



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PLAN (DPP) Lake of the Woods of Jacaranda

Dear Neighbor,

Your neighbors,

(name) _____ (name) _____
(address) _____ (address) _____
(phone) _____ (phone) _____
(Email) _____

have agreed to be Zone Leaders on the Disaster Preparedness Committee in the event of an emergency.

What does that mean? The primary focus of the Lake of the Woods of Jacaranda's - Disaster Preparedness Plan is about PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE in the event of a disaster that may detain emergency services. It's our mission to HELP residents safeguard themselves and their properties in this zone, before, during and after an event. Good preparation as an individual, as a family and as a united community is the key to survival.

Here are some questions you may be asking;

- a. **What do you mean by a disaster?** A disaster could be a hurricane, tornado, fire, plane crash, flood or anything that puts our Zone in an emergency situation.
- b. **What if someone in my household has special needs?** If you or anyone in your household has special needs, first we need to know. Second, we can provide a form that allows you to pre-register with Sarasota County. The County will then provide transportation to a shelter to keep you out of harms way. It's important to keep us current on the special needs of your household. These arrangements need to be made before the storm strikes.
- c. **What if I'm evacuating, what is my responsibility to my Zone Leaders?** As Zone Leaders we are responsible for knowing if a house is occupied or unoccupied. We are challenged with knowing where each resident who evacuates has gone. If you stay local and go to a shelter, relatives, or travel to another state, we will need to know how to contact you to keep you abreast of what is happening here at home. It is also important that we have your contact information recorded on the form provided in this packet.
- d. **What if I decide to stay?** We are in the process of setting up a telephone tree to keep you as informed as we can. If possible, please let a Zone Leader know that you are planning to ride out the storm.

(OVER)

- e. **What do I do with the red and green ribbons?** The idea is to use the ribbons as a means of communication. They should be tied onto your front door or garage light and be clearly visible. Please tie them as follows: **red** if you are in need of help. Help could mean evacuating you by boat in case of a flood or providing transportation to a hospital. The **green** tie would indicate that you are all right so CERT volunteers can concentrate on those that need assistance. Tying “a” ribbon is better than not putting any signal up. It will save us time knowing that your loved ones are safe.

Here is a list of expectations for the Zone Leader, should a disaster strike:

We need to:

- a. Collect important information from each resident before a disaster strikes.
- b. Support Sarasota County’s Special Needs Program. This program provides transportation to a shelter for those residents with special needs in the event of an evacuation.
- c. Establish a Zone Command Post.
- d. Keep track of all emergency response activities in our Zone.
- e. Know the evacuation location for each resident and where he/she can be reached.
- f. Determine which residents need special assistance (red tie) and be sure to communicate the information back to those that can help.

Here is what we want to do for you.

Unless there is a mandatory evacuation:

- a. We will be the ones going door to door to make sure you are OK.
- b. We will be your point of contact if you have evacuated and want to know if your home is ok.
- c. We can be the contact for your family when they need an update on your condition if you cannot provide it, we will try to be there for them.

How?

There is a well-defined chain of command and ham radio communication system ready to be put into place. Residents are receiving CERT training. We’d work with the Red Cross and other emergency personnel. We’d try to keep abreast of events as they unfold to help you better understand what is happening on your own street.

Help us help you!

1. Fill out the *INFORMATION FORM* provided in your kit.
2. Return the completed form to a Zone Leader (see the top of the first page) or Enclose the Form in a sealed envelope with ‘DPP’ marked on the front and drop it into the Clubhouse mail box.
3. Send an e-mail to the zone email address (see the top of the first page). This will automatically add your e-mail to our contact list. This e-mail address is for *emergency use only*.

Thank You for Your Cooperation.

Be safe. Remember that neighbors are like family. We’re here for each other.

Your Zone Leaders.