU

*As we get further into summer, we want to remind everyone of some basics of RCR camping etiquette:*

- If you use a charcoal grill (whether yours or ours) you need to dispose of ashes and coals in either the galvanized can in the dumpster area, or the one by the grill at the bandstand. **PLEASE DO NOT DUMP COALS OR ASHES ON THE GROUND.** Not only is it a fire hazard, we had someone's dog get VERY sick for eating some of the coals that had drippings on them last year.
- If you are using a camp fire either in a fire ring or a fire pit, make sure that the fire is completely out before you walk away from it.
- Please remember the resorts speed limit is 10 mph within the park and 15 mph on our entry road all the way out to Laurel Rd. Remember to come to a FULL STOP at the bottom of our driveway. Be careful and look for children, pets, people walking pets, and golf carts when you are driving in the park. Also watch out for baby turtles, and the larger ones roaming around. When the park is less populated, they tend to get more active.
- Do not let children drive golf carts without an adult in the cart, and please do not drive on the streets in the neighboring park TerraCove. They do not allow golf carts and are not happy when they have to watch out for our people on their streets.
- Please NO laser lights on the RV sites. They disrupt the birds of prey that hunt here at night and can blind them.



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## BETTY'S CORNER

### August 2019

#### *Brown-headed Cowbird*

*Article and photography by Betty Baird*



The **brown-headed cowbird** is native to North-America. They are permanent residents in the southern areas of their range, but northern birds migrate to the south in the winter. They return to their summer homes around March or April. The brown-headed cowbird has a finch-like head and beak. The adult male is iridescent black with a brown head and the adult female is slightly smaller. She is dull grey with a pale throat and very fine streaking underneath.

These birds live in open or semi-open country and sometimes travel in flocks mixed with red-winged blackbirds (mostly in the spring) and bobolinks (in the fall). They are mainly ground feeders and often follow grazing animals in order to enable catching insects. They mainly eat seeds and insects and are now commonly seen at suburban birdfeeders like ours.

Brown-headed cowbirds are considered nuisances by many – lacking in character. Nature is interesting – consider the following and you decide.

- The brown-headed cowbird is a brood parasite: they lay their eggs in the nests of other small perching birds, particularly those that build cup-like nests.
- The female keeps watch on several interesting nests and when the females are laying their eggs, the female B-HC waits for the female to leave and quickly slips in and deposits her egg with the others. She will usually lay only one egg in each nest.
- Host species sometimes notice the cowbird egg and react in different ways – some abandon their nest, some bury the foreign egg under nest material where it perishes, and some like the brown thrasher physically eject the egg from the nest.
- There is evidence that the brown-headed cowbirds periodically check on their eggs and young after they have deposited them. Removal of the parasitic egg may trigger a retaliatory reaction termed “mafia behavior.” According to a Florida Museum of Natural History study published in 1983, the cowbird returned to ransack the nests 56% of the time when their egg was removed.
- Their eggs have been documented in nests of at least 220 species. The young cowbird is fed and raised by the host parents often at the expense of their own young.
- Despite being raised by other species, young cowbirds are able to develop species-typical singing, social and breeding behaviors. A 2017 study demonstrated that cowbird brains are wired to respond to the vocalizations of other cowbirds which allows young cowbirds to find and join flocks of their own species.



The brown-headed cowbird is an amazing little feathered creature with an intelligence that works very well for its purposes – “Nuisance” yes but also complex and brilliant in its own little world. It’s out there for all of us to observe and enjoy. I stand in awe of God’s Creation up close and personal.

### SEPTEMBER MACAW

Have an idea?  
Want to write a story?  
We want to hear from you!

**Remember:** send pictures, articles, club news... to [royalcoachman\\_rec@equitylifestyle.com](mailto:royalcoachman_rec@equitylifestyle.com) by **August 10<sup>th</sup>** for inclusion in the August newsletter. Or stop by the Activities office with your submission.





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# SUMMER PROJECTS COMPLETED

We have had new awnings installed at the Clubhouse and the Lounge.

We also have 2 dog parks now (more details on page 18).



For the 2nd year in a row, Brenda & Lisa won the Tidiest RV Resort Award! Great job Ladies!



The new Fishing Pier is almost complete! We have obtained a Commercial Pier Saltwater Fishing License. This means anyone can fish off the pier without a fishing license. I will get a sign made to put by the pier. Guests need to be aware of size requirements to keep what you catch.



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## Summer at RCR

The Independence Day weekend was a fun time for all! For the hot holiday we had a pool party with a new entertainer, Stone Crab Steve, and many returning and new faces (along with some old-school guests).

Here are a few photos of the day, as we celebrated on Friday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, to leave the holiday open for fireworks at the beach!



## ANNUAL MILITARY DAY ~ Monday, 11/11/19



Plans are underway to honor all residents and any family members of residents who have served in the military for Canada and the United States. We

have had good responses in the past and would like to include more residents each year. The Planning Committee is asking for the following information:  
Name & branch served  
Personal Articles/Stories  
Photos – clearly identified (can be Other Memorabilia scanned and emailed or copied)

You do not have to be present to be included. Simply email or mail the information to: USA Gerry Regan, Site 221, reganrv@email.com or 215-859-3665; CANADA Linda Lee, Site 454, lee.leelinda.linda4@gmail.com.

## NOTE TO OUR GROUPS AND CLUBS

We charge a 'per copy cost' to make copies for your groups. This is for notices, score cards, bulletins or any other request for multiple copies. This is due to the large volume of copies we make each season.

### The charges are as follows:

#### Black & White copies

(single or double sided) \$.02 per page (copy)

#### Color copies

(single or double sided) \$.10 per page (copy)

*Also, we will need a 24-hour lead time to get copies done for you.*





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# SAVE THE DATE!



- **2019/2020 Blood Drive Dates** Please watch for the sign-ups (we need at least 10 people) that will be posted in the lounge and consider donating!  
**The dates are:** Saturdays, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, January 25<sup>th</sup> and March 21<sup>st</sup> from 9 a.m. to Noon. These dates coincide with the January and March pancake breakfasts, so you can refuel after you are done or before you start! They will be providing some small prizes for your valuable donation and time.
- **2020 Health & Wellness Expo** - Tuesday, January 21<sup>ST</sup> from 9 a.m. – Noon at the Rec Hall! This event is free to attend and open to the public. Parking and Shuttle Service will be available from the front of the park. Last season we had 30 vendors and hope to have more for 2020! ... *you won't get bored!*



## 2019-2020 Season's Schedule

All happen from 9 – 10:30 a.m.

#1 Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> in the Lounge

Sponsor/Guest: Costco

#2 Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at the Pool Veranda

Sponsor/Guest: Suncoast Blood Bank - Platelets

#3 Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at the Pool Veranda

Sponsor/Guest: Brenda Green, CBD Oil, etc.

Coffee, Donuts & Your Welcome Bag! One bag per site, per year. Bags only available at these events, so please stop by!

## IMPORTANT MAIL DELIVERY REMINDERS!!!!

1. There is a \$15 mailbox key deposit on your credit card, refundable upon key return.
2. Be sure *anyone* who might get even one piece of mail or one package delivered here is listed on our front office mail list. This is to insure delivery. You must include nicknames, Business names and even pet names (yes, we've gotten mail for cats >^..^<)
3. Mail must be labeled with your complete first & last names and your # (site number).
4. All RENTERS/GUESTS are REQUIRED to notify the Main Office if you are expecting to get ANY mail delivered to Royal Coachman Resort. Otherwise your mail may be returned as legally required.

Your mailing address should be:

YOUR **COMPLETE FIRST & LAST NAME**  
1070 Laurel Road East, **SITE #**  
Nokomis, FL 34275



*Thank you for your understanding and help!*

## SAVE THE DATE:

Join us at RCR For Labor Day Weekend!

Picnic & Party



# Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup>

### 1 - 3 p.m. at the Pool Veranda

Music, hot dogs, salads, beer, sodas & water (Bring what you want to eat/drink for your group).

We are celebrating Sunday because most head home on Monday. We look forward to you staying!



## RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP



One of the great things about Royal Coachman Resort is our love of our pets; cats, dogs, et al. That being said, there ARE rules and restrictions regarding our pets; especially those lovely dogs



that we stop and hug every chance we get.

Though we love your pets, you are responsible for cleaning up after your own pets. We have four (4) doggie stations: **1)** Dog Park, **2)** Tennis Courts 1&2, **3)** Tennis Courts 3 & 4 and **4)** Back side of Rec Hall, by the Shower Entrance. Let's remember the reasons we clean up after our pets - we walk in it, our pets run through it and it spreads disease from the fly's that land on it, then land on other people, pets and food.

We would like to remind all pet owners that when walking your pet, it *must be leashed at all times* and that you are only permitted to walk them on your own site or the roads while in *Royal Coachman RV Resort*. Please don't leave your pet unattended or tied up outside. Your dogs are welcome to visit the office with you and get a treat, but they are not allowed within any other recreation space. That includes the Bocce field, tennis courts and within the pool fencing (which includes the pavilion and volleyball courts). We now have 2 dog parks, available for our 4-legged guests to utilize, which are located as follows:

- ✓ For big dogs - over behind the car wash, at the back of the outer circle
- ✓ For little dogs – outside the front of the park, behind the tennis and pickleball courts on the bay side of the entry road

Both parks are open from 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. daily and we are continually working to improve the areas.



### Smoking/Campfires:

Smoking is NOT permitted in any public building including resort restrooms. Smoking is also not permitted in the fenced pool/shuffleboard area. Campfires are permitted in an above ground covered fire pit. Campfires must be supervised and attended to until extinguished.



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857 U.S. 41 Bypass S., Venice FL 34285  
Email : [venicecooling@gmail.com](mailto:venicecooling@gmail.com)





## Sarasota County Emergency Management Storm Information

The City of Venice held a Hurricane Expo at the end of May. More updates will be provided beginning in June (No major changes expected). Last year at the expo, one speaker noted that we should understand that the damaged caused in our area was not technically caused by a hurricane, but a tropical storm. The top sustained winds recorded here were 74 mph. Though Irma made the top 5 in regard to severity in the 99 storm history of Florida (5<sup>th</sup>), it was only among the 3 percent of storms that we are estimated to have received over recorded history versus the thirty percent chance the east coast of Florida has of being hit.

PLEASE NOTE it is intentional that there are NO shelters in Venice. Shelters can only be placed in areas that will not suffer catastrophic flooding in the case of a direct hit. It is also NOT recommended to evacuate vertically, as in if you are in a high rise moving to higher floors traps you. In the case of medical emergencies, you have no chance of getting help. Below you will see a list of all the approved shelters for the 2019 Season. All shelters will be pet friendly, BUT you must understand and comply with all requirements (also listed below). If you use Facebook follow our local agency at: [www.facebook.com/Sarasota-County-Emergency-Services](http://www.facebook.com/Sarasota-County-Emergency-Services). The following information is from the Sarasota County Government Pages. We encourage you to do your own homework. Here is a web link you will find useful!

### Page for Emergency Services – Documents, Forms & Plans

<https://www.scgov.net/AllHazards/Pages/Documents.aspx>

Hurricane Evacuation Ctrs.	Address
Booker Middle School	2250 Myrtle St., Sarasota
Brookside Middle School	3636 S. Shade Ave., Sarasota
Southside Elementary School	1901 Webber St., Sarasota
Riverview High School	1 Ram Way, Sarasota
Booker High School	3201 N. Orange Ave., Sarasota
Phillippi Shores Elementary	4747 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota
Gulf Gate Elementary School	6500 S. Lockwood Ridge Rd, Sarasota
North Port High School	6400 W. Price Blvd., North Port
Heron Creek Middle School	6501 W. Price Blvd., North Port
Woodland Middle School	2700 Panacea Blvd., North Port
Atwater Elementary School	4701 Huntsville Ave., North Port



### Another important thing to do as a hurricane season guest

(Any time between June 1 – Nov. 30) is to register for **CODE RED**.

Sarasota County utilizes the CodeRED Notification System - an ultra-high-speed telephone communication service - for emergency notifications. This system allows us to send critical communications to all or targeted areas within the county in case of a situation that requires immediate action. Visit **SCGOV.NET** and it is located under utilities or you can use the search on the site.

### MEDICAL NEEDS PROGRAM

**About the program-** Sarasota County residents with qualifying medical needs are encouraged to apply for registration as a medically-dependent person (MDP). **How to Apply:** Submit an application to Sarasota County Emergency Management. Two ways to submit applications: **If you only need transportation to an evacuation center complete the** located online at [https://scgovmedicalneeds.formstack.com/forms/transportation\\_dependent\\_registration](https://scgovmedicalneeds.formstack.com/forms/transportation_dependent_registration).

1. Complete the *Medically-Dependent Person online app*. Located at [https://intwebs2ext.scgov.net/em\\_forms/](https://intwebs2ext.scgov.net/em_forms/) (online applications will stop being accepted at 60 hours prior to expected impact of storm).
2. Complete a paper application and fax or mail it to emergency management. This method may delay the processing of your app.(paper applications will stop being accepted at 120 hours prior to expected impact storm.)

### BEFORE YOU GO TO A CENTER:

- Locate the water shut-off valve for your residence. The valve is generally on the side of the house nearest the water meter/backflow prevention device or may be inside the garage. Turn the valve to the off position. This will help minimize damage to the interior of your home should a pipe burst.
- Follow the manufacturer’s recommendations for turning off your water heater and unplug/switch off the circuit breaker.
- Place an ice cube or two in a sealed plastic bag or small container in the freezer. If the ice cube has melted down from its original shape by the time you return, you'll know the power was off for an extended period and that you should throw out any food.
- Remove loose items, decorative and otherwise, outside the house and in the yard, and place them inside. Even the smallest item becomes a dangerous weapon.
- Alert friends/ family members of your plans and how to contact you (or have an emergency buddy, like a neighbor with whom you trade plans/info).



## Sarasota County Emergency Management Storm Information Cont.

### WHAT TO BRING:

- Flashlight (in case your center loses power).
- Your insurance, Medicare or Medicaid cards, driver license or photo I.D.
- Your children's immunization and other important health and insurance records.
- Each family member's medications, along with dosage information and physician's contact information.
- Drinking water.
- Snacks or special foods.
- Bedding and pillows.
- Book or electronic entertainment items with headphones and chargers.
- Change of clothing.
- Personal hygiene items (including toilet paper).
- Games/comfort items for children.

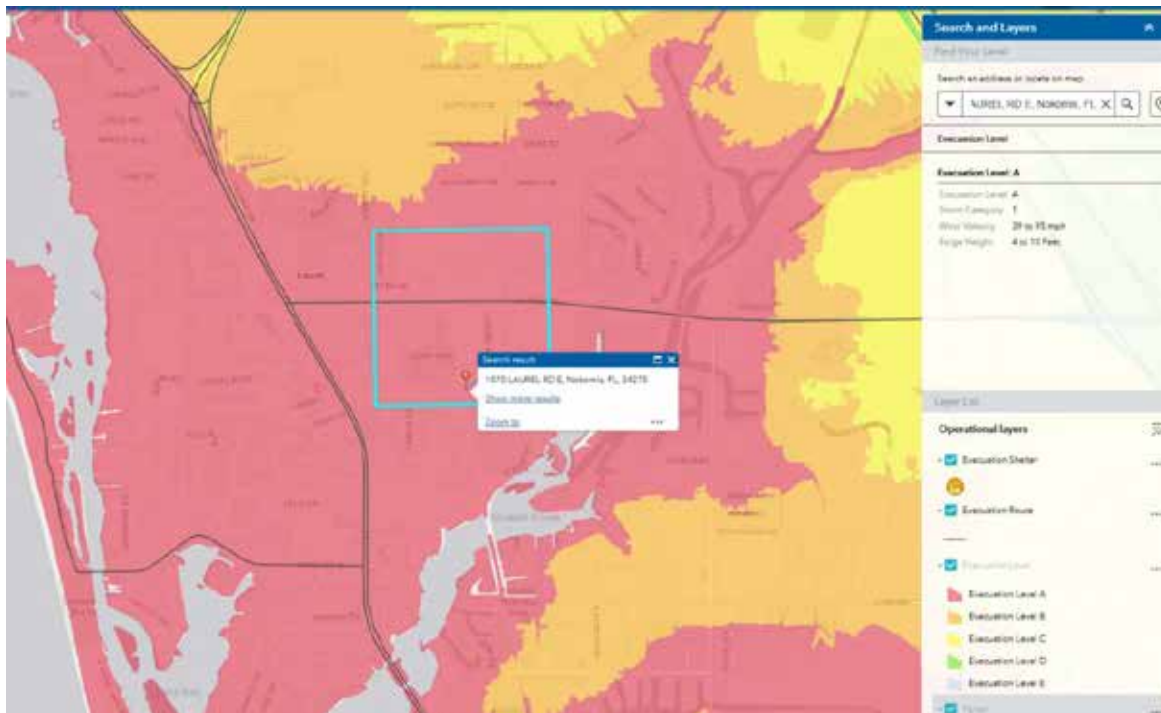
Be sure to label (name and phone number) all equipment and belongings. This will help you receive your items if lost or left behind at the evacuation center. Before you leave your home be sure to leave your answering machine on or a porch light on to make it easier to determine if your electric has been restored.

### Assemble a Portable Pet Disaster Supplies Kit:

Whether you are away from home for a day or a week, you will need essential supplies to care for your pet. Keep items in an accessible place and store them in sturdy containers that can be carried easily (duffle bags, covered trash containers, etc.). Your pet disaster supply kit should include:

- Medications and medical records (stored in a waterproof container) and a first aid kit.
- Sturdy leashes, harnesses, and/or carriers to transport pets safely and ensure that your animals cannot escape.
- Photo of you and your pet(s) – in the event you are separated from your pet, having an updated photo with your pet will help validate pet ownership.
- Food, potable water, bowls, cat litter/pan, and can opener.
- Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems, and the name and number of your veterinarian in case you must foster or board your pets.
- Pet beds and toys, if easily transportable.

**Note** from Edward McCrane, SRQ Emergency Management Chief EM-1: Please share this with your guests. I typically do not worry about the evacuation level for mobile home and RV parks because they are all automatically part of level A and must evacuate. But the proximity to Shakett Creek and the fact that the property is also in primary level A evacuation zone gives everyone *even more* reason to evacuate.



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