



TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY

2016 FLOOD AND HURRICANE AWARENESS NEWSLETTER

Flood Hazards – How to protect yourself and your property!

Flood Hazard Area

Longboat Key residents live within a floodplain. Additionally, all of Longboat Key is designated as a Special Flood Hazard Area since our community is subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any year. Your property may be vulnerable to flooding from heavy storms. Contact the Longboat Key Planning, Zoning & Building Department (941-316-1966) or the Public Works Department (941-316-1988) to find out which flood zone your property is in according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMS).

Flood Warning

Longboat Key, Manatee and Sarasota Counties utilize severe weather and flood warning systems. Warnings will be given on television and radio. Tune in to these media for instructions during times of possible severe weather. The Town of Longboat Key Emergency Notification System provider delivers automated telephone notifications to registered participants. [Register your information for the CodeRED Emergency Notification System online at www.longboatkey.org \(click on Residents, CodeRED\).](http://www.longboatkey.org)

Hurricane evacuation maps are printed in the Sarasota and Bradenton phone books. Sarasota and Manatee County Hurricane Evacuation Maps are also available at the Police Department at 5460 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Fire Department at 5490 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Town Hall and Building Department at 501 Bay Isles Road, and at the Public Works Department located at 600 General Harris Street.

Flood Safety

Being aware of what steps you can take to minimize your loss prior to a flood is the first step to safety.

- ✚ Listen for weather updates and stay informed.
 - ✚ Keep portable radio, flashlight and fresh batteries on hand.
 - ✚ Turn off gas and electricity. (Call service provider for assistance.)
 - ✚ Clear your yard, porch or patio of all loose objects.
 - ✚ Moor your boat securely.
 - ✚ Store enough drinking water for 5 days in clean containers.
 - ✚ Know your evacuation route; know where to go.
 - ✚ Have a backup plan if the storm track changes.
- ✚ IF ORDERED TO EVACUATE, OBEY IMMEDIATELY!**
- ✚ TAKE YOUR HURRICANE EVACUATION KIT!**
- ✚ DO NOT PANIC!**

Caution: Do not drive or walk through a flooded area. Drowning is the number one cause of flood related deaths. Statistically, more people drown in their cars than any place else during flood events. Currents can be deceptive; six inches of moving water can sweep you off your feet. Don't drive around road barriers, the road may be washed out or there may be downed power lines. The number two killer during flood events is electrocution. Electrical current can flow through water. Report downed power lines to **FPL** (1-800-4-OUTAGE or 1-800-468-8243).

Don't Forget Your Pets!!

If you must evacuate do not leave your animals behind. Evacuate them to a pre-arranged safe location if they cannot stay with you during the evacuation period. (Remember, pets are only allowed at pet friendly designated shelters.) If there is a possibility that disaster may strike while you are away from home, there are precautions you can take to increase your pet's chance of survival but they are not a substitute for evacuating with your pets.

For more information, contact the Humane Society of the United States, Disaster Services, 2100 L Street NW, Washington DC 20037 (www.hsus.org), 202-452-1100.



Who Needs Flood Insurance? Everyone! And everyone in a participating community of the **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)** can buy flood insurance. Over 18,000 communities across the country have joined the program. In some instances, people have been told that they cannot buy flood insurance because of where they live. To clear up this and other misconceptions about Federal flood insurance, the NFIP has compiled a list of common myths about the program and the real facts behind them. For more information about the NFIP, ask your insurance agent or company, or call the NFIP toll-free number 1-800-621-FEMA or visit the NFIP Website at www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program/information-homeowners-renters.

Some Reasons Why People Do Not Purchase Flood Insurance

“My home won’t be flooded; we’ve never been flooded before!” Floods are the most common form of natural disaster. In fact, 80% of all presidentially-declared disasters involve flooding. Homes that are located in a high risk flood area, such as Longboat Key, have a 26 percent chance of being flooded during the life of a 30-year mortgage. This is compared with only a four percent chance of having a fire, yet almost nobody hesitates to get fire insurance.

“Disaster assistance will be available if my home or business is flooded. I do not need flood insurance!” Before a community is eligible for disaster assistance, it must be declared a Federal disaster area. Federal disaster declarations are awarded in less than 50% of flooding incidents, and most forms of assistance are loans that must be repaid with interest.

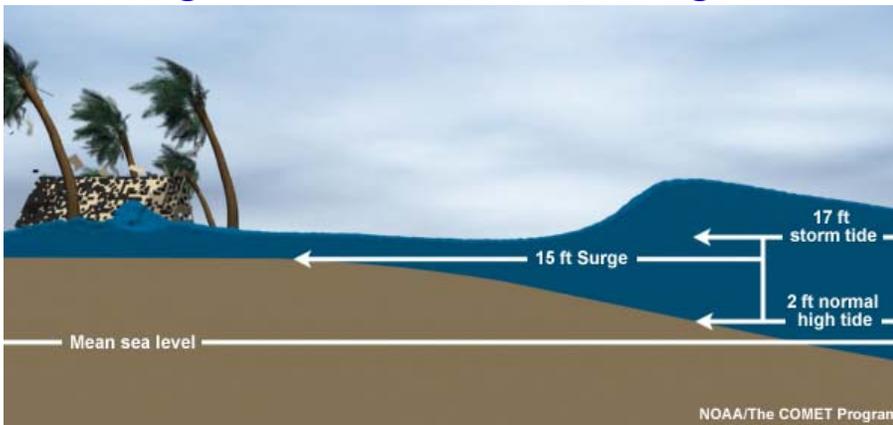
“You can’t buy flood insurance if you are located in a high risk area, or if your property has been flooded in the past!” You can buy flood insurance no matter where you live if your community participates in the **NFIP**, except in **Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS)** areas and properties listed as disqualified under Title 1316, even if your building has been flooded repeatedly.

Exactly what is a 100-year or 1% chance of a flood?

The phrase “100-year flood” has caused much confusion over the years. Many mistakenly believe that it is a flood that occurs every one hundred years. However, the phrase really means a flood that has a 1 percent chance of occurring in any given year. Floods are classified according to their frequency and depth. For instance, there are 10-year, 25-year, 50-year, 100-year and 500-year floods. A 100-year flood although less frequent than a 10-year flood, is deeper, and far more destructive. For this reason, the 100-year flood is now more commonly called the “base flood.” The chart on the below shows the statistical chances of flooding for a building located in a higher risk flood area over different periods of time.

CHANCE OF BEING FLOODED				
Time Period	10-Year Flood	25-Year Flood	50-Year Flood	100-Year Flood
1 year	10%	4%	2%	1%
10 year	65%	34%	18%	10%
20 year	88%	56%	33%	18%
30 year	96%	71%	45%	26%
50 year	99%	87%	64%	39%

Storm Surge, Hurricanes and Storm Surge Forecasting



Storm surge is an abnormal rise of water generated by a storm, over and above the predicted astronomical tides. Storm surge should not be confused with storm tide, which is defined as the water level rise due to the combination of storm surge and the astronomical tide. This rise in water level can cause extreme flooding in coastal areas particularly when storm surge coincides with lunar high tides,

resulting in storm tides reaching up to 20 feet above normal or more in some cases. **More information is provided on the National Hurricane Center website (<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>).**

Flood Protection on the Federal Flood Map Project Updates

Flood hazard maps, also known as Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs), are important tools in the effort to protect lives and properties in Manatee and Sarasota Counties. In showing the extent to which areas of the county - and individual properties - are at risk for flooding, flood maps help business and property owners make better financial decisions about protecting their property. These maps will also allow community planners, local officials, engineers, builders and others to make important determinations about *where* and *how* new structures and developments should be built.

In 2014, Longboat Key adopted a new Flood Protection Ordinance and Code. Contact 941-316-1966 or visit www.longboatkey.org for more information. **To ensure that you have access to the most accurate and up-to-date information about flood hazards:**

- ✚ the updated maps are available for public view on the Manatee County website (at <http://www.mymanatee.org>); or
- ✚ on the Sarasota County website (at <http://www.scgov.net>); and
- ✚ search for FEMA FLOOD ZONE.
- ✚ Longboat Key residents can also call or request information from: Longboat Key Public Works Department at (941) 316-1988, or email questions to James Linkogle, Community Rating System Coordinator at jlinkogle@longboatkey.org or the Longboat Key Planning Zoning and Building Department at (941) 316-1966.

NEW SARASOTA COUNTY FLOOD MAPS BECOME EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 4, 2016



Know your flood risk! Digitized flood maps are now available and can indicate whether your property's flood risk has changed. If your risk has changed, flood insurance may be required by your lender when the new flood maps become effective on November 4th.

For more information about flood maps, call the Sarasota County Contact Center at 941-861-5000, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., or visit www.scgov.net (keywords: flood map). To view individual property parcels, visit www.scgov.net/floodmaps.

TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY 2016 SUMMER EDITION

Longboat Key Public Works Department
600 General Harris Street
Longboat Key, FL 34228
Phone: 941-316-1988
Email: jlinkogle@longboatkey.org
www.LongboatKey.org

TOWN COMMISSION

Jack Duncan, Mayor
Terry Gans, Vice Mayor
Armando Linde, District 1
Jack Daly, District 2
Ed Zunz, District 5
Phill Younger, At Large
Irwin Pastor, At Large

Dave Bullock, Town Manager

*Register your **CodeRED Emergency Notification information** online at www.longboatkey.org (Click on Residents, CodeRED). See Page 1 of this newsletter for more information.*

Longboat Key Receives Deeper Discount for Community Rating System

The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. For CRS participating communities, flood insurance premium rates are discounted in increments of 5% (i.e., a Class 1 community would receive a 45% premium discount, while a Class 9 community would receive a 5% discount.) Longboat Key is now a Class 5 CRS participating community with a **25%** premium discount. At renewal time check with your insurance agent to insure you are getting the proper discount. If you have questions, please call James Linkogle, CRS Coordinator, at (941) 316-1988 or the Darin Cushing, Building Official, at (941) 316-1966.

ANNUAL FLOOD AND HURRICANE AWARENESS MEETING

The Town of Longboat Key held its **Annual Flood and Hurricane Awareness Meeting** on June 9, 2016 at the Longboat Key Club Harborside Ballroom between 3:15 and 6:30 PM. Keynote speaker **Tasha Carter**, Director, Division of Consumer Services, Florida Department of Financial Services, spoke about the financial impacts of flooding and hurricane damage; **Dan Noah**, NOAA Weather Service Ruskin, talked about the national weather patterns in relation to hurricane and storm damage; **Bob Harrigan**, Chief Meteorologist, ABC7, discussed local weather patterns and what to expect during the upcoming weather season; **Don Hermey**, Manatee County EOC, and **Ed McCrain**, Sarasota County EOC, advised guests on the importance of pre-planning for disaster preparedness. Town staff emphasized the Six Priority Topics about Flood and Protection: 1. Know your flood hazard, 2. Insure your property for your flood hazard, 3. Protect people from hazard, 4. Protect your property from hazard, 5. Build responsibly and 6. Protect natural floodplain functions. Watch for information on your utility bill, on the Town's website (www.longboatkey.org), and in the local newspapers about next year's event.