

2.2 Hurricanes

2.2.1 General

The following information is for the use of residents of the Savoy on Palm who plan to occupy their condominium units during all or part of the hurricane season. If you plan to be elsewhere be sure to follow the Association Rules regarding stowage of outdoor furniture and the like.

Sarasota County is a candidate for incidence of hurricanes during the period of June 1 to Nov. 30 each year. The County government includes an Emergency Management organization with offices a few blocks away at 1660 Ringling Blvd., 6th floor, whose job it is to prepare for emergencies, especially hurricanes. This organization is responsible for the development and maintenance of an emergency management plan for the county, including the following items:

- reduce the vulnerability of people and communities of Sarasota County to loss of life, injury or damage and loss of property resulting from natural, technological or man-made emergencies such as acts of terrorism or major special events, catastrophes or hostile military or paramilitary action;
- prepare for prompt and efficient response and recovery activities to protect lives and property affected by emergencies;
- respond to emergencies using all systems, applicable laws, plans and resources necessary to preserve the health, safety and welfare of persons affected by the emergency;
- recover from emergencies by providing for the rapid and orderly implementation of restoration and rehabilitation programs for persons and property affected by emergencies;
- assist in anticipation, recognition, appraisal, prevention and mitigation of emergencies that may be caused or aggravated by inadequate planning for, and regulation of, public and private facilities and land use;
- establish the concepts under which the Sarasota County Government will operate in response to disasters through integration;
- define the responsibilities of elected and appointed local government officials and department heads.
- define the emergency roles and functions of city and county departments and agencies;
- provide local guidelines based upon the Rule of Law as it pertains to disaster response;
- provide and coordinate appropriate and available mutual aid response to other disaster-impacted jurisdictions, if requested through the State Emergency Operations Center, in accordance with the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement.

The Emergency Management phone number is 941-861-5000. Their storm monitoring web site is at <http://www.scgov.net/StormCenter/StormCenterHome.asp>

This document outlines the recommended response by the Savoy community to the incidence of a hurricane.

2.2.2 Sarasota County Evacuation Zones and Shelters

Sarasota has only experienced direct hits by hurricanes twice in the past 150 years. There was a near miss in 2004 when Hurricane Charlie, category 4, hit Punta Gorda. Nonetheless, the random tracks of these powerful storms make Sarasota just as likely to be hit as any other location along the west coast of Florida. The Savoy property is located just a few hundred feet from Sarasota Bay and is therefore likely to experience a storm surge of water in the event of a

direct hit. The modeling of storm surges likelihood is an ongoing scientific endeavor. It has been learned that storm surge height is not well correlated with Hurricane Category number. The Savoy on Palm is located in what the county calls “Zone C”.

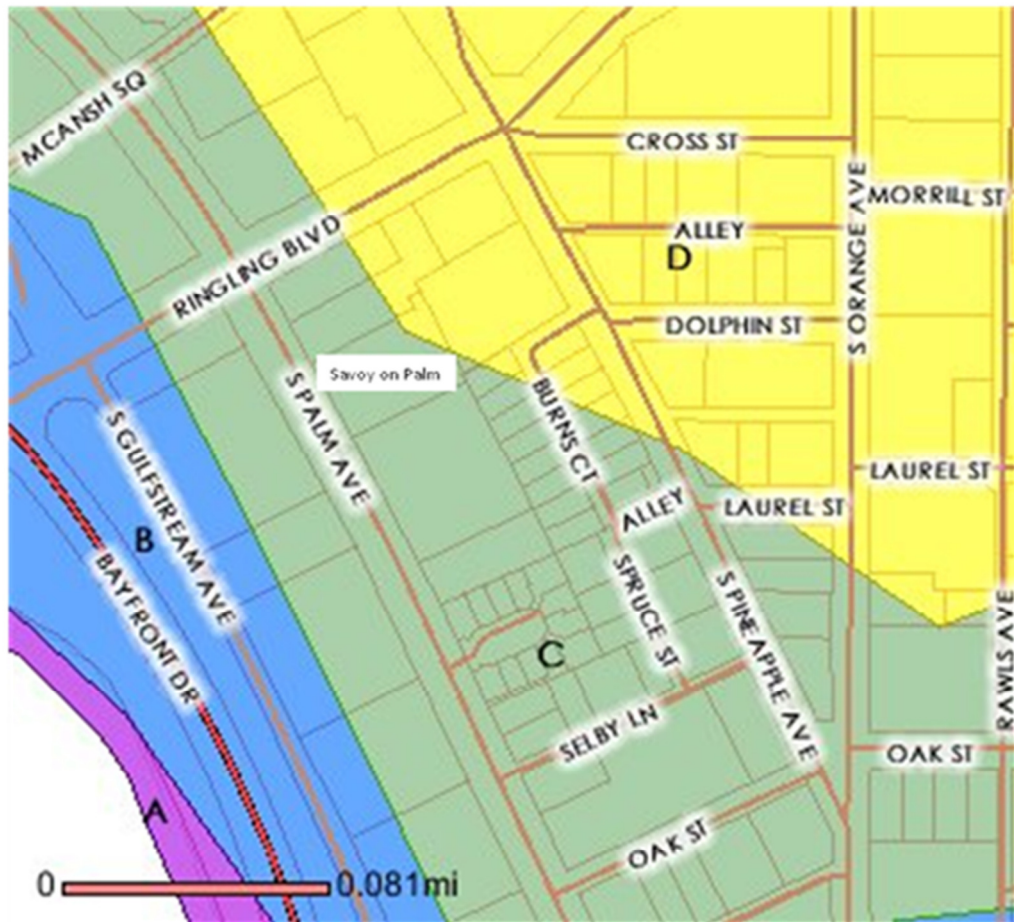


Figure 2.1.1 Savoy on Palm Evacuation Zone

The current best estimate is that the worst case storm surge likely to be experienced by the Savoy on Palm is about 13 feet above sea level. The ground floor of the Savoy is at 11 feet above sea level. This suggests a worst case plan is needed for a 2 feet surge of water. Measures to be taken are described below.

If a category 3 or higher storm is expected, residents of the Savoy will be urged by the county to evacuate. It is the position of the Board of Directors of the Savoy that all residents should evacuate the building should the City and/or County give the order to do so.

If you should choose to go to a local shelter, the nearest is at Sarasota High School on S. Tamiami Trail, just south of the convergence of routes 41 and 301. This shelter has no facility for pets. If you have a pet, the nearest shelter that accepts pets is at the Brookside Middle School at 3636 S. Shade Ave. If you take your dog or cat to a shelter you must have proof of a current

license and vaccinations. The pet must be contained in an appropriate pet carrier. Having the needed records and equipment for your pet is one example of planning needed in anticipation of a hurricane making landfall in our vicinity. Additional planning guidelines are given in the next section.

When residents return in the wake of a hurricane, the building may be operating on the emergency generator. For a discussion of this operation see the section on extended power outages below.

2.2.3 Planning for a Hurricane

If you stay, it's important to **HAVE A PLAN** that keeps you safe in your home. Decide now **Should I Stay or Should I Go**. Before a hurricane makes landfall, a hurricane watch will be issued followed by a hurricane warning as dictated by the path of the impending storm. In response to a hurricane watch or a hurricane warning the Beth Callans Management team for our building will take on certain responsibilities described in the next section. If you are away for extended periods during the hurricane season or plan to leave in advance of an impending storm, the Savoy rules require you to remove all furniture, decorative materials, fan blades, sliding window screens and all other moveable objects from your balconies and terraces. If you plan to stay, you should remove these items at the initiation of a Hurricane Watch for Sarasota County. Failure to do so will risk responsibility for property damage or injury to passers-by due to flying objects lifted from your balconies by high winds. Also, please review the following suggestions that might implement in the event of a hurricane warning or watch:

Before a Hurricane

- a. Make a personal hurricane plan.
- b. Review and rehearse the plan with the entire family.
- c. Know your evacuation zone.
- d. If someone has special needs and needs assistance, contact Emergency Management to get them registered *before* the hurricane.
- e. Fill bathtub with water for hygiene purposes.
- f. Fill containers with water (one-gallon per person and pet per day).
- g. Fill vehicle gas tanks.
- h. Get cash (ATMs may be unavailable after a hurricane makes landfall).

Items you need to have and what you need to do regardless of your decision to stay or go.

Home All Hazard Kit

- a. Broom

- b. Cash money (small denominations & coins)
- c. Clothing
- d. Dry food
- e. Fire extinguisher
- f. First aid kit
- g. Flashlight with extra batteries, or chemical light sticks
- h. Insect fly/mosquito and ant sprays
- i. Local road map r GPS
- j. Matches, in waterproof container
- k. Plastic sheeting rolls (4 mil 10" x 25")
- l. Screwdrivers (Phillips and flat edge)
- m. Small and large plastic bags
- n. Small radio with extra batteries (battery-powered portable)
- o. Standard telephone (not a cordless)
- p. Toilet paper
- q. Toilet supplies – wet wipes, bath soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, sanitary napkins
- r. Walking shoes and socks
- s. Water for drinking and for sanitation
- t. Work gloves

Emergency Food Supply List Suggestions

The top ten long-lasting staples you should have in your emergency food supply:

- a. Pastas and rice
- b. Peanut Butter
- c. Canned fruits and vegetables
- d. Canned meat, fish and poultry
- e. Canned stew

- f. Powdered or canned milk
- g. Canned or dried beans (instant beans – just add water)
- h. Dry cereals
- i. Canned or dried fruits
- j. Canned all-purpose biscuits

Emergency Water Supply

- a. Bottled water stored in a cool, dry place.
- b. Minimum needed for drinking is two quarts per day for each person in the family.
- c. Remember that pets also will need water.
- d. DO NOT drink water from swimming pools or spas. You can use it for hygiene purposes, but drinking it could make you ill.

Car All Hazards Kit

Having a disaster kit in the car can help you get through whatever situation you may face. The following supplies are recommended for your car kit.

- a. Blankets, Mylar space blanket
- b. Jacket/plastic fold-up rain gear
- c. Change of clothes
- d. Jumper cables
- e. Tool kit: include small shovel and small saw
- f. Red cloth to use as flag
- g. CB radio or cell phone
- h. Water
- i. Energy bars or non-perishable food/snacks
- j. Closed toe shoes or boots
- k. First aid kit with necessary medications
- l. Flashlight
- m. Maps or GPS

Review all insurance policies to ensure they are up-to-date and provide adequate coverage. Have all important documents readily available for transporting if necessary.

Take a written inventory of belongings.

Ensure your pets have tags with address and phone number.

Have current photos of pets and have current vaccination papers and at least a two week supply of a special medication for your pets in your hurricane kit.

During the Hurricane

If you plan to stay:

Stay inside at all times.

Wind and rain can temporarily calm down if the eye of the hurricane passes right over you. But, it will pick up again.

Stay away from windows and doors.

Listen to local media for continuous coverage of the storm.

Have a set of "rabbit ears" or other small antenna on hand if cable or satellite is interrupted.

If power is lost, tune a battery-powered radio to your local hurricane information.

Listen to NOAA Weather Radio for additional severe weather or emergency information.

If you plan to evacuate:

Determine in *advance* where you will go.

How you will get there.

Where you will stay.

Have a backup plan.

Take your hurricane survival kit with you.

If you plan to evacuate to a public shelter, familiarize yourself with local public shelters and what to do with your pets.

After the Hurricane

Listen to local radio stations and your NOAA Weather Radio for emergency information.

Do not use public water for cooking or drinking until you are notified it is safe.

Only use telephone for emergencies.

Carefully survey any damage.

If you have evacuated, do **not** attempt to return home until local officials have announced it is safe.