

Gulf Waters RV Resort HOA, Inc.



2025 Resident Hurricane and Severe Weather Guide

11201 Summerlin Square Drive
Fort Myers Beach, Florida 33931
www.gulfwatersrvresortfl.com



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INTRODUCTION

Hurricane Ian was a powerful Category 5 Atlantic hurricane, the third-costliest weather disaster on record, the deadliest hurricane to strike Florida since the 1935 Labor Day hurricane, and the strongest hurricane to make landfall in Florida since Michael in 2018. Ian caused widespread damage across western Cuba, Florida, and the Carolinas. Ian was the ninth named storm, fourth hurricane, and second major hurricane of the 2022 Atlantic hurricane season. Ian was the first Category 5 hurricane in the Atlantic since Lorenzo in 2019, and the fifth since 2016 to reach that strength before making landfall in the U.S.

Ian originated from a tropical wave that moved off the coast of Western Africa and across the central tropical Atlantic towards the Windward Islands. The wave moved into the Caribbean Sea on September 21 bringing heavy rain and gusty winds to Trinidad and Tobago, the ABC islands, and the northern coast of South America. The wave further developed into a tropical depression on the morning of September 23 and strengthened into Tropical Storm Ian early the next day while it was southeast of Jamaica. As Ian rapidly intensified into a high-end Category 3 hurricane it made landfall in western Cuba. Heavy rainfall caused widespread flooding across the area resulting in a nationwide power outage. Ian lost a minimal amount of strength while over land and soon re-strengthened while over the southeastern Gulf of Mexico. It peaked as a Category 5 hurricane with sustained winds of 160 mph early on September 28, while progressing towards the west coast of Florida, and made landfall just below peak intensity in Southwest Florida on Cayo Costa Island. In doing so, Ian tied with several other storms to become the 5th-strongest hurricane on record to make landfall in the contiguous United States. After moving inland, Ian quickly weakened to a tropical storm before moving back offshore into the Atlantic. There it re-strengthened to become a hurricane once again before making its final landfall in South Carolina on September 30. Ian became extratropical shortly after landfall and fully dissipated by early the next day.

Hurricane Ian caused 161 fatalities: 5 in Cuba, 150 in Florida, 5 in North Carolina, and 1 in Virginia. Ian caused catastrophic damage with losses estimated to be around \$113 billion. Much of the damage was from flooding brought about by a storm surge of 10–15 ft. The cities of Fort Myers, Cape Coral, and Naples were particularly hard hit, leaving millions without power in the storm's wake and numerous inhabitants forced to take refuge on their roofs. Sanibel Island, Fort Myers Beach, and Pine Island bore the brunt of Ian's powerful winds and its accompanying storm surge at landfall, which leveled nearly all standing structures and collapsed the Sanibel Causeway and the Matlacha bridge to Pine Island, entrapping those left on the islands for several days.

Our Gulf Waters RV Resort experienced catastrophic damage, but thankfully we were much luckier than our neighbors just 2 or so miles away. Our thoughts are with those who lost everything, including their lives.

We are Gulf Waters Strong.

Important Telephone Numbers and Websites

Dial 911 in ALL Emergencies

Gulf Waters RV Resort Office

Telephone: 239-437-5888

Website: www.gulfwatersrvresortfl.com

Telephone: 239-203-5177 (cell)

E-Mail: hrobinson@gulfwatersrv.com

Agency	Telephone	Website
General Emergency	911	
Lee County Sheriff's Office (non-emergency)	239-477-1000	www.sheriffleefl.org
Iona McGregor Fire Dept. (non-emergency)	239-425-9336	www.ionafiredistrict.com
Lee County Emergency Management	239-533-0622	www.leegov.com
American Red Cross	239-596-6868	www.redcross.org
FEMA	202-646-2500	www.fema.gov
Florida Power & Light	866-263-9185	www.fpl.com
Florida Department of Elder Affairs	800-963-5337	https://elderaffairs.org/
Lee Domestic Animal Service	239-533-7387	www.leegov.com/animalservices
"Code Red" Community Notification Center		https://public.coderedweb.com
National Hurricane Center	305-229-4522	www.nhc.noaa.gov
Preparedness for People w/Disabilities	800-342-0823	www.disabilityrightsflorida.org
Federal Government "Ready.gov"		https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes





Hurricane Terminologies

Hurricane Season

June 1st to November 30th

Hurricane Watch

Weather bulletin warning of hurricane conditions which pose a threat to the coastal or inland communities. This is the first notice; means the eye of a hurricane may threaten within 36 hours. Preparations should begin for coping with storm impacts and possible evacuation.

Hurricane Warning

A warning has been issued that dangerous effects of hurricane are expected in a specified area in 24 hours or less.

Category One Hurricane

Winds of 73 to 95 mph. Damages to include: low-lying escape routes located inland will be cut off by rising water two to four hours before the arrival of the center of the hurricane; marinas flooded; some damage to windows, doors and roofing is expected; major damage to mobile homes; storm surge 5 to 7 feet above normal.

Category Two Hurricane

Winds of 96 to 110 mph. Damages to include: low-lying escape routes located inland will be cut off by rising water two to four hours before the center of the hurricane arrives; mobile homes expected to be destroyed; some structural damage to small buildings; serious coastal flooding; storm surge 8 to 10 feet above normal.

Category Three Hurricane

Winds of 111 to 130 mph. Damages to include: low-lying escape routes located inland will be cut off three to four hours before the center of the hurricane arrives; mobile homes destroyed; some structural damage to small buildings; serious coastal flooding; storm surge 11 to 12 feet above normal.

Category Four Hurricane

Winds of 131 to 150 mph. Low-lying escape routes located inland will be cut off three to four hours before the center of the hurricane arrives. Major damage to lower floors of buildings adjacent to shorelines due to wave battering and flooding. Collapse of roofs of many small residences. Storm surge 13 to 18 feet above normal.

Hurricane Terminologies (continued)

Category Five Hurricane

Winds more than 156 mph. Low-lying escape routes located inland will be cut off three to four hours before the center of the hurricane arrives. Small buildings will be overturned or blown away. Extensive shattering of glass in windows and doors. Collapse of roofs of many residential and industrial buildings. Some buildings will collapse. Storm surge greater than 18 feet above normal.

Storm Surge

An abnormal rise in sea level accompanying a hurricane or other intense storm. A surge may be up to 20 feet high.

Evacuations – Voluntary vs. Mandatory

A government implemented voluntary evacuation order means it is your choice to evacuate to an area of safety. A **mandatory** order means emergency government resources are evacuating the area and **WILL NOT** be able to respond to emergency calls until after the threat passes.

To be direct, if you remain when a mandatory order has been issued , you are on your own, at your own peril.

Pre-Hurricane Season Planning

At least 60 days prior to the beginning of hurricane season (June 1st), it is imperative that each and every resident prepare a hurricane plan for their entire household - an outline that specifies what every member of the household will do before, during and after a hurricane.

General guidelines for preparing your hurricane plan are as follows:

1. Gather a two-week supply of all items listed in “Suggested Owners Hurricane Supply Checklist“ on page 9.
2. Plan in advance for where your household will stay during a hurricane - at home, a friend's home, a shelter or a hotel. Plan for a back-up location as well. Make sure everyone knows the location, address and phone number.
3. Ask an out-of-town relative or friend to be your emergency contact, and make sure everyone knows that person's phone number. Tell your contact person where you will be during the hurricane.
4. Plan for those with special needs and register with Lee County.
5. Determine in advance who will move your vehicle and/or where the vehicle will be parked. Gulf Waters RV Resort HOA, Inc. will not be responsible for any damage done to your car by a hurricane.
6. Practice and review your plan.

Insurance

Before hurricane season starts each year, you should review your insurance coverage with your agent. For more information on insurance coverage, call Florida's toll-free Insurance Consumer Help line at 1-877-693-5236, or their website: www.myfloridacfo.com

Owners Responsibilities:

Prepare your /lot home for a hurricane as follows:

- Consider a hurricane caretaker who will be responsible for preparing your property for a hurricane.
- Register your hurricane caretaker's name with the Park/Property Manager.
- Remove or secure any item from your lot that can become airborne during a storm.
- At home, close and securely latch hurricane shutters.
- Remove all furniture and decorative wall fixtures from exterior areas of your home to include lanai and entrances.
- Close and firmly lock all sliding glass doors and windows.
- Place towels at the inside bottom of all doors leading to patio and lanai to limit water intrusion.
- Prepare for the loss of utility services.
- Clean bathtubs and fill with water in case water lines are damaged. Use this water for cleaning and to refill toilet as needed.
- Turn off water at master valve (if not already done).

Elderly Residents

- Plan on taking care of yourself without electricity. Remember that the person taking care of you and your electrical devices may not be available right before and directly after the storm. If you are not able to do so, make other arrangements beforehand.
- If you are elderly, frail, or a person with disabilities and have friends or relatives that can help you with your housing and welfare, contact them now so that they can include your needs as part of their hurricane planning. They will need to include the time it will take for you to gather items you need and transportation time.
- Make a list of prescribed medications, and get a month's supply. You should also make copies of the prescriptions. If you normally require a special diet, make sure you take along three days' supply of it in containers that will be easy to open.
- Transfer to a manual wheelchair if you are in a battery operated one. You may not be able to recharge the batteries.
- Make sure you are wearing an I.D. bracelet with your name, medications, allergies and contact information.
- If someone in your home requires special attention or medical care, contact the Lee County Emergency Management Center at 239-533-0640 for instructions. Their website is: www.leegov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement



Evacuation Planning

Plan an evacuation route at the beginning of the hurricane season. When you receive orders that your lot/home is in an evacuation area, **ALL PERSONS SHOULD LEAVE THEIR HOME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND PROCEED TO SHELTERS OR OTHER PREDETERMINED PLACES OF SAFETY.**

Reminders:

- Fully fuel your vehicle(s) prior to evacuation.
- Activate your personal emergency evacuation plan. Evacuate using your chosen route. It is best to stay at a protected dwelling inland within our county.
- If you live alone, consider "teaming-up" with a neighbor to work out an evacuation plan.
- If you must go to a shelter, stay tuned to the radio or television for shelter information as shelter locations may change.
- Owners should turn off your water (turn off **all** icemakers to prevent damage), empty refrigerators of **all** perishables and ice, remove furniture, etc. from the yards and lanais, lock sliding glass doors. Remove any loose objects such as furniture, planters, vulnerable lighting fixtures that are outside. Owners are also responsible to secure their unit interiors.
- Have evacuation plan for pets.
- Turn off small appliances that are not needed.
- Get extra supply of cash.
- **Strongly consider the possibility of no electrical power or generator after a hurricane. Power could be off for weeks with no air conditioning, snakes, insects, mold, inoperable elevators, no water and emergency vehicles not being able to get through. If you choose to stay, you will be on your own.**

Post Hurricane

- Return to Gulf Waters when public notification is given by Lee County Emergency Services that it is safe to return to the area and hazardous conditions in the Gulf Waters Community are not an issue.
- Be aware of possible downed power or exposed lines and other debris which may pose real dangers/hazard to you and your pets.
- Be careful walking outside; be on the lookout for wild animals in the area (i.e. snakes, raccoons, alligators, etc.).
- **Owners, please refrain from calling the Park Office. This drastically interferes with operations. We will contact you after the storm with an assessment as soon as we are able. This could take two to five days.**
- **Check the website gulfwatersrvresortfl.com for updates. Our website is the best way to receive current and important information about the status of Gulf Waters.**

Home Check Program

As a service to our residents, the Resort/Property Manager will visit your lot and take exterior (only) photos which can be emailed or sent via text to you. This service will be available for **30** days after a severe weather event. **E-mail the Manager at hrobinson@gulfwatersrv.com or check the website gulfwatersrvresortfl.com for more information on this valuable program.**

What to Expect from Your Board of Directors and Park/Property Manager

Following a major weather event such as a hurricane, you can expect your Board of Directors and Resort/Property Manager to be in constant contact with our staff, vendors, and County, State and Federal governments for information concerning post storm services and programs. Information received will be distributed to residents via Constant Contact e-mail blasts and our website.

Your Board of Directors and Resort/Property Manager are committed to making sure our community is cleaned and restored quickly, efficiently, and as cost effectively as possible, in the best interests of Gulf Waters owners.

Often the Board relies on information from these many government entities. That information is subject to change and modification by those agencies.

Please use our website for updated information gulfwatersrvresortfl.com.



ATTACHMENT A

SUGGESTED OWNERS HURRICANE SUPPLY CHECKLIST

HURRICANE SUPPLY KIT CHECKLIST (maintain a two-week supply for each person in your home of each of the following items):

Baby Supplies

- Formula
- Bottles
- Powdered milk
- Jarred/canned baby foods
- Diapers
- Towelettes
- Special medications.

Food Supplies

Purchase foods that require no refrigeration and little preparation such as:

- Ready-to-eat canned food
- Canned juices
- Condensed milk
- Soup
- Soft drinks
- Instant coffee/tea
- Lots of ice (you can freeze your water supply).

Medical Supplies

- First aid kit
- Rubbing alcohol
- Aspirin
- Non-aspirin pain reliever
- Anti-diarrheal and antacids
- Extra prescription medication (especially for those with heart problems and diabetics).

Ask your physician or pharmacist how to store prescription medication.

Other Supplies

- Wind-up or battery-operated radios
- Flashlights
- Nonelectric can opener
- Extra batteries
- ABC-rated fire extinguisher in a small canister
- Portable cooler
- Absorbent towels

- Plastic trash bags
- Wind-up or battery-operated clock
- Extra set of keys
- Screw driver and hammer
- Photocopies of prescriptions
- Photo identification
- Proof of occupancy of residence (utility bills)
- Medical history and information
- CASH (ATM may be without power for several days)

Personal Items

- Toilet paper
- Towels
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Personal and feminine hygiene products
- Denture needs
- Contact lenses and an extra pair of eye glasses
- Sun protection
- Insect repellent

Water

A minimum of seven gallons of water per person (1/2 gallon for drinking and 2 gallons for bathing, tooth brushing, etc.). Please store water in clean plastic containers.



Gulf Waters RV Resort September 2023 – Post Hurricane Ian

Hurricane Season - You Can't Afford to Take Chances