

THINGS TO DO NOW

Connect with your neighbors - Talk to your neighbors about your plans and needs in the event of an emergency. Make sure you complete and maintain the information on the [Emergency Response Information Sheet](#) located in the forms section of myturtlerock.com, and return it to the community center. If you live alone and/or think you will need assistance before, during, or after an emergency, talk to your neighbors.

Get Trained - Sarasota County Emergency Management offers [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. Please let the Community Manager know if you have completed the CERT training.

Download the Disaster Planning Guide - The Sarasota County Government 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. You can access the guide [here](#), which provides important information including addressing your “Stay in Place” and “Evacuation” plans. Download it, or if possible, print it, before the storm so you have it ready to refer to.

Be in the Know - Register yourself for [Emergency Notifications](#). This is a free service. It is an automated system providing fast, effective, and thorough information concerning Public Health, Safety, and Wellness.

Download media apps to stay informed – ABC7 has an informative [website](#) including QR codes to download their app to your mobile phone to help you stay informed.

Prepare your Property – Key steps you should take to avoid damage in the event of a storm.

Consider making property improvements – Consider hurricane shutters. For those with hurricane shutters meeting current storm standard shutters, Turtle Rock homes should be reasonably safe for CAT 3 hurricanes with wind speeds up to 130 MPH. Consider installing a generator to provide power.

Prepare an Individual Notification Plan – Should include anyone you might need to contact in the case of an emergency. This should include family, friends, doctors, vendors and business associates and include names, phone numbers, cell numbers, email, and social media information. 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. Prepare a list of [important phone numbers and websites](#).