



# Hurricane Preparedness

What You Should Consider  
When A Storm Is Coming

# Early Preparedness Steps

- **Develop a Family Emergency Plan**
  - How will I get the information I need?
  - Where do I plan to shelter?
    - Stay home?
    - Go to a shelter?
      - What will they require me to bring?
    - Evacuate the area?
  - Who needs to know where I am and where I will be?
  - How will I communicate with family and friends?



# Where To Get The Information You Need

- The National Weather Service
  - (<https://www.weather.gov/>)
- National Hurricane Center
  - (<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/gtwo.php>)
- Florida Emergency Management
  - (<https://www.floridadisaster.org/>)
- Manatee County
  - (<https://extreme-weather-dashboard-manateegis.hub.arcgis.com/>)
- Lakewood Ranch CERT
  - (<https://lwrcert.org/hurricane/>)
- Local TV Stations

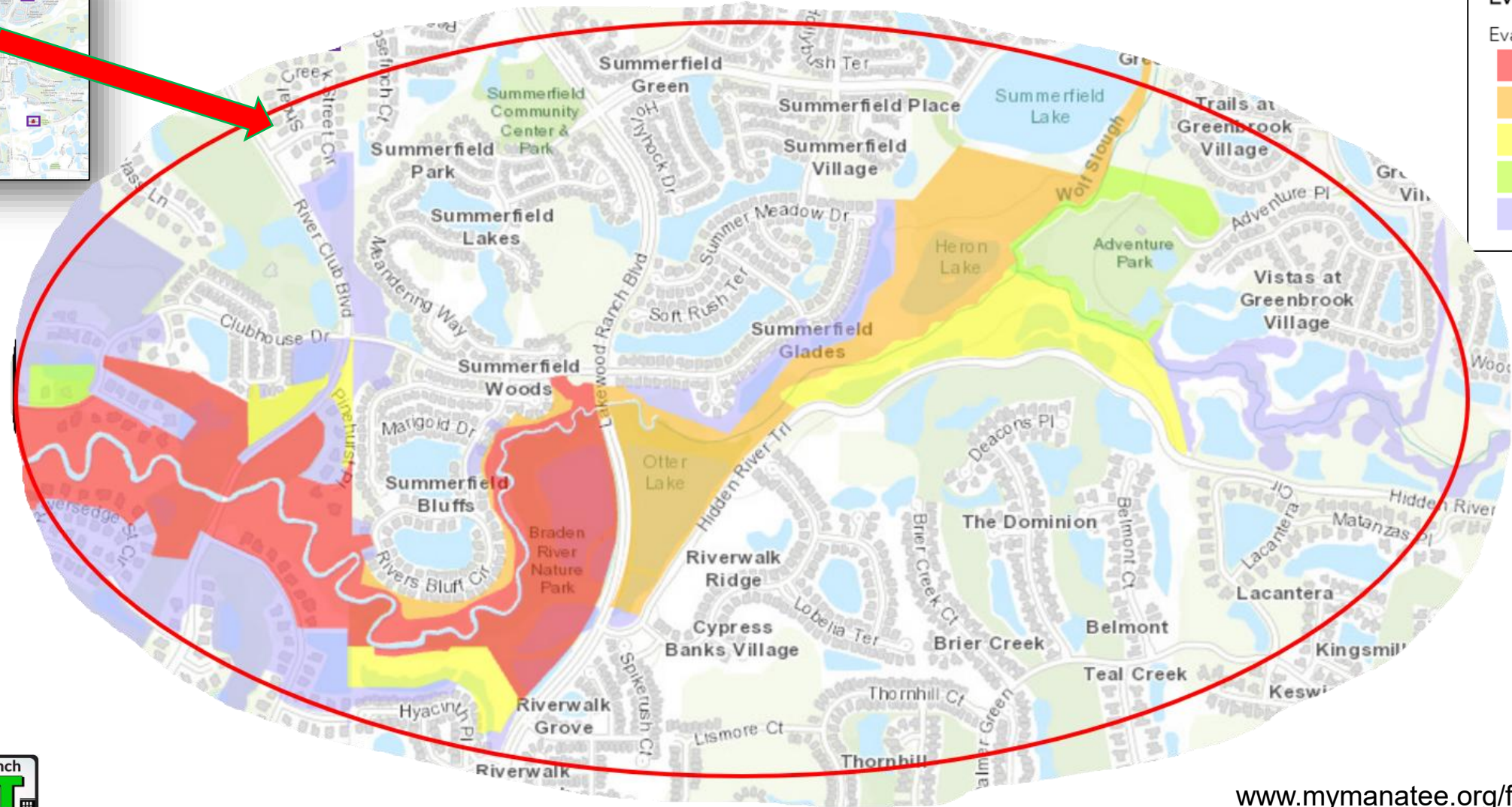
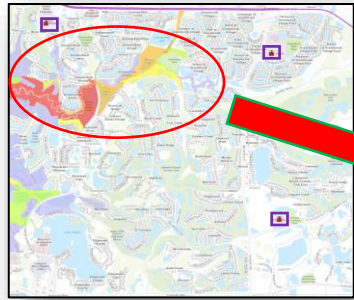


# Early Preparedness Steps

- **Have an Evacuation Plan**
  - Where will I go?
  - Do I need to make arrangements in advance?
  - What is the best way to get there?
  - How will I get there?
  - When will I go?
  - What do I need to have with me?

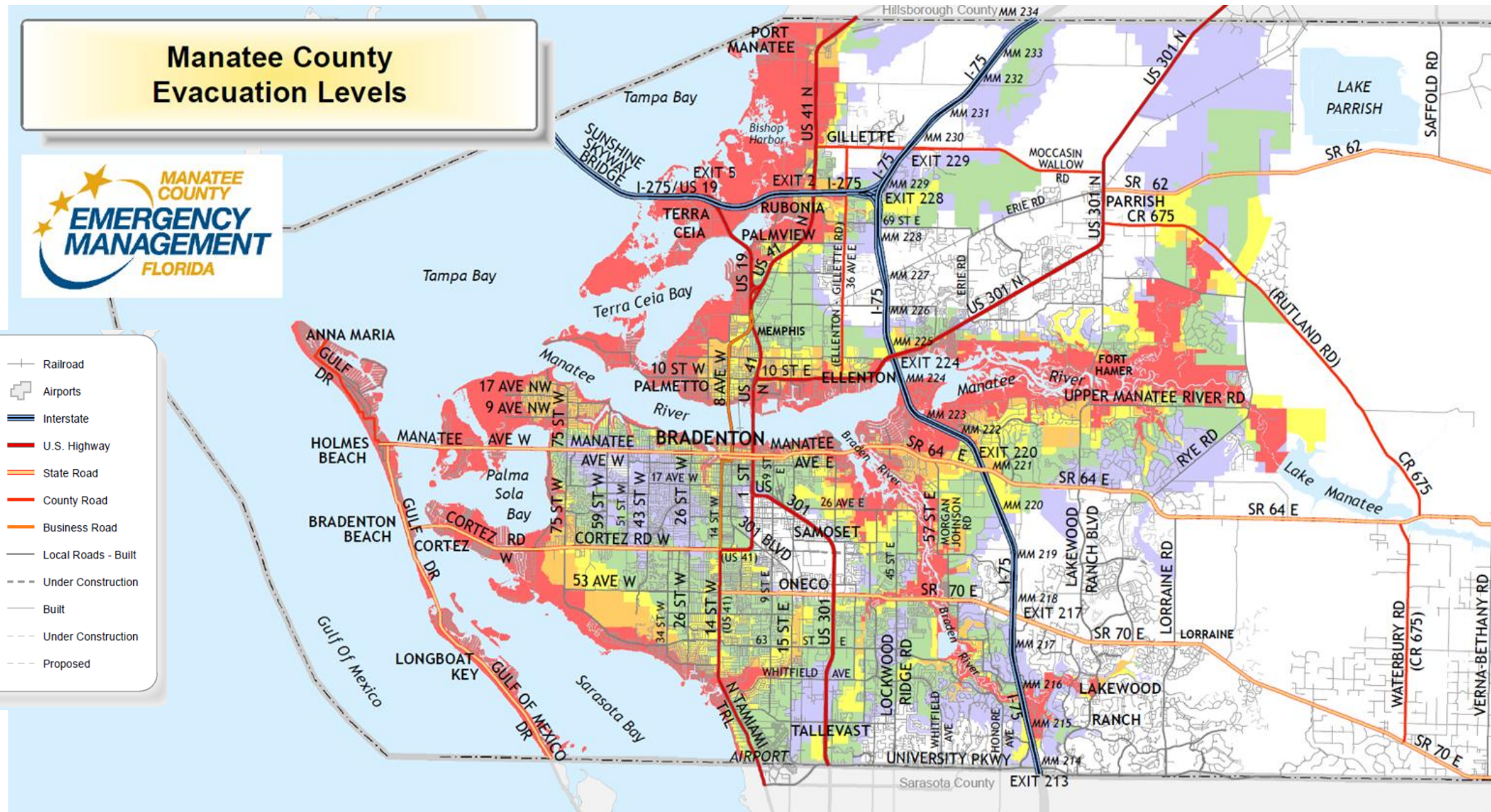


# Evacuation Information In Lakewood Ranch



| Evacuation Levels |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Evac Level        |              |
| Level A           | Red          |
| Level B           | Orange       |
| Level C           | Yellow       |
| Level D           | Light Green  |
| Level E           | Light Purple |

# Manatee County Evacuation Levels



# Early Preparedness Steps

- **Preserve Important Documents**
  - Personal Documents
  - Financial Documents
  - Medical Documents
  - Household Documents
  - Insurance Documents
  - Family Photos & Memorabilia
- **Store vital documents in:**
  - Waterproof Containers
  - Fireproof Containers
  - Digitally.



# Before the Storm Arrives

- Be sure that insurance coverage is adequate and up to date
- Think about emergency supplies you might need
  - Plan to shop for what you don't have well in advance
  - Leave enough time for delivery or
  - Pick up at store before the pre storm rush
- Charge devices and batteries
- Secure all outdoor items
- Put up shutters



# Emergency Supplies (Basic Needs 1)

- **Water:**
  - At least 1 gallon per person per day for at least 3 days (preferably 7 days). (\$30 for 100 gallons)
- **Non-Perishable Food:**
  - Canned goods, protein bars, dried fruits, and other non-perishables for 3-7 days.
- **Manual Can Opener:**
  - In case of power outages. (\$10)



# Emergency Supplies (Basic Needs 2)

- **Medications:**
  - A week's supply of prescription medications, with extras for essential medical equipment (e.g., insulin, asthma inhalers).
- **First Aid Kit:**
  - Bandages, antiseptics, over-the-counter pain relievers, gloves, and first-aid manual. (\$15 Basic Kit)
- **Flashlights:**
  - Battery-operated or hand-crank flashlights (avoid candles for fire safety reasons). (\$12)



# Emergency Supplies (Basic Needs 3)

- **Batteries:**
  - Stock up on batteries for flashlights, radios, and medical equipment.
- **Portable Battery Packs:**
  - For charging phones and essential devices during power outages. (\$18 solar)
- **Whistle:**
  - To signal for help if trapped or in danger.
- **Blankets and Warm Clothes:**
  - In case of cold weather following a storm or power loss.



# Tools and Safety Gear

- **Multipurpose Tool/Swiss Army Knife:**
  - For cutting, unscrewing, or opening items. (\$21)
- **Plywood, Shutters, or Storm Panels:**
  - To cover windows and prevent damage from flying debris.
- **Heavy-Duty Garbage Bags:**
  - For waste, personal sanitation, or waterproofing valuables. (\$16)
- **Plastic Tarps:**
  - To cover damaged roofs or create makeshift shelters. (\$20)



# More Tools and Safety Gear

- **Duct Tape:**
  - For quick repairs and securing loose items. (\$6)
- **Fire Extinguisher:**
  - In case of small fires caused by electrical malfunctions or damage. (\$13)
- **Work Gloves:**
  - To handle debris safely during recovery. (\$10)
- **Face Masks:**
  - To protect from dust and mold when cleaning up after the storm.



# Power and Light

- **Portable Generator:**
  - Essential for backup power during extended outages (ensure safe usage outdoors to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning).
- **Solar-Powered or Hand-Crank Radios:**
  - To stay informed about the weather and emergency broadcasts even if the power is out. (\$36)
- **Headlamps or Lanterns:**
  - Rechargeable or battery-operated lanterns for hands-free lighting. (4 for \$20)



# Health and Sanitation

- **Hygiene Items:**
  - Soap, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and feminine hygiene products.
- **Portable Toilet Supplies:**
  - In case running water becomes unavailable (camping toilets, or buckets with plastic liners).
- **Incontinence Supplies:**
  - For older adults or those with medical needs.
- **Moist Towelettes and Dry Shampoo:**
  - To stay clean without water.



# Specialized Equipment for Older Adults

- **Medical Devices:**
  - Extra batteries or backup power for medical devices like oxygen tanks, CPAP machines, or blood sugar monitors.
- **Mobility Aids:**
  - Walkers, canes, or wheelchairs, with backups if needed.
- **Hearing Aid Batteries:**
  - Extra supplies of hearing aid or assistive device batteries.
- **Glasses and Spare Pairs:**
  - Have extras on hand in case of breakage or loss.



# Communication and Information

- **Cell Phone with Chargers:**
  - Keep phones charged and have backup portable chargers or solar-powered chargers. (\$18)
- **Walkie-Talkies:**
  - For staying in contact with neighbors or CERT teams if cellular networks fail. (2 for \$20)
- **Personal ID and Emergency Contact Information:**
  - Keep copies of IDs, medical records, and important contacts in a waterproof container.
- **Maps:**
  - Have physical maps of the local area and evacuation routes in case GPS is not available.



# For Pets

- **Pet Food and Water:**
  - A week's supply for pets.
- **Leashes, Collars, and Crates:**
  - For safe handling and transport.
- **Pet Medications:**
  - Any essential medications for your pets.
- **Pet Waste Disposal Bags:**
  - To manage sanitation.



# Transportation and Evacuation

- **Full Gas Tank:**
  - Fill up vehicles before the storm, as gas may not be available afterward.
- **Emergency Cash:**
  - Power outages may prevent access to ATMs or credit card machines.
- **Sturdy Bags or Waterproof Containers:**
  - To store and protect vital documents, electronics, and emergency items.



The image shows a vast, dramatic sky filled with dark, heavy clouds. A bright light source, likely the sun, is breaking through the clouds in the center, creating a strong glow and illuminating the surrounding cloud layers. The colors range from deep blues and greys to bright yellows and oranges near the light source. The overall mood is one of hope and renewal after a storm.

After the Storm Has Passed

# Safety First: Avoid Immediate Dangers

- **Stay Indoors Until It's Safe**
  - Listen to local authorities for official "all clear" announcements before going outside.
- **Watch for Floodwaters**
  - Avoid walking or driving through flooded areas—just 6 inches of moving water can knock a person down, and 12 inches can sweep away a car.
- **Be Cautious of Hidden Hazards**
  - Watch for downed power lines, broken glass, unstable buildings, and fallen trees.



# Safety First: Avoid Immediate Dangers

- **Avoid Standing Water**
  - It could contain snakes, chemicals, ants, etc.
- **Use Generators Safely**
  - Keep generators outside and away from windows to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- **Beware of Gas Leaks**
  - If you smell gas, leave the area immediately and call the gas company or fire department.



# Home Safety

- **Inspect Your Home for Damage**
  - Check for structural issues, roof damage, and flooding.
- **Avoid Using Tap Water Until Safe**
  - Boil water or use bottled water until officials confirm water safety.
- **Document Damage for Insurance**
  - Take photos/videos of damage before making temporary repairs. Keep all receipts for repairs.
- **Prevent Mold Growth**
  - Open windows, use fans if safe, and remove wet items as soon as possible.



# Food and Medication Safety

- **Discard Spoiled Food**
  - Throw away perishable food if the power has been out for more than 4 hours.
- **Check Medication Storage**
  - If medications require refrigeration, contact a pharmacy or healthcare provider for guidance.



CERT Is  
Here to  
Help You



# CERT Volunteers Help First Responders

- Professional first responders realized that **trained** civilian volunteers could be helpful in emergency situations when their resources would be pushed beyond normal limits.
- CERT volunteers free up professional responders to focus their efforts on more complex, essential, and critical tasks.



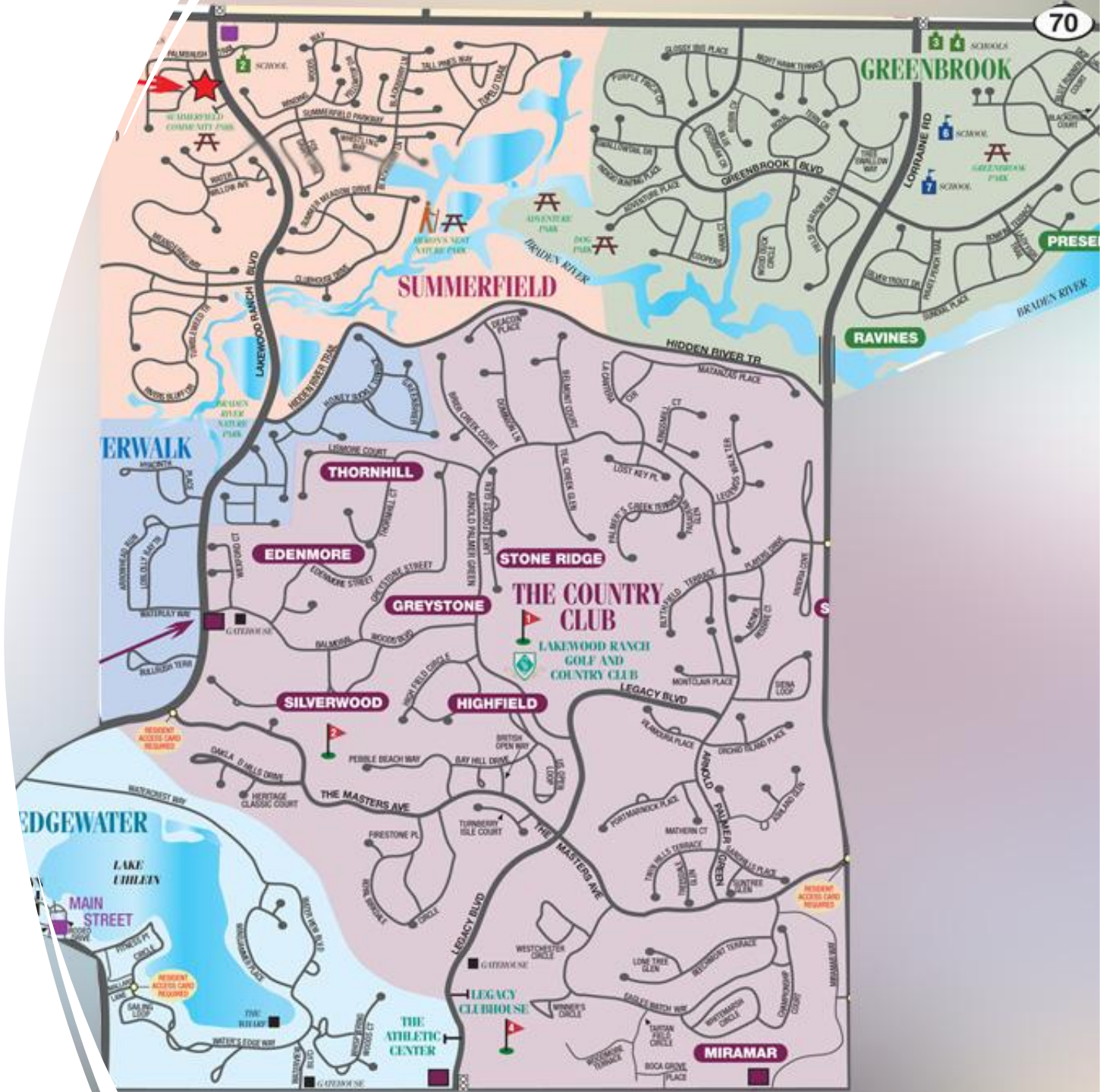
# CERT Trains Community Volunteers in Basic Disaster Response Skills

- Disaster Medical Operations
- Fire Safety
- Search and Rescue
- Team Organization
- All following FEMA guidelines



# LWR CERT Coverage Area

- The entirety of Lakewood Ranch in 2006.
- Supported by HOAs
  - CCWA
  - CEVA
  - GVBA
  - SRVA
- We are grateful for their ongoing support.



# Lakewood Ranch Has Grown Since 2006.

## There are now ten other CERT groups in the area.

- Mallory Park
- Indigo
- Central Park
- River Club
- Cresswind
- Lorraine Lakes
- Lakewood National
- Polo Run
- Del Webb
- The Isles



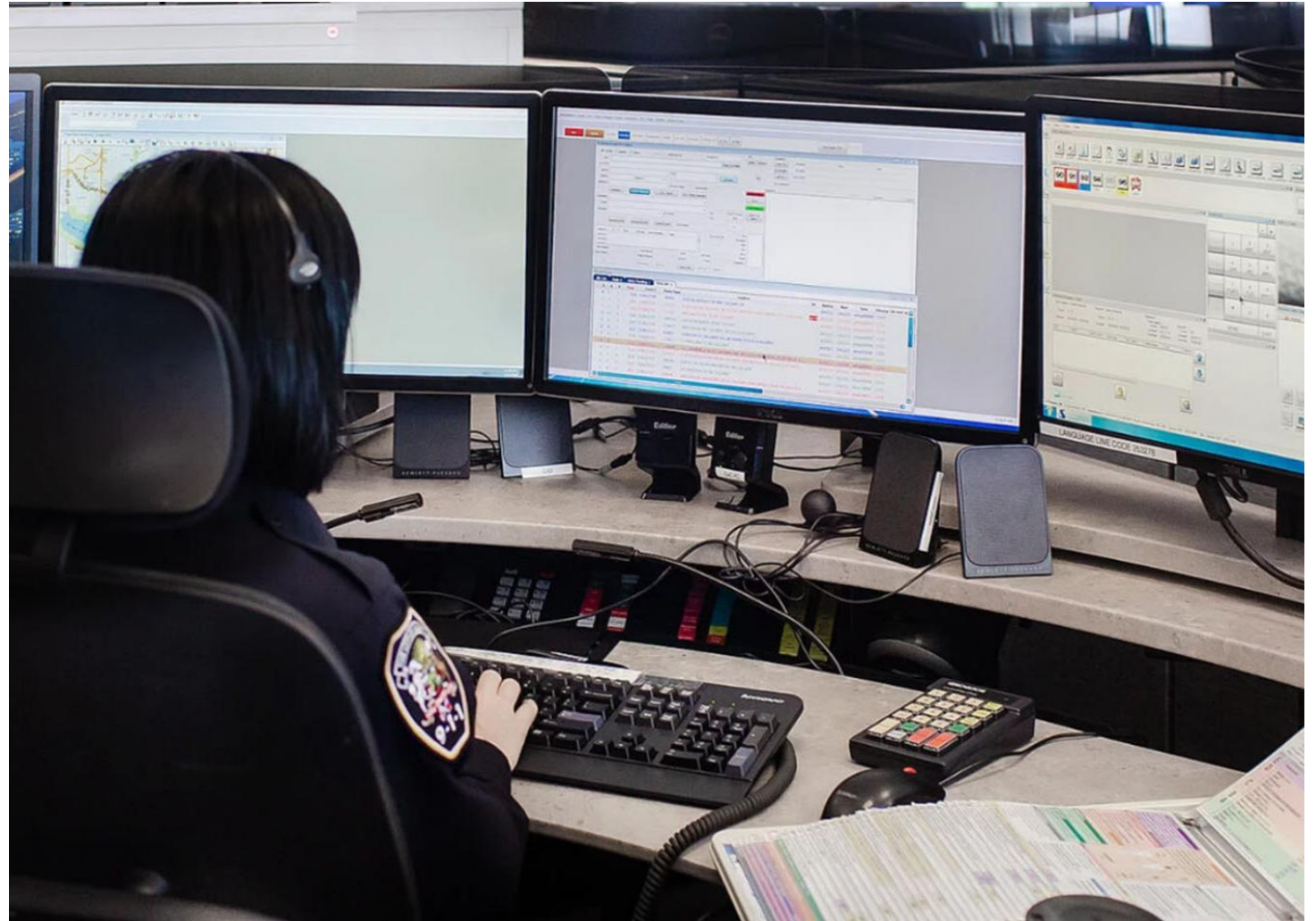
# Did you know that Manatee County?

- Includes 741 square miles
- Has a population of approximately 458,000 people
- These people live in approximately 235,000 homes



# Manatee County 911

- Number of calls doubled after Hurricane Ian to 1,331.
- Number of calls up by 50% after Debbie to 1,027.
- Calls doubled after Helene to 1,578.
- Calls more than doubled after Milton to 1,775 and stayed high for three days.



# Who Will Respond If You Call?

- Manatee County Fire has 32 fire stations
  - 10 for East Manatee Fire & Rescue
- Manatee County EMS has 26 ambulances
- Manatee County Sheriff has approximately 300 deputies



# If a Significant Storm Hits Manatee County

- Emergency First Responders will likely be overwhelmed with calls for help.
- It took until after 1 pm the day after Hurricane Ian for 911 to catch up to the backlog.
- There may be lengthy delays before they can assist you.
- Will you be ready?



# If a Storm Hits, Will You Be Ready If ...?

- You lose power, cell service, or internet access.
- Your phone works but you can't reach 911.
- You are injured.
- You face a medical emergency and need help.



# If a Storm Hits, Will You Be Ready If ...?

- Your home is damaged.
- Access to your home is blocked.
- You are feeling stressed because you don't know what is going on in the area.



# How LWR CERT Can Help You.

- As soon as it is safe to be outside, CERT teams will travel through every neighborhood in our community looking for people who need assistance and damage to the area.
- Look for them if you need help or know someone else who does.



# How LWR CERT Can Help You.

- LWR CERT volunteers are trained and equipped to render first aid to neighbors who are bleeding, in shock, have blocked airways, or other issues.
- LWR CERT can directly contact Emergency Services to guide them to people with high priority needs.



# How LWR CERT Can Help You.

- LWR CERT's three-tiered radio network connects directly to Manatee County Emergency Services.
- Allows members to call in the exact location for urgent needs for EMTs, Fire, and Police.
- Bypasses any public communication service outages.



# How LWR CERT Can Help You.

- CERT volunteers can also share information with you that Manatee County will provide through this network.



# In An Emergency

- Is it better to have someone nearby who is trained to administer first aid to help you while you wait for first responders to arrive?
- Or to wait without first aid until first responders can get to you and hope everything will work out well?
- You can be that trained person, even if the idea of administering first aid makes you uncomfortable.

# LWR CERT Beyond the Storms



We operate all year, not just after a storm.



We develop and offer public safety events like this one.



We support other community organizations with volunteer safety support help.



We train new members.



We continuously educate our existing members.



We inform the public via our events, website, newsletter, and social media.



We have a new team of drone operators

# LWR CERT and AEDs

- We are in the process of positioning 14 Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) around our coverage area.
- These AEDs can save the life of someone experiencing cardiac arrest.
- The AEDs are available to all residents to use.
- They are stored outside of LWR CERT members homes.
- The location of the AEDs can be found on the PulsePoint AED yellow app.
- We will expand this program as we raise funds to support it.



# LWR CERT and AEDs

- Early CPR and defibrillation (with an AED) significantly improve chances of survival after cardiac arrest.
- Chances of survival can double or even triple when CPR is started immediately.
- Survival rates can reach 40% to 60% or higher when:
  - The cardiac arrest is witnessed,
  - CPR is started immediately,
  - An AED is used within the first 3–5 minutes
- A study by the American Heart Association found survival rates of up to 59% when an AED was used by a bystander before EMS arrival.
- AEDs are easy to use.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2k4cHni8lWo>



# We Have and Need Expertise In:



OPERATIONS  
MANAGEMENT



MEDICAL



RADIO  
COMMUNICATIONS



TRAINING



LOGISTICS



DRONES



COMMUNICATIONS

- As well as:
- Marketing
- Event Planning & Delivery
- Website Development
- Social Media Management
- Accounting
- Technology

We  
Welcome  
You to  
Join Us



# When You Join LWR CERT

- You will be trained in first aid.
- You will be trained in search and rescue techniques.
  - Training Developed and required by FEMA
- You will receive a backpack filled with the tools and first aid supplies you need.
- You will receive a radio to become part of our communication network.
- You will be assigned to a team directly helping your neighborhood.
- This is all at no cost to you other than the time you invest.





You Can Help Keep Your  
Neighbors and Community Safe!

Ask one of our CERT Team  
Members how.

