GRAND POINTE EAST

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS PLAN

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I. Introduction

Without question, hurricanes and tropical storms present a strong potential for serious bodily harm and property damage for citizens of the State of Florida coastal zones. Therefore, it is incumbent upon residents of the area, and specifically Grand Pointe East (GPE), to be prepared for these storms to the extent possible. The following Plan has been developed pursuant to guidance provided by the State of Florida. It is intended to help residents prepare for hurricanes and other emergency hazards. Periodically, the Grand Pointe East Board of Directors will conduct an informational meeting to discuss hurricane preparedness. The Board welcomes any input from residents regarding this Plan. The Plan will be subject to review and revision as future events and circumstances dictate.

II. Storm Definitions

To better prepare yourself for a possible hurricane strike, you should be familiar with the different terms that may be used. This page will briefly define some terms related to tropical storms and hurricanes.

A. Tropical Depression: A tropical system in which the maximum sustained surface wind is 33 knots (38 miles per hour) or less.

B. Tropical Storm: A tropical system in which the maximum sustained surface wind ranges from 34 to 63 knots (39 to 73 mph) These systems are also intense rainfall producers, but often cause enough wind and waves to cause some beach erosion and minor boat damage.

C. Tropical Storm Watch: An announcement for a specific area that tropical storm conditions pose a possible threat to coastal areas within 36 hours.

D. Tropical Storm warning: A warning that tropical storm conditions, including sustained winds of 39 – 73 mph, associated with a tropical storm are expected in a specified coastal area within 24 hours or less. Any preparedness measures should be completed as soon as possible.

E. Tropical Storm Wind Watch: An announcement for inland areas that sustained winds of 39 – 73 mph or greater associated with a tropical storm are anticipated beyond the coastal areas.

F. **Tropical Storm Wind Warning**: An announcement for inland areas that sustained winds of 39 – 73 mph or greater associated with a tropical storm are anticipated beyond the coastal areas in the next 6 to 24 hours.
G. **Hurricane**: A tropical system in which the maximum sustained surface wind is 64 knots (74 mph)or greater.
H. **Hurricane Watch**: An announcement for a specific area that hurricane conditions pose a possible threat to coastal areas within 36 hours.
I. **Hurricane Warning**: A warning that hurricane conditions, including sustained winds of 74 mph or greater, are expected in a specified coastal area within 24 hours or less. Any preparedness measures must be rushed to completion once the warning is issued. High winds and coastal flooding will develop many hours before the eye of the storm actually comes ashore.
J. **Hurricane Wind Watch**: An announcement for inland areas that sustained winds of 74 mph or greater associated with a hurricane are anticipated beyond the coastal areas. The actual occurrence, timing and location are still uncertain.
K. **Hurricane Wind Warning**: An announcement for inland areas that sustained winds of 74 mph or greater associated with a hurricane are anticipated beyond the coastal areas in the next 6 to 24 hours.
L. **Hurricane Eye**: A relatively calm area in the center of the storm. In this area, winds are light, and the sky is only partly covered by clouds. Never go outside in the eye of a storm. This period of relative calm may only last 10 to 20 minutes before hurricane force winds and torrential rains return from the opposite direction.
M. **Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale**: A scale ranging from 1 to 5 based on the maximum sustained wind speed of the hurricane. This can be used to give an estimate of the potential property damage and flooding expected along the coast from a hurricane. Extreme care should be used if using this scale as a guide to preparation steps when the sustained wind speed brings the storm within 10 mph of the next higher scale category. There is not much difference between a 110 mph (Cat 2) storm and a 111 mph (Cat 3) storm.
N. **Hurricane Local Statement**: A public release prepared by the National Weather Service office serving the threatened area. This statement will provide specific details on expected and observed weather conditions, evacuation decisions made by local officials and other precautions necessary to protect life and property.

It is the Resident's responsibility to prepare and secure their own property prior to a storm arrival.

III. Communications

In the event of an evacuation, ensure that a friend, GPE neighbor and/or the HOA Board have your contact information.

President – Barry Koncan - 850-221-7101
Vice President – Robert Giacobbe - 770-545-7733
Secretary – John Unzicker – 850-206-5688
Email – barrykoncan@bellsouth.net
robert.giacobbe@gmail.com
jaunzicker@gmail.com

Important Phone Numbers

Ambulance, fire/rescue, police	911
Florida Division of Emergency Management	850-815-4000
Santa Rosa County Emergency Management	850-983-5360
Santa Rosa County Sherrif Emergency Ops	850-981-2270
Federal Emergency Management Agency	800-621-3362
American Red Cross of NW Fla	850-432-7601
Florida Department of Health	850-983-5200
National Weather Service	251-633-6443
Florida Department of Financial Services	877-693-5236
Disaster Distress Hot Line	800-985-5990

IV. Securing Common Areas

Upon receipt of a Tropical Storm Watch announcement for our area, Members of the GPE Board of Directors (Board) and any volunteers will conduct an inspection of all neighborhood Common Areas and ensure that all loose objects on the property that might be blown about by high winds are secured or stored away. The Clubhouse will

likewise be inspected and measures undertaken to make the building as safe as possible. Items on the clubhouse grounds such as trash containers and poolside furniture need to be secured inside of the clubhouse building until the severe weather passes. All Residents are encouraged to be on the lookout for any items about the Community that might be damaged or might cause damage to other property. They should notify someone on the Board who can address the issue.

V. Routine Property Inspections

The GPE Board members are tasked with conducting regular inspections of the common property, especially roofs, gutters and trees to identify and address potential vulnerabilities. Residents are encouraged to do the same. Items of concern should be brought to the attention of a member of the Board. The Board will also assess the community's flood risk and implement measures to mitigate potential damage.

VI. Evacuations

A. **Notification** Evacuation decisions are made by the local government based on the severity of a storm. Upon notification (provided through local media) that a tropical storm or hurricane is predicted to strike the area within 36 hours, and this strike area encompasses GPE, the Board will reach out to Residents to promote awareness of the situation to the community through email bulletins and publication on the GPE website. Residents are responsible for their own awareness of emergency situations by also monitoring local news and other available communications from sources outside of GPE.

B. **Voluntary or Mandatory Evacuations** It is the Residents' responsibility to seriously consider and decide whether to comply with a Voluntary Evacuation Request. It is also the Residents' responsibility to comply with a Mandatory Evacuation Order. Residents in a mandatory evacuation zone must leave the area of danger. It is illegal to stay in a home under a mandatory evacuation order. Once a Mandatory Evacuation Order is issued, non-residents are not allowed in the community except to secure a job site or the assist a Resident in evacuating.

C. **Evacuation Routes/Destinations/Public Shelters** The primary evacuation routes for GPE, and the location of public shelters, are described in the Santa Rosa County Emergency Management website. Please visit the website at https://www.santarosacounty.fl.gov. You should prepare in advance for which route you might take. As you are evacuating, you should listen to the car radio for timely information.

VII. Post Storm Phase

If evacuation was ordered (Mandatory) or requested (Voluntary), the GPE Board will determine (if possible) when it is feasible for Residents to return. The Board will take the necessary actions to arrange for any common area clean-up activities that may be necessary. Remember that, if a Mandatory Evacuation Order was issued, the Sherrif's Department may enforce and limit re-entry to the community, and may require identification and proof of residency, e.g. Driver's License, electric bill, etc.

VIII. Insurance Review

The GPE Board is responsible to verify that the association's insurance coverage is up-to-date and adequate, covering both property damage to common areas and potential liability claims.

IX. Hurricane Protection Specifications

Residents are encouraged to obtain and install, when necessary, hurricane protection systems, devices and materials. These items include, but are not limited to, shutters, wind rated windows and doors. Any such items must comply with the current Florida Building Code and the GPE Covenants and Restrictions. The HOA cannot deny a Resident's request to install hurricane protection systems that meet the established specifications.

X. Check Lists

A. Emergency Preparation at Home

1. Full tank of gas
2. First aid kit
3. Battery operated radio and extra batteries
4. Canned, non-perishable food and drink
5. Eating utensils and manual can opener
6. Flashlights and extra batteries, Lanterns, candles and matches
7. Cash
8. Sanitary Care items
9. Prescription drugs
10. Mosquito repellant
11. Plastic bags and containers
12. Bleach
13. Water jugs. Enough water to provide 1 gallon of drinkable water per person per day
14. Insurance policies and other important papers (driver's license, photos of home contents)
15. Misc. items: duct tape, sleeping bags, insulated coolers, tools, games, cards, pet supplies, etc.

B. Leaving your Home

1. Leave a telephone number where you can be reached with a friend, GPE neighbor and/or Board member.
2. Make sure your yard and porches are clear of loose objects that can be blown about by high winds, such as gas grills, lawn furniture, plants, etc.
3. Storm shutters are recommended for all homes.
4. Be sure to take all your important documents with you
5. Air conditioner – set to 80 – 85 degrees
6. Closet doors and drawers – leave partially open to let the air circulate. Use Damp Rid or similar product
7. Electric – unplug TV, VCR, Microwave and computer

8. Security - make sure all windows and doors are locked. If you have home security, you may want to notify your security company of the name of an alternate contact person, in the event the alarm is triggered while you are away.

C. Preparation for Pets

1. Securely fasten an up-to-date identification tag on your pet's collar
2. Carry a photo of your pet with you for identification purposes
3. Make sure you have a pet carrier, leash or harness for controlling your pet.
4. Pack a week's worth of food and water
5. Include immunization records and medications
6. Understand that shelters generally do not accept pets due to health and safety reasons. Check the Santa Rosa County Emergency Management website to locate pet friendly shelters
7. Call ahead to hotels and motels to find out if they will allow pets
8. If you have lost your pet, call the local animal control office to find out where lost animals be recovered. Bring photos of your pet.

XI. Santa Rosa County Hurricane Emergency Plan

The Santa Rosa County Emergency Management website contains a great deal of valuable information and guidelines for hurricane preparedness. Residents are encouraged to review the information at the beginning of hurricane season (June 1) and periodically during the summer and fall to familiarize yourselves with the contents. Go to https://www.santarosacounty.fl.gov

DISCLAIMER – THIS EMERGENCY PLAN IS INTENDED TO ASSIST RESIDENTS IN THEIR EMERGY PREPARATIONS. IT IS NOT MEANT TO BE ALL INCLUSIVE. THE GRAND POINTE EAST BOARD OF DIRECTORS DOES NOT ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SUCCESS OR FAILURE OF ANY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED HEREIN.