

WEST WAYS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC

AUGUST 2022



PUBLISHED BY THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION FOR ROTONDA WEST PROPERTY OWNERS.
THE E-NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT ROTONDAWEST.ORG

LOOK WHAT'S INSIDE!

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Rotonda West 50th Anniversary
1972-2022

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings Rotonda West,

We all know the benefits of living in a Deed Restricted community because we made a conscious decision to purchase property and live here in Rotonda West. The restrictions are a commitment we make with our neighbors to maintain our property to the standards which have been established, which in turn help us all to ensure our property will maintain its value.

The following is paraphrased from an article which was originally published in *West Ways* in 2013, because our compliance staff work hard on our behalf, it is important to write again about our deed restrictions.

The Association spends a significant amount of time helping our members comply with the restrictions – whether through answering questions, assistance with completing residential modification applications, daily phone calls to request that members follow the restrictions, hundreds of emails, and yes, unfortunately through assessing fines for violations. We ask all members and tenants to read and understand the restrictions and the Residential Modification Guidelines. Both documents are on our website www.rotondawest.org or at the Association Office. Applications for RMC permits may also be found on our website and at the Office. Please take a few minutes and review them. Applications for a Residential Modification permit are free, but if you start work without approval by the Residential Modification Committee that is a deed violation, and you may be fined. If you have questions on whether the exterior work you want to do needs a permit, call the office (941-697-6788), and ask. If a service vendor says they get all the permits, make sure to ask them if that includes the permit required by your HOA. A quick phone call to the office helps you and helps our staff make sure our community continues to look its best.



Patricia Aho

AUGUST SPECIAL EVENTS

- **Saturday, August 6th One Blood Drive**
9 a.m-2 p.m at RWA Marina
- **Friday, August 12th Candidate Filing Deadline**
12:01 p.m.
- **Friday, August 12th Election Committee**
Meets to Review Candidates
- **Sunday, August 28th “Music Bingo”**
Games start at 2 pm Doors open at 1:30 pm

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL EVENTS

- **Monday, September 5th, RWA Offices Closed**
for Labor Day Observance
- **Sunday, September 18th BINGO RETURNS**
Noon - 4 p.m. Community Center

CHECK THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION ONLINE CALENDAR FOR AUGUST’S AND SEPTEMBER’S SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS, CLUB AND OTHER ONGOING ORGANIZATION MEETING TIMES.

GO TO: rotondawest.org

OFFICE STAFF

Derrick Hedges,
Manager

Tammy Birdsong,
Administrator

**Holly Carr, &
Nancy Schwechel,**
Administrators
Deed Restrictions

Jenny Bulle,
Bookkeeper

Annette Casteel
Minutes Clerk

Sheryl Ann Nowicki
Administrator

Joe Harris,
Communications
Specialist

**Mike Heincelman, &
Matt Rooney**
Compliance Officers

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Lamar Higdon
Maintenance
Supervisor

Wayne Taylor

Pablo Guardiola

Dale Anderson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022

Patricia Aho, President

Patti Cowin, 1st Vice President

Sam Besase, Treasurer

Jerry Eldred, Secretary

David Kelly, Director

Andy VanScyoc, Director

Les Goodman, Director

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ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Sitting left to right: Sam Besase (Treasurer), Patricia Aho (President)
Patti Cowin (1st Vice President), Jerry Eldred (Secretary)

Standing left to right: David Kelly (Director), Andy VanScyoc (Director),
Les Goodman (Director)

Photo: Deb Orchard

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS HIGHLIGHTS FOR JULY

By: Barry Kean



The Rotonda West Association met twice in July, on July 14 and 28. At the July 14 meeting, Brian Hatfield of Charlotte County Utilities (CCU) made a presentation regarding the County's proposal for a land swap with RWA for the purpose of building a new lift station at 115 Rotonda Circle, adjacent to the marina boat ramp. CCU already owns a strip of land in the location (the driveway to the boat ramp is located on it). The county's proposal would have traded that strip for a plot of land close by, nearer to Rotonda Circle. The Board voted to reject the County's proposal, Directors Aho and Cowin dissenting. The issue remains unresolved; the county retains the right to use the strip of land it currently owns, which would require RWA to relocate the driveway to the boat ramp.

In other business, Director Eldred's motion to restore recordings and minutes of the old, and now abolished, Wildlife Committee was approved. A proposal to spend \$10,000 from operating funds for new deciduous trees to be planted in Broadmoor Park was tabled until the next meeting. Mr. Lorah, the Association's CPA, presented the draft Audit Report for 2021. The Board voted unanimously to authorize President Aho to sign an authorization letter to accept the Audit.

The Board met again on July 28. The Budget and Finance Committee reported that RWA's income is \$266,000 over budget, and expenses are \$30,000 under budget for the year so far, a highly favorable report. The Buildings and Grounds Committee reported that the new main generator hookup is nearly complete, awaiting only the final permit from the County. The Board approved a motion to put out for bid the replacement of certain audio-visual equipment in the Community Center; anticipated cost is in the \$8000/\$9000 range. Dale Jensen was proposed as a new member of the Deed Restrictions Subcommittee. His appointment was unanimously approved.

The motion, tabled at the July 14 meeting, to spend up to \$10,000 in operating funds for deciduous trees to be planted in Broadmoor Park, was at this meeting removed from the agenda altogether. For the time being, at least, it is no longer under consideration.

Finally, the Board approved a new version of the RWA employee handbook. This version contains no substantive changes but was needed to conform to terminology used by the current payroll contractor.

The RWA Board of Directors meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month, at 2 PM at the Community Center. All RWA members are invited to attend these meetings, either in person or by ZOOM.

RWA ELECTION COMMITTEE

ATTENTION: CANDIDATES

Deadline for Candidate Filing is August 12, 2022

**Election Committee Meets August 12, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.
to Review Candidates**

All interested individuals must submit necessary paperwork along with a USB memory stick with candidate information in a sealed envelope to the RWA office by:

August 12th at 12:01pm.



The Election Committee meets at 1:00 pm to open the sealed envelopes submitted by each individual seeking candidacy that same day (August 12th) in the RWA Conference Room. All candidates are invited to ensure that their Candidate Information sheet complies with the Guidelines. If a candidate's packet is not in compliance and the candidate is not in attendance at this meeting to bring their document into compliance within 30 minutes, then the RWA Election Committee will recommend that the candidate be disqualified.

After the Election Committee's preliminary approval and prior to the official Board approval, each candidate is reviewed by the Manager for any arrears in payment of fees, fine, or other monetary obligation to RWA for than 90 days. A candidate not in good standing will be rejected by the Board. The candidate must also meet the standards as outlined in Florida Statute 720 regarding any criminal record.





MUSIC BINGO!

COME AND JOIN US FOR A NEW EVENT!

BINGO AND MUSIC TEAM UP FOR AN
EXCITING GAME!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28TH
GAMES START AT 2 pm
DOORS OPEN AT 1:30 pm

COMMUNITY CENTER
646 ROTONDA CIRCLE
ROTONDA WEST

COME ENJOY THE MUSIC, THE BINGO
AND THE AIR-CONDITIONING!

Presented by the Community Outreach Committee

So Many Mosquitoes...But the Battle is Ongoing in Charlotte County

By Connie Smith

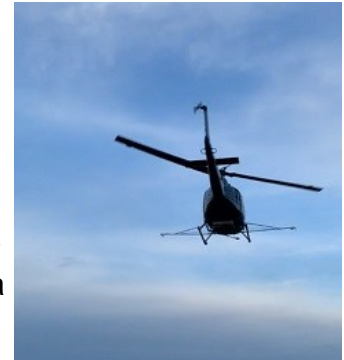
Photos: Courtesy of Charlotte County Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control

Mosquito control is a never-ending battle. Fortunately, we have exceptional people to help fight the battle. People like Rotonda West resident Scott Schermerhorn who has been the State Director/County Manager of the Division of Mosquito and Aquatic Weed Control for Charlotte County since 2015, and Charlotte County Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control Operations Supervisor Jeff Proffitt, who was interviewed for this article.

In a large county like Charlotte, that extends from the coast to well inland, he and his staff are fighting at least 40 species of the resilient critters that run the gamut of disease carrying, terrain breeding, time of day feeding, even the body location where they like to bite!

Therefore, Charlotte County Mosquito Control takes the battle to the mosquitos, every day, where ever they find them. According to Florida statute, a certain threshold of mosquitos must be reached or exceeded before spraying can be done in an area. To make that daily determination takes a three-pronged attack:

1. Some poor soul ("specialists", according to county literature) actually stands in preset locations around the county for one minute and the number of mosquitos is counted that land on the individual from the waist down. As the literature states, this form of surveillance provides a quick idea of the mosquito population in each area.
2. Mosquitos are trapped using unbaited CDC-light traps. The light attracts the mosquitos and a fan sucks them into the trap. Traps are set bi-weekly and mosquitos are collected the following day. It is by freezing, sorting, identifying and logging the collected mosquitos, that the county comes up with the number 40 species of mosquitos they must control.
3. Calls from residents are another indication of mosquito activity, so, complaints may definitely confirm other testing by the county.



A Charlotte County Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control helicopter conducts an annual droplet testing program required by the state to ensure the proper amount and droplet size of pesticide is being distributed by the aerial mosquito control program



CDC-light trap that attracts mosquitoes, allowing mosquito control operators to determine there are 40 species of the critters within Charlotte County in need of daily population analyzation and targeted action.

In Rotonda West, Proffitt says our terrain dictates that we suffer (mostly) from salt marsh mosquitoes – *aedes taeniorhynchus* and *aedes sollicitans* - medium-sized mosquitoes that are vicious biters, day or night. If it seems that mosquitoes are a little better in the winter around here, it's because these female mosquitoes lay their eggs during winter in the exposed soil of the salt flats when tides are low. The eggs can even build up dormant for a two - to three-year period and when there's a heavy rain event or high tide of a super moon, the larvae quickly cycle to adulthood if temps and humidity are high, making us all thoroughly miserable.



One of two salt marsh mosquitoes, *aedes sollicitans* is a strong flyer and aggressive biter, day or night. Salt flats in the area of South Gulf cove and Rotonda West are their primary habitat. These mosquitoes are light golden colored with black on the top of their heads.

Two mosquitoes that have a symbiotic relationship with water lettuce and water hyacinth – *mansonia dyari* and *mansonia titillans* – are an important reason to keep the invasive pond and canal aquatic plants under control in Rotonda West. These mosquitoes are very aggressive right at sunset for an hour or two but control of invasive aquatic vegetation in this case controls these nasty biters.



Another salt marsh mosquito tormenting anyone in its path is *aedes taeniorhynchus* whose eggs can lay dormant for up to three years, quickly hatching and cycling from larvae to adult when they become flooded by high tide or a heavy rain event. These biters tend to be dark in color with white striping on their legs and abdomen.

There are also mosquitoes that will lay larvae upon any standing water source and that is where every homeowner can take part in the fight. According to the Charlotte County Mosquito Control web site, the three Ds of mosquito bite prevention are:

- **Drain** – Empty out containers around the yard at least once a week! Put holes into containers that regularly hold water to allow them to drain. Check and clean out gutters. Flush out or treat birdbaths and bromeliads.
- **Dress** – Wear appropriate clothing during mosquito season and at the peak hours of dawn and dusk. Long sleeves and long pants are recommended, as well as wearing light-colored clothing which is less likely to attract mosquitoes than darker colors.
- **Defend** – Wear an EPA approved repellent and reapply according to the label. Approved repellents include those containing DEET, Picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus.

There are things you can do to keep apprised of what Charlotte County Mosquito Control is doing to protect us against mosquitoes. Every afternoon at 2 p.m., Proffitt says they publish a [schedule](https://www.charlottecountyfl.gov/departments/public-works/mosquito-aquatic-weed/mosquito-aquatic-weed-treatment.shtml) (<https://www.charlottecountyfl.gov/departments/public-works/mosquito-aquatic-weed/mosquito-aquatic-weed-treatment.shtml>) on their web site where in Charlotte County they will next be spraying on that day (weather permitting). When you see a helicopter spraying during daylight hours, he says, that is targeting mosquito larvae, not the adult bug. In the evening, when trucks go through our neighborhoods fogging, that is to control the adult biting population. When state mandated thresholds are exceeded or in more rural areas where trucks cannot reach, they also conduct aerial spraying at night targeting the adult flying mosquito.



No, these are not Christmas lights. It's a type of mosquito larvae also called "wigglers" that breathe through a "siphon" at the top of the water.

Charlotte County also publishes notifications via text messaging when mosquito treatments are planned for your neighborhood. To subscribe, click on this link [Mosquito Treatment Alert Notifications](https://member.everbridge.net/453003085613772/login) (<https://member.everbridge.net/453003085613772/login>).

"The mosquito business is a constantly moving target," says Proffitt. "We're not like your trash pickup that can be done once a week or your pest control that is once a month. Our information has to be analyzed and prioritized each day by mosquito activity. Charlotte is a big county and we have limited resources."

There is plenty of information for the public about mosquitoes and mosquito control on the Charlotte County web site: [Mosquito and Aquatic Weed Control](https://www.charlottecountyfl.gov/departments/public-works/mosquito-aquatic-weed/index.shtml) (<https://www.charlottecountyfl.gov/departments/public-works/mosquito-aquatic-weed/index.shtml>).





The Homeowner's Association called to remind you there's no shirtless lawnmowing past age 65



RESIDENTIAL MODIFICATION PERMITS NEEDED!

By: Nadine Clough

Rotonda West homeowner's are required to submit an RMC application prior to the commencement of any work. The permits are easy to obtain. Just go online and print one out from the RWA website, or stop in the RWA office at 646 Rotonda Circle to pick one up. There is no charge for applying for this permit. Once submitted, the Residential Modification committee will look over your application and let you know that work may begin. The committee meets twice a month.

Complying with these deed restrictions helps to keep our property values high and our community looking its best. All homeowners are given the packet of guidelines, and if you can't find your packet just go on the RWA website and look under the "Living Here" (tab), Residential Modification Permit Application. A link to the guidelines is in the first paragraph.

If a violation is found, the homeowner will get a courtesy call explaining the issue. The resident is then given 7 days to clear the violation. After that, a fine of \$50 will be levied against the homeowner. Fines may be increasing in the future.

FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF COMMON TYPES OF ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS, AND MODIFICATIONS THAT REQUIRE RMC APPROVAL:

Exterior Additions, Alterations

Colors for Dwellings

New Roofs or Re-roofs

Driveways and Walkways

Boat Docks and other Canal Improvements

Fences, Site Screens and Walls

Accessory Structures

Recreational Equipment and Putting Greens

Shell & Rock Landscaping, Irrigation Systems

Storm/Security Shutters

Solar & Voltaic Panels

Permanent Generators & Propane Tanks

Antennas

Questions??? Call the RWA office at:

941-697-6788



Ryan with 2.5 lb.
Alligator Garfish

FISHERMEN ON BIKES

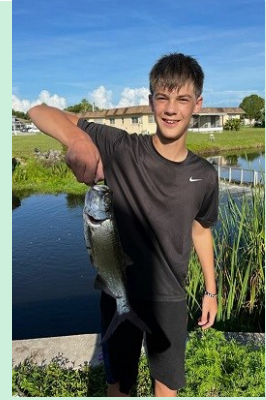
By: Grace Checuti

Pictures by: Grace Checuti

Ryan in a cap and Jaylon is not;
13-year-old fishing buddies don't care if it's hot.

Rotonda Summer fishing all through the day;
Eating Subway sandwiches, there's no other way.

Ryan's bike is electric, "I like the wind on my face,"
Jaylon old-school peddles, "I keep up" with the pace.



Jaylon with
Tarpon

They ride miles upon miles, poles in hands, and gear to the brim;
Quest for unfound fishing holes and unknown spots, their eyes fill with glim.

Waterways, lakes and ponds, to cast at Rotonda West;
Jaylon and Ryan embrace nature's sounds, the solitude and rest.

Fishing stories of thine, are told like two old men;
Poke, prod, and laugh at each other, whose catch is the bigger win.

They shared their concerns and woes, of the local environment;
Garbage and fish float above, have fear fertilizer is spent.

Large salt and fresh waters, with visions of their someday big dreams
Tournaments and derbies are possible, individual and in teams.

With hopeful news and urgency, we called the Englewood Fishing Club;
Wonderful conversation with President Thompson, who explained all the hubbub.

Fishing talk ensued, questions were asked, excited with fervor and hype;
Invited the young lads, "Come see what we're about," the club is for your type.

At Rotonda Center, on the 2nd Thursday, we met at the night meeting;
The lads arrived early with their social charm, and embraced with a warm greeting.

Invited to the front, in fear they stood, honored before the crowd;
Presented with Club t-shirts, fishermen clapped, and Ryan's dad was proud.

Hook, line, and sinker, I was caught lo and behold,
The fishing club embraces the young, and with wisdom shared by the old.

Newest members of the Club, I hope you take heed,
The old mentor our youth, an action in need.

For Jaylon and Ryan,

"Perhaps I should not have been a fisherman, he thought. But that was the thing that I was born for." Ernest Hemingway, "The Old Man and the Sea".

Ryan and Jaylon at Englewood Fishing Club Meeting



FISHERMEN ON BIKES INFORMATION LIST

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION

Address: 646 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, Fl 33947

Phone: 941-697-6788

Main Page: rotondawest.org

RWA does not own the roads, bridges, or waterways. Residents may fish.

ENGLEWOOD FISHING CLUB

Meetings: 6:30 pm, 2nd Thursday of each month.

Place: RWA Community Center, 646 Rotonda Circle

Main Page: englewoodfishingclub.net

CONSERVATION & ENVIRONMENT

Florida Department of
Environmental Protection

floridadep.gov

Florida State Parks
Florida Fish & Wildlife
Conservation Commission

floridastateparks.org

myfwc.com

FISHING

Fishing License Exceptions

myfwc.com/license/recreational/do-i-need-one

Fishing Licenses Online

gooutdoorsflorida.com

MAPS

Boating & Angling Guide

myfwc.com/research/gis-new/maps-and-data/boating-guides

Fisher Map - Charlotte
County

usa.fisherman.org/fish-map/charlotte-county-fl-fishing

Fisher Map - Depth
Fisher Map - Fish

usa.fisherman.org/depth-map

usa.fisherman.org/fish-map

GIS Maps
Rotonda West

myfwc.com/research/gis-new

mapcarta.com/20686790

SAFETY

Bicycle Safety & Tips

fdot.gov/agencyresources/bicyclesafety

Preventing Heat-Related Illness

cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/heattips.html

Sun Safety

cdc.gov/cancer/skin/basic_info/sun-safety.htm

TACKLE & BAIT

englewoodfishingclub.net/links-tackle-marina

WATERS

Freshwater Fishing

myfwc.com/fishing/freshwater

Saltwater Fishing

myfwc.com/fishing/saltwater

Weather & Tides

englewoodfishingclub.net/weather-%26-tides

GONE FISHING!

By: Nadine Clough

WHAT KINDS OF FISH CAN I CATCH IN ROTONDA CANALS?

There are many types of fish found in Rotonda West canals. Some of the more popular species are: catfish, redfish, bluegills, snook, tarpon, alligator garfish, sheepshead, and largemouth bass. Rotonda operates on a “catch & release” system

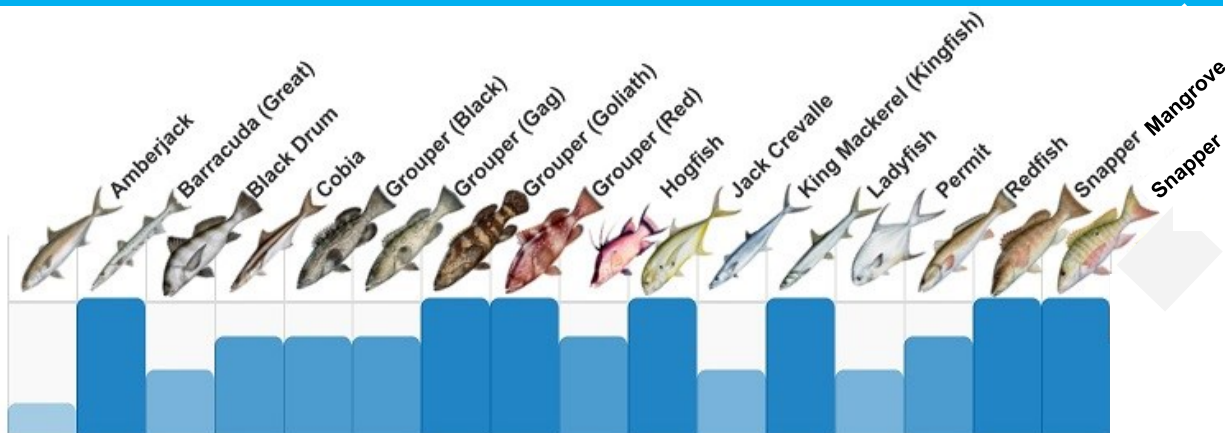
FISHING SPOTS NEAR ROTONDA WEST

- Don Pedro Island State Park, Cape Haze
- Ann Dever Memorial Regional Park, Englewood
- Stump Pass Beach State Park, Englewood
- Gasparilla Island State Park, Boca Grande
- Myakka River State Park, Sarasota
- Oscar Scherer State Park, Osprey

FISH SPECIES

FOUND IN FLORIDA WATERS

(Bar Graph shows prevalence in July & August)



FLORIDA FISHING LICENSE INFO

Provided by Charlotte County

In Florida, most people are required to have a license to engage in fishing activities in the state. Even if you catch and release, you still need a license. There are several exceptions to this rule, however.

Florida fishing regulations state that the following individuals **don't** need a license:

- Youth under 16 years of age
- Resident seniors age 65 or older
- Those freshwater fishing in their county of residence on their homestead or homestead of a spouse.
- Residents who are totally and permanently disabled and possess a Florida Resident Disable Person's Hunting and Fishing License
- Residents who are members of the armed forces and are not stationed in Florida and are home on leave for 30 days or less
- Individuals who are observing or filming someone fishing but not assisting in the take
- Disabled veterans or active or reserve duty military service members and their family members and assistants who are participating in an outdoor recreational event that holds a Military/Disabled Veteran Event License Exemption Permit

THERE ARE ALSO SPECIFIC EXEMPTIONS FROM LICENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR BOTH FRESHWATER AND SALTWATER FISHING.

COST OF FISHING LICENSES

- Annual Freshwater Fishing License: \$17
- 5-year Freshwater Fishing License: \$79
- Annual Saltwater Fishing License: \$17
- 5-year Saltwater Fishing License: \$79
- Annual Freshwater/Saltwater Fishing Combination License: \$32.50
- Annual Freshwater Fishing/Hunting Combination License: \$32.50
- Annual Freshwater/Saltwater Fishing/Hunting Combo Lic. \$48
- Annual Sportsman's License: \$80.50



HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

EVACUATE OR STAY?

If You Can Stay Home, Shelter in Place

If you live in a sound structure outside the evacuation area and do not live in a mobile home, manufactured home or RV, stay home and take these precautions:

- Protect windows, doors and garage doors.
- Clean and fill bathtubs and sinks before a storm so you'll have water for flushing and cleaning.
- Store enough drinking water in clean containers; plan on minimum one gallon per person per day for at least three days.
- Offer to shelter friends or relatives who live in vulnerable areas or mobile homes.
- Check your Disaster Supplies, including at least a three day supply of non-perishable foods. Don't forget a non-electric can opener.
- Find a safe room in your home, usually an interior, windowless reinforced room such as a closet or bathroom on the lower floor.
- Monitor your battery-operated radio, NOAA weather radio or TV for the latest advisories and other emergency information.
- Wait for official word that the danger is over.
- If flooding threatens your home, turn off electricity at the main breaker.
- If you lose power, turn off major appliances (air conditioner, water heater etc.) to reduce damage from surge when power is restored.
- Don't travel until you are told it is safe to do so.

Personal Safety

Wherever you are (evacuated, in a public shelter, or home) follow the latest guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to protect yourself and family from COVID-19 and any other current health risks.

- What supplies will you need for protection? (soap, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, face masks, etc.)
- What are the current social distancing guidelines?

Visit [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for the most current information.



If You Must Evacuate

If you live in an evacuation area or a mobile home, manufactured home or RV when an evacuation order is given, don't panic. Move at a steady pace and leave as soon as possible to ensure you can get to where you will weather the storm. Do not take chances with your life by staying at home or waiting until it's too late!

- Move inland away from the storm surge and inland flooding, to a destination is not within a zone that has been ordered to evacuate.
- It is recommended that residents evacuate tens of miles, not hundreds, to avoid traffic jams.
- Take enough supplies for your family.
- Take your pets and their supplies.
- Take important papers, including driver's licenses, special medical information, insurance policies, property inventories.
- Let friends and relatives know where you are going.
- Make sure your neighbors have a safe ride.
- Turn off your electricity, water and gas if officials tell you to do so.
- Protect and lock your windows and doors.
- Stay tuned to your local radio and television station for emergency broadcasts.

Hotel or Motel

If you plan to go to a hotel or motel, check for availability and make your reservation well in advance. Make sure your destination is not in an evacuation zone. If you have pets, [petswelcome.com](https://www.petswelcome.com) can help.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

Shelters

Charlotte County has very few buildings, public or private, above the Red and Orange evacuation zones and suitable for sheltering. Charlotte County has no certified Red Cross shelters.

Shelter space is extremely limited and all other means of evacuation and sheltering should be considered before going to a public shelter.

In the event of a hurricane, one or more Charlotte County-staffed shelters may be opened, depending on the size and direction of an approaching storm. Check local media and www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov to find open location(s).

- **Kingsway Elementary School**
23300 Quasar Blvd., Port Charlotte
- **Liberty Elementary School**
370 Atwater St., Port Charlotte
- **Neil Armstrong Elementary School**
22100 Breezeswept Ave., Port Charlotte
- **Harold Ave. Regional Park Recreation Center**
23400 Harold Ave., Port Charlotte

Special Needs Shelters

Special Needs Shelters are for individuals whose medical conditions cannot be addressed in a general shelter. Persons requiring the additional level of care must pre-register so that adequate planning can take place to open this specialized type of shelter. Pre-register online at snr.floridadisaster.org or download a printable application at www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov or contact Emergency.Management@CharlotteCountyFL.gov 941-833-4000.

Information provided by Charlotte County



What to Bring to a Shelter:

You will need to bring supplies for each family member and pet (all Charlotte County shelters are pet friendly).

- ☐ Sleeping bag, sleeping pad and/or blankets
- ☐ Pillow
- ☐ Personal Flashlight & Headlamps
- ☐ Disinfectant supplies, hand sanitizer, soap, cloth face coverings
- ☐ Toothbrush/Toothpaste
- ☐ Soap – you may choose to purchase body wipes for quick wipe downs instead of soap
- ☐ Feminine hygiene products
- ☐ Cell phones
- ☐ Chargers/ backup battery
- ☐ Extra sets of clothes suitable for the season
- ☐ Extra socks and sturdy shoes
- ☐ Food or snacks (72+ hours worth)
- ☐ Books or magazine
- ☐ Prescription Medications, Eyeglasses
- ☐ Pet Care Items (see list on pg. 3)
- ☐ Important Documents (see list on pg. 5)

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Police, Fire, EMS Emergencies	911
Charlotte County Sheriff's Office	941.639.2101
–Englewood.....	941.474.3233
Emergency Management	941.833.4000
Charlotte County Government.....	941.743.1200
Charlotte County Health Dept.	941.624.7200
Charlotte County Public Works.....	941.575.3600
Charlotte County Animal Control.....	941.833.5690
Charlotte County Solid Waste	941.764.4360
–Englewood.....	941.697.4000
Charlotte County Utilities	941.764.4300
Charlotte County School District	941.255.0808
Punta Gorda Government	941.575.3302
Punta Gorda Public Works	941.575.5050
Punta Gorda Utilities.....	941.575.3339
Florida Power and Light.....	1.800.468.8243
Salvation Army	941.629.3170
American Red Cross	941.629.4345
Official Information During Disasters...	941.833.4000

Rotonda Communities



**Rotonda Communities CERT –
a 501C3 non-profit Corporation**

Rotonda Communities CERT team members will put up hurricane shutters at homes in the Rotonda area during the 2022 Hurricane Season. Residents who are elderly or otherwise unable to install shutters themselves will be given priority. Panels must be factory made panels or pre-cut to fit in an opening. CERT Team Members are NOT authorized to cut or modify panels.

Mr. John Blanchette and Mr. Steve Ball will be coordinating the hurricane shutter program. They can be reached as follows:

John Blanchette 301-807-9777

Steve Ball 502-316-2330

Please plan ahead and don't wait until the last minute to have hurricane shutters put up. The National Hurricane Center forecasts usually provide residents with at least 5 days advance notice of a storm event. Please be sure to monitor your local news and weather outlets and plan accordingly. Last minute requests may not be accomplished as volunteers have their own preparations to make.

The Rotonda Communities CERT Team is made up of community volunteers who are trained in basic fundamentals of emergency assistance. CERT Teams are sent out when traditional emergency services are overwhelmed or cannot reach an impacted area such as when a tornado or hurricane strikes.

Rotonda Communities CERT gladly welcomes donations

Rotonda Communities CERT Inc accepts cash donations

DONATION RECEIPT

Donation amount _____ Date _____

CERT Team Member Signature _____

FOR CERT RECORDS

Donation amount _____ Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



3-DAY FLOOD RULE EXPECTED TO REMAIN THE GUIDE IN CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Article and Pictures by: Nadine Clough

Charlotte County residents, including Rotonda West, are reminded by Southeast Florida leaders that it is normal to tolerate 3 days of standing water after a heavy rainstorm.

“The drainage system that handles the rainy season load has been in place for 70 years,” states John Elias, Director of Charlotte County Public Works. When asked if the design is something that needs updating, he said, “We find that the system works. We don’t have houses flooding, and that is what we are trying to avoid.”

The “3-Day limit rule” is basically a rule of thumb which means that when heavy rain stops, the water in a swale should be gone in 3 days. Of course, if it rains every day, then the water will remain.

Elias states, “That despite daily efforts, flood mitigation is a project that county drainage crews cannot catch up on. They will average 400,000 square feet of swale regrading a year and we have 4 or 5 crews that do that, so you can do the math. But again, you couple that with the amount of infrastructure we have, we are never caught up.”

For homes that experience standing water for more than 3 days after a storm, Elias said that those will be investigated and the county will work to fix it. Elias added that in the 33 years he has worked for Public Works, only three homes have been damaged by flood waters.

If you do have standing water after the 3-day limit, Public Works advises you to contact them by calling: (941) 575-3600.



Day 1



Day 2



Day 3

Recovery of a flooded swale or greenway in Rotonda West after 5 inches of rain on July14, 2022

**CHARITY BENEFIT
GOLF TOURNAMENT
FOR ST. JUDE'S**

**4– Person Scramble
At The Hills Golf Course
100 Rotonda Circle
Saturday, August 20, 2022
8 a.m.**



Non-Members \$55

Members \$35

Includes:

**Lunch, Closest to the Pin,
Men's/Woman's/Couples/Mixed
Flight**

50/50 Raffle

Continental Breakfast



COME JOIN US!

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Dear Neighbors,

With the summer months being here, Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch finds itself with limited amounts of patrols and bases due to many volunteers heading north for the summer or going on vacation. Neighborhood Watch patrols each section of Rotonda West nightly and are looking for more patrols. Safety bases are needed each evening when patrols are out to act as the liaison and connection between the patrols and the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office.

Are you thinking about volunteering? **What does this entail?** First, there will be a 20-minute in-person training but there is also a virtual training available if you would feel more comfortable. After training, your coordinator will contact you to get you on the schedule. **What is the time commitment?** Whether you are a safety base or patrol, the time commitment is one night per month, two hours that night.

For more information, please visit the RW Neighborhood Watch page or website.

Respectfully Yours,

David W Perry

President

941-828-1584 (Office)



TO ALL ROTONDA WEST RESIDENTS,

Have you signed up for the
Rotonda West Association Website yet?

ALLOWS YOU TO:

- Keep up to date on Rotonda's events & news
- Download applications & forms (see below)
- Have the ability to vote online (in the future)
- Have the ability to pay assessments online
 - Receive West Ways each month

Sign yourself up and help a neighbor sign up too!

APPLICATIONS & FORMS AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE:

- Residential Modification Application
 - Change of Address Form
- Yearly Assessment Credit Card Form
- Committee Membership Application
 - Sign Approval Application
- Community Center Application
 - Permission to E-mail