

VERY IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ – COULD SAVE LIVES June 30, 2008

Dear Florencia Owners,

This season we are distributing the Florencia *Hurricane/Disaster Plan for the Owners Handbook*. This contains important information for your safety in case of hurricanes. Other emergency publications are adequate, but the 2004 and 2005 storm season has opened a new chapter in how we react and what should be considered. I wish to equip you with additional information so that you'll have the knowledge and prepare in advance for a hurricane. The most important thing is that you have a plan in place so you won't be caught off guard at the last minute. With a plan, you'll be efficient in implementing it at the right time based on your decision. Use the Florencia Hurricane Disaster Plan or the *2008 Lee County All Hazards Guide* (available in our mailroom or at www.leeoc.com) to help you plan what supplies to get and a course of action. Don't wait until the last minute.

With hurricane season just around the corner, it's a reminder of 2004/2005 season when we were wrought with a number of hurricanes: Charley, Frances, Ivan, Jeanne, Katrina, Rita & Wilma, with subsequent power outages. Charley hit 60 miles north of Naples. Damage at other Colony Buildings included destroyed landscaping, damaged screens and building water intrusion. Keep in mind that this was only a category one condition in Naples and increased as it passed by The Colony.

- A. Tropical Storm Watch:** issued when tropical storm conditions may pose a threat within 36 hours.
- B. Tropical Storm Warning:** issued when tropical storm conditions are expected within 24 hours.
- C. Hurricane Watch:** issued up to 36 hours in advance of landfall and indicates that everyone in the area should be ready to take protective measures if a Hurricane Warning is issued.
- D. Hurricane Warning:** is issued when hurricane conditions are expected in the area in 24 hours or less. A Mandatory Evacuation "could" take place at this time. Precautions should be taken immediately. If a hurricane's path is erratic, there may be only a few hours before the onset of hurricane conditions. You must have a plan & be prepared by this time.
- E. Mandatory Evacuation:** is given 24-36 hrs from landfall. Storms can change dramatically & quickly depending on conditions and this will dictate timing of an Evacuation Order.

Our building is very well built. However, there are considerations you need to review in your decision to stay or leave. Hurricanes are serious life-threatening storms that spawn tornados, flooding & high winds. Whenever the Board of County Commissioners of Lee County issues a resolution for Mandatory Evacuation, we should assume the worst case scenario of no power with generator failure and a direct hit from the bad side of a storm. We ask that you consider the following in your determination to evacuate or stay:

- A. **Mandatory Evacuation means emergency vehicles may not be able to get through after a storm.** (no medical, police, fire trucks etc.)
- B. Emergency vehicles **will not** respond during a storm.
- C. Bridges and roads to our area would be closed until lost utilities are restored.
- D. If power is lost, Florencia could be **unbearable to live in**. Snakes, heat, mosquito born diseases, illness, flooding, no communication, health problems and frozen transportation could pose serious problems. It could take many weeks for utilities to be restored.

When a Mandatory Evacuation has been issued, for your safety and well-being, we strongly urge evacuation compliance. If you choose to stay, you will be on your own. Medically impaired owners may want to consider evacuating during a Hurricane Watch, since they have different concerns regarding their medical needs. If people wait until the last moment, they will have problems with traffic.

Starting with a Hurricane Warning and continuing into the Mandatory Evacuation phase, our entire staff will be working diligently implementing our EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN, as mandated by the Board. This includes preparing the grounds, moving cars, sand bagging all exterior building doors, installing storm doors, removing pool furniture and many other items to minimize damage. Consequently, they will be unable to attend to personal requests by owners. Please refrain from calling, thus tying up the phone for emergency calls. Please fax concerns to 239-949-3117 or e-mail florenciamanager@comcast.net Because of the emergency situation or power failure, it may take a few days to respond to you.

When a hurricane strikes, the following will be locked down and power turned off while the storm is in progress for safety & mechanical reasons:

- A. **Elevators** will be locked on an elevated floor & will not be available.
- B. **Water** will be turned off.
- C. **Cooling Towers** will be off, which means your air conditioning will be off during the storm.
- D. **Power:** The City may turn the power off before a storm hits. If no major damage occurs to power lines, power could be reinstated. If damage occurs, then our emergency generator will power some lights, doors, gates, security, water & elevators. Owners will have no power to their units and no AC. If we lose generator power, then our fire protection, water and elevator systems will be useless.

