

**SEDGEMOOR POA**  
**DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PLAN**  
**APRIL 2015**

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## **Purpose:**

The purpose of the Sedgemoor Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Plan is to provide important emergency preparedness guidelines and response information to our residents. We firmly believe that organizing now as a POA will help everyone react more quickly and effectively following a major disaster. While the plan is intended to call neighbors into action following a major disaster, it is only one element of the overall goal of disaster preparedness. This is especially true for this community because the most likely kinds of catastrophes (hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, ice/snowstorms and wildfires in our case) arrive with little or no advanced warning.

During a large-scale disaster, all Lee County resources will be overwhelmed – including fire, EMS and law enforcement. It is of utmost importance that neighborhoods identify resources and prepare for disaster before disaster strikes. This guide has an easy-to-read checklist put together by members of Carolina Trace Community Emergency Response Team (CT CERT).

Experience shows that neighbors naturally come together to help each other after a disaster, but neighborhoods that are already organized are better prepared to act right away. With preparation, you and your neighbors can save lives, reduce the severity of injuries, and lessen property damage. However, in the event of a catastrophic event in this community, there will be a high volume of interest and we anticipate some need for assistance. We highly recommend to residents that they prepare themselves in advance.

This information package is the heart of our Disaster Preparedness Plan. We need to gather information from our residents so we can expedite our preparedness and recovery. This includes those who have special needs (medical, language, physical impairment) and those that have special skills to offer first aid, construction, etc.

**Please fill out and return (hardcopy) resident information sheets (pages 4-6) by 30 April 2015 to Sedgemoor mailbox 3200 Argyll (by the pool) or email to me (below).** If you feel some of the requested information is highly sensitive in nature, you may inform your bloc captain personally. Your privacy is respected.

Your Disaster Preparedness Committee:

Rita McClellan      910-308-6963      Chairman      [rcmcclellan@gmail.com](mailto:rcmcclellan@gmail.com)

In addition to understanding the Sedgemoor POA plan for disaster recovery, every resident is encouraged to:

- Prepare for disaster by assembling home and car readiness kits, a “grab and go” bag, copies of important personal documents, essential medications, and keeping the car’s fuel tank topped off when severe weather is imminent, purchasing a weather radio with **SAME - (Specific Area Message Encoding)** this feature will alert you only when severe weather is in your area or other emergency alert you program to your unit.
- Place a white rag on their mailbox following a disaster if they and their home are okay. This will allow responders to conduct search and rescue operations more quickly because they will know from the white rag that you are okay and they can go on to neighbors who need help.
- Please Refer to the sample Day of Disaster Checklist included with this plan and review the overall plan at:

**(Insert link of this plan’s location on the Sedgemoor Website)**

**SEDGEMOOR RESIDENT INFORMATION SHEETS (1 of 3)**

Note: This list of Carolina Trace/Sedgemoor volunteers and any resident's personal information provided is for the *sole use of CT CERT/Sedgemoor Disaster Preparedness*. Any review, use, distribution, or disclosure by others is prohibited. This plan is not intended to be legal, technical, or other professional advice, nor a substitute for such advice.

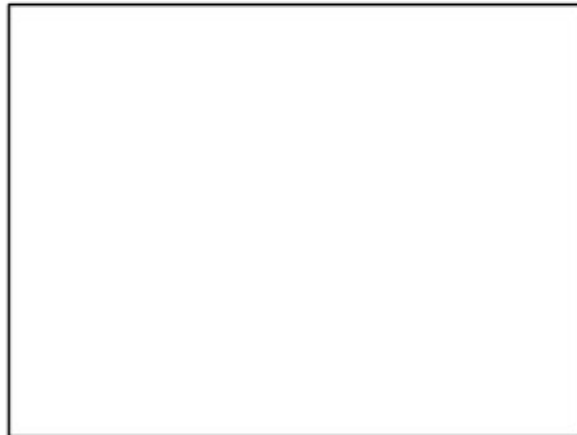
**Property Utility Location Sheet**

**STREET ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

Insert the location of utilities on diagram using letters below

- W = Water shutoff**
- S = Water Spigots**
- E = Electrical Shutoff**
- P = Propane Tank**

**Back (of house) of Property Line**



**Front (of house) Property Line**

**Sedgemoor Family Information Checklist (2 of 3)**

**STREET ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

Adult #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Adult #2 \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Adult #3 \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Children's names/ages:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pets:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Type: \_\_\_\_\_

**Medical Information**

Place a list of medical prescription/information in a Vial for Life and where you keep it, e.g. upper shelf or in the refrigerator.

**IF OXYGEN IS IN USE GIVE LOCATION OF TANK(S):**

—  
**In case of emergency, please contact:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Or Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**MEDICAL INFORMATION WILL BE GIVEN TO MEDICAL EMERGENCY PERSONNEL ONLY!**

**Sedgemoor**  
**Skills and Equipment Checklist (3 of 3)**

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**Write the names of those in your household who have any of the following skills and are willing to help provide the following services in an emergency.**

Medical/first aid skills \_\_\_\_\_  
CERT trained volunteer \_\_\_\_\_  
Amateur Radio Operator \_\_\_\_\_  
Stress Management \_\_\_\_\_  
First Aid \_\_\_\_\_  
Construction Skills \_\_\_\_\_  
Food Preparation \_\_\_\_\_  
Child Care \_\_\_\_\_  
Chain Saw Operator \_\_\_\_\_  
Other skills to share \_\_\_\_\_

**Indicate what equipment or resources you would have available to share with your neighbors:**

First aid supplies: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ham radio: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency water supply: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hand-crank powered weather radio: \_\_\_\_\_  
Spare blankets, bedding, tents: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cellular phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Charcoal/propane grill, camp stove: \_\_\_\_\_  
Generator: \_\_\_\_\_  
4-wheel drive vehicle or pickup truck: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chain saw \_\_\_\_\_  
Boat: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lantern, Kerosene or battery operated: \_\_\_\_\_  
Spotlight: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tarps: \_\_\_\_\_  
Walkie-talkie: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tool for shutting off water lines: \_\_\_\_\_

**Work tools (circle):**

A good general tool kit (i.e., multiple types and sizes of screw drivers, saws, hammers, crescent wrench, etc. ladders, shovels, crowbar, jacks, wheelbarrow, buckets).

Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**TIP: Every household should have their own basic emergency supplies. Please don't plan to substitute neighborhood supplies because efforts were not made to get ready as a family.**

## Sample Day of Disaster Checklist

1. **Check your home (if it is safe to do so). Is anyone seriously injured? If yes, get information to your bloc captain and also the POA designated Assembly Point.**

- **Do you see signs of any fire?** Small campfire size: If yes, extinguish it. Large fire (door size or larger?) If yes, implement your evacuation plan. A large hot fire demands evacuation. If it's realistic, fight the fire after evacuation.
- **Smell propane?** If yes, don't use matches, candles, electrical switches or plugs, flashlights, or other spark producers; go outside to turn off the gas if there is a gas smell; turn off the electricity from outside if possible. If no, do not turn off the gas.
- **Water/plumbing leaks?** If yes, shut off the water at the main shutoff. TIP: Be Cautious! Sewer damage in the hills above you threatens your water purity. You can fill your tubs, etc. with clean water, and then shut down the water system.
- **Everything is OK and you will be staying at home?** Hang a white flag (such as a towel, sheet, T-shirt out in front of their house on your mailbox. An alternative may be necessary. Search and Rescue Teams can save valuable time by passing houses where all is OK and going on with their search and rescue efforts.
- **You will be leaving your home?** Turn off the electricity at the meter before you leave. TIP: When power is restored, forgotten electrical appliances which have fallen or were left on start the majority of fires in evacuated homes.
  - (1) **Tell your neighbors and Block Captain you are leaving.**
  - (2) Post a note on your front door **telling rescue workers how to contact you.**
  - (3) **Check in at the POA designated Assembly Point** and leave another note on how to contact you.
  - (4) **Make sure you have your preparedness kit** and "grab-and-go" bag with you.

2. **If conditions warrant, gather at (or send a representative) to the Sedgemoor pool parking lot, the designated POA Assembly Point. This will be your Sedgemoor POA self-help center.** Here you can find neighbors to help you; and, you can join POA teams charged with tasks like: Checking status of utilities and performing a damage assessment of the POA, starting common area cleanup and removing debris, and determining the sources of drinking water and food. ***Please remember that parking is limited*** and all traffic through our area must be managed so we don't impede access by emergency vehicles.

## **Recovering After a Disaster:**

The recovery efforts following a major disaster will require the concerted efforts of all members of your POA. Neighbors will need to assist each other in restoring our POA to normal. We live in a private, gated community and will be on our own to recover following a major disaster. For many, the weeks and months of recovery after a disaster can be even more traumatic than the catastrophe itself.

a. Shelters: People do not like staying in shelters. If your home is still inhabitable, consider sheltering neighbors.

b. Security: Following a major disaster, there are people who will take advantage of the situation. Uninhabited homes and unlighted areas invite looters and thieves. An emergency exit is directly on HWY NC87 and allows easy access to Sedgemoor. As soon as you determine that access to your POA streets is not needed by emergency vehicles, park cars across the ends of the streets and post people there to monitor people coming through. Merely having someone there to ask “who are you visiting?” may deter unwanted visitors. The fact that Sedgemoor POA is being watched works in much the same way as Neighborhood Watch programs can deter crime.

c. Cleaning Up: A work schedule for clearing streets and common use areas will be posted daily on the bulletin board in the Assembly Area. Time for cleaning up individual homes will be factored in to this work schedule. Understand that going into your damaged home and seeing a terrible mess is very stressful so consider “buddying up” with a neighbor in cleaning up your and his/her individual home as a way to reduce stress.

d. Bottom-line: It will not be easy; but by working together after a major disaster, we can return our POA to the great community it is today.

## **Assembly Areas:**

SEDGEMOOR POA will have an evacuation assembly area for situations where we are ordered by emergency management officials to evacuate the POA. Understand that it is not likely that Carolina Trace residents will be given an evacuation order in any instance other than a wildfire or major chemical spill; however, wildfires and chemical spills are only two of the possible disaster scenarios we could face and we should be ready. Block Captains must identify those in their block with special needs.

## **Evacuation Assembly Area:**

During disasters such as major chemical spills and wildfires, we are apt to receive mandatory evacuation orders from emergency management officials. When we receive orders to evacuate, Block Captains or their designees will ensure each resident in their block is informed of the mandatory evacuation and that they are informed of available evacuation routes as described below. **Block Captains will also make arrangements to assist evacuation of those in their block with special needs.**



**Evacuation Routes: Other than the HWY 87 primary gate, these exit points are normally closed until conditions warrant and Carolina Trace directs that they become open.**

1. Traceway open to front gate. Take normal exit route to Carolina Trace entrance and proceed to the Sedgemoor POA Assembly Area.

2. There are three alternative exits if Traceway is closed near the Entrance Gate. See maps on pages 6 - 8.

a. Use the Emergency Exit Gate located in the Sedgemoor POA (Red Bud Lane) which is located off upper Argyll Drive near Yorkshire Circle. Exit onto Hwy 87 and proceed to the Sedgemoor POA Assembly Area location.

b. Exit right on Traceway to Indian Trails and proceed to the gate near the water tower area and exit onto Hwy 87 and then proceed to the Sedgemoor POA Assembly Area location.

c. Exit Sedgemoor POA and turn left on Traceway. Drive to Permanent Emergency Road between Highland Woods and Mallard Cove. Proceed through gate to Cox Mill Road and turn left to proceed to Hwy 421. Turn left on Hwy 421 and proceed to Hwy 87. Turn left on Hwy 87 and proceed to the Sedgemoor POA Assembly Area.

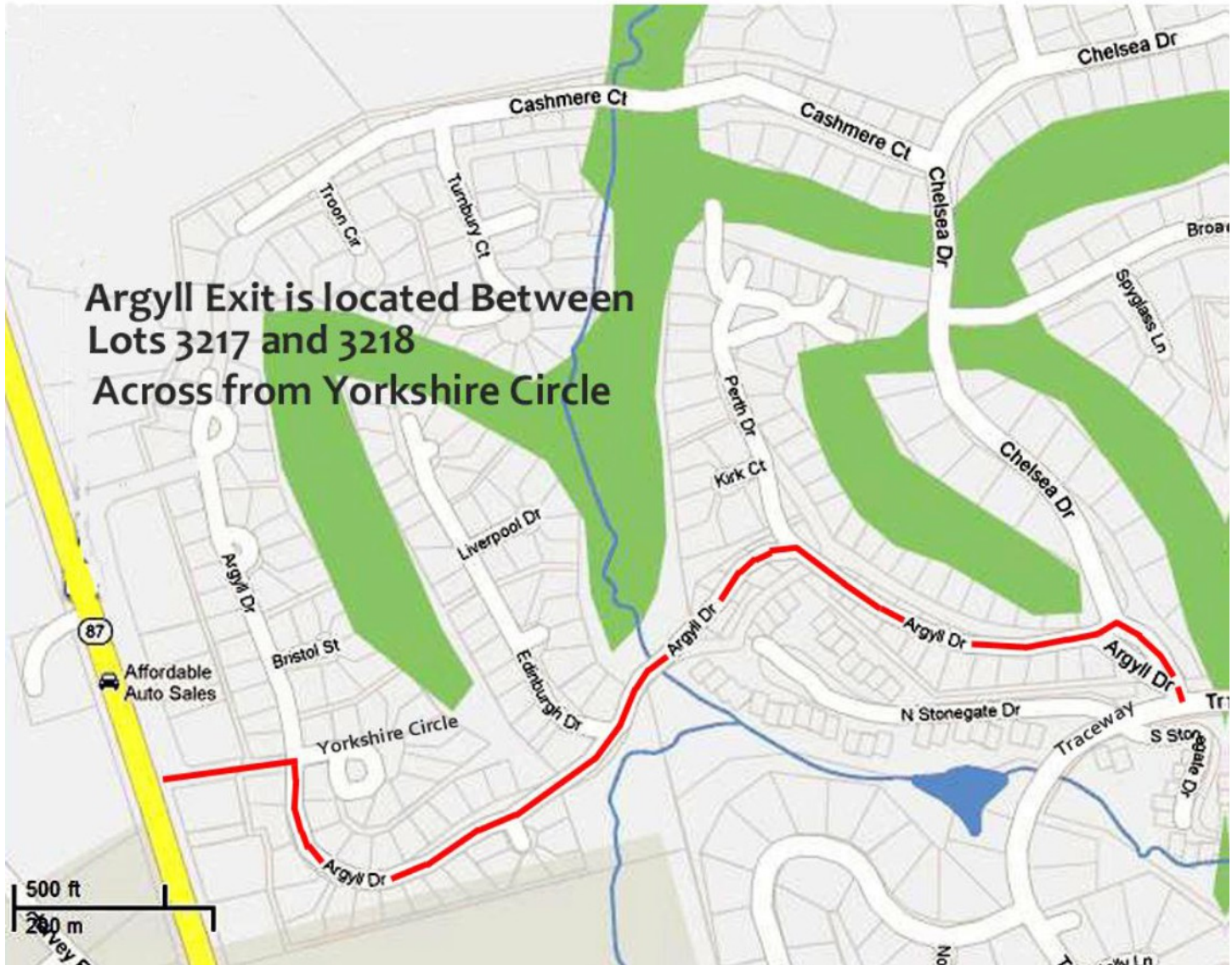
d. If Argyll Drive is not open going left or right. Evacuate through the golf course by golf cart or by foot. Golf cart operators are encouraged to pick up those with the most difficulty walking. You will be advised of the evacuation route and destination.

(Evacuation Route Maps are on the following pages)

## Evacuation Route Maps

### Sedgemoor Emergency (Argyll) Exit:

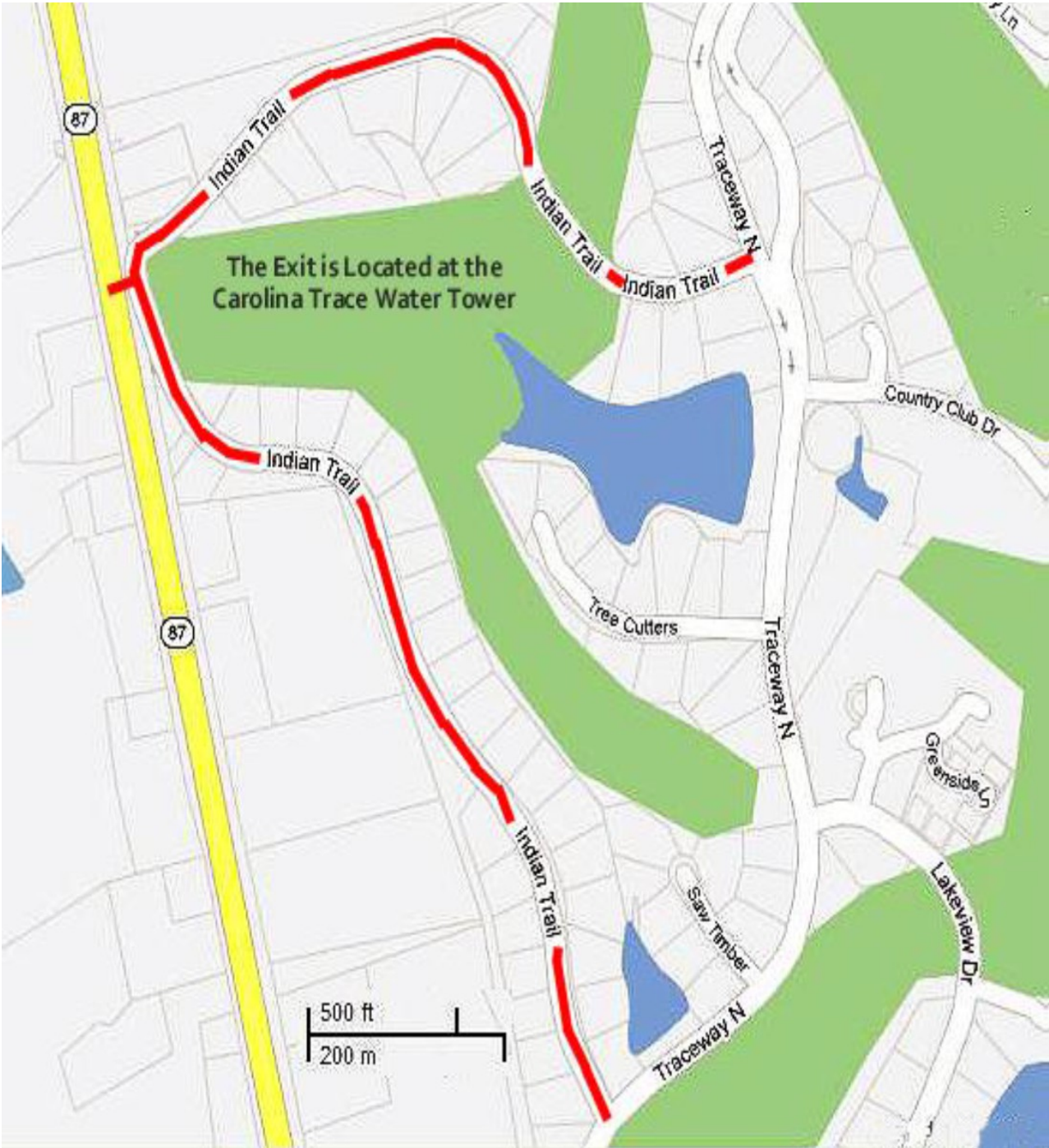
Argyll Drive to just before Yorkshire Circle and turn left through the Emergency Exit Gate to Hwy 87 and proceed to the Sedgemoor Evacuation Assembly Area.



### Water Tower Exit:

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Exit on Traceway toward the main gate; turn right on Indian Trail and proceed to the gate near the water tower area and exit onto Hwy 87, then proceed to the Sedgemoor POA Evacuation Assembly Area.



## **Traceway North Exit:**

Exit Sedgemoor POA onto Traceway in the opposite direction from the main gate. Drive to Permanent Emergency Road between Highland Woods and Mallard Cove. Proceed through gate to Cox Mill Road and turn left to proceed to Hwy 421. Turn left on Hwy 421 and proceed to Hwy 87. Turn left on Hwy 87 and proceed to the Sedgemoor POA Evacuation Assembly Area.



## Helpful Phone Numbers

### In an Emergency FIRST Dial 911 !!!

(Area Code 919 unless otherwise indicated)

Carolina Trace Hotline 499-2722

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Primary 498-6285, Alternate 498-6751

Sedgemoor POA Disaster Readiness Coordinator:

Rita McClellan 910-308-6963

Carolina Trace Fire Dept. – 499-5811

American Red Cross – 774-6857

Salvation Army – 776-2769

Gate House/Security - 499-2339

Lee County Sherriff – 775-5531

Central Carolina Hospital – 774-2100

Emergency Room – 774-2260

Lee County Health Dept. – 718-4640

Lee County Emergency Services – 718-4670

Water & Sewer Problems: Carolina Trace Utilities, Inc. – 800-348-2383

Power Outage Progress Energy – 800-419-6356

Your Insurance Phone and Policy # \_\_\_\_\_ -

Tree & Branch Removal\*

Bobby Branch – 776-4840

Phil Stone – 776-4678

\*Note: Before committing yourself or Sedgemoor POA to any tree removal, first check the Sedgemoor POA Resources list. There may be available “no charge” resources within your POA.

**Additional useful information is available at:**

<http://www.tracetraders.info/>

If a federal disaster is declared: FEMA Helpline at (800) 621-3362 or apply online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](http://DisasterAssistance.gov) and the screens will prompt you through the process. You may also register by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) (hearing/speech impaired ONLY-Call TTY: 1-800-462-7585).

If your home or its contents were damaged and you have insurance you need to work through your insurance claim first

## **If You Decide to Evacuate on Your Own: Please Inform Your Block Captain!!!!**

### **Self Evacuation:**

Evacuation is decided by one simple question: Is it safer to stay or go?

### **Basic steps to prepare for your possible departure:**

- a. Develop a plan for your family and put together the basic preparedness kits:
  1. One for your Home
  2. One for your Car
  3. A “Grab-and-Go” bag for use in an evacuation
  
- b. Fully fuel your vehicle and any spare gas cans. Have enough fuel to travel at least 500 miles.
  
- c. Identify multiple escape routes from the area being affected. Pick at least one alternative retreat location in case traffic flow prevents you from traveling to your preferred one.
  
- d. Listen to TV or radio broadcasts to determine when is the best time to evacuate and what the recommended escape routes are.
  
- e. Pack your vehicle with supplies, including those you might need for roadside emergencies.
  
- f. If you decide to evacuate, take additional steps to prepare your home:
  1. Unplug all electronics except for refrigerators and freezers.
  2. Brace windows, doors and garage door as best you can (if appropriate to the threat).

3. Let family and friends know when you are leaving and where you will be heading.

g. Put on shoes and clothes that will suit you well should your car break down. Be prepared to spend the night in your car.

The following pages describe the purpose of these three kits and recommended items for inclusion.

### **YOUR HOME PREPAREDNESS KIT**

The supplies in your house should keep your family safe and healthy for at least three days – and be useful during the cleanup phase after a disaster. Following are items you should consider for inclusion in your home preparedness kit, in addition to the items in your “Grab and Go Kit”.

- Water – one gallon per person per day, for drinking and sanitation. Replace every 6 months if not using commercially bottled water.
- Food – at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food for family and pets
- NOAA weather radio – battery or hand-cranked (Store in “Grab & Go” kit so you will have access if you need to evacuate)
- First Aid Kit – pain relievers, antidiarrheal medication, bandages, scissors, tweezers, insect repellent, splint, medical tape, iodine, needle and thread
- Dust mask or cotton t-shirt – to help filter the air
- Hand tools – wrench, pliers, multi-tool, plastic sheeting, duct tape, and an assortment of nails, screws, and bolts to shelter in place
- Manual Can opener
- Garbage bags and plastic ties – for personal sanitation
- Important documents – copy of insurance documents, identification, bank records, medical records (especially prescription lists) deeds, etc.
- Cash
- Fire extinguisher
- Heavy gloves – for removing debris
- Toilet paper & bucket, moist towelettes for sanitation
- Flashlight with extra batteries, lanterns or candles and matches
- Window sealing materials – plastic, duct tape

- Change of clothing – long pants, long-sleeved shirts, rain jackets, sturdy boots or shoes
- Water Purification Kit

### **YOUR CAR PREPAREDNESS KIT**

You never know where you will be when a crisis occurs, so keep a box or bag of supplies in the trunk of your car to sustain your family if stranded on the road. Consider:

- Local maps
- Writing supplies – pens, pencils, notebook
- Food – dried fruit, snacks, cookies
- 2 gallons of bottled water
- Mess kit – paper plates, cups, utensils
- Compact sleeping bag or blankets
- Sanitation supplies – toilet paper, moist towelettes, garbage bags, plastic ties
- Hand sanitizer
- Hand tools, multi-tool knife, duct tape, jumper cables
- Cell phone charger
- Clothes – sweater, waterproof jacket, hat, shoes
- First Aid kit – bandages, antibiotic ointment, antiseptic, aspirin, antidiarrheal medicine, medical tape
- Fire extinguisher
- Light sticks or roadside flares
- Tow line for hauling or towing

### **YOUR “GRAB-AND-GO” KIT**

In an emergency evacuation, there’s not always enough time to find what you need, so your grab-and-go kit should be preloaded with all your essentials.

- Important documents – copy of insurance documents, identification, bank records, medical records, deeds, etc.
- Prescriptions – medications (remember to rotate your stock)
- Extra pair of eye glasses
- Mini first aid kit – bandages, antibiotic ointment, aspirin
- Cash – \$300.00 in small denominations
- Prepaid phone card
- Matches in waterproof container
- Flashlight and extra batteries



- Whistle to signal for help
- Portable NOAA weather radio – battery or hand crank powered
- Food – e.g., granola, nuts and bottled water
- Extra set of keys for your home and car
- Infant/child/pet necessities

### **Special Considerations for Pets:**

There is no guarantee that community shelters will have the ability to accommodate pets. The information provided here is to assist residents in planning for their pet’s needs.

**a. Choose “Designated Caregivers”** This step will take considerable time and thought. When choosing a temporary caregiver, consider someone who lives close to your residence. He or she should be someone who is generally home during the day while you are at work or has easy access to your home. A set of keys should be given to this trusted individual. This may work well with neighbors who have pets of their own—you may even swap responsibilities, depending upon who has accessibility.

When selecting a permanent caregiver, you’ll need to consider other criteria. This is a person to whom you are entrusting the care of your pet in the event that something should happen to you. When selecting this “foster parent,” consider people who have met your pet and have successfully cared for animals in the past. Be sure to discuss your expectations at length with a permanent caregiver, so he or she understands the responsibility of caring for your pet.

**b. Evacuation Preparation** If you must evacuate your home in a crisis, plan for the worst-case scenario. If you think you may be gone for only a day, assume that you may not be allowed to return for several weeks. When recommendations for evacuation have been announced, follow the instructions of local and state officials. To minimize evacuation time, take these simple steps:

- Store an emergency kit and leashes as close to an exit as possible.
- Make sure all pets wear collars and tags with up-to-date identification. Your pet’s ID tag should contain his name, telephone number, and any urgent medical

needs. Be sure to write your pet's name, your name and contact information on your pet's carrier.

- The ASPCA recommends microchipping your pet as a more permanent form of identification. A microchip is implanted in the animal's shoulder area, and can be read by scanner at most animal shelters.
- Always bring pets indoors at the first sign or warning of a storm or disaster. Pets can become disoriented and wander away from home during a crisis.
- Consider your evacuation route and call ahead to make arrangements for boarding your pet outside of the danger zone at the first sign of disaster.

**c. Geographic and Climatic Considerations.** Do you live in an area that is prone to certain natural catastrophes, such as tornadoes, earthquakes or floods? If so, you should plan accordingly.

- Determine well in advance which rooms offer safe havens. These rooms should be clear of hazards such as windows, flying debris, etc.
- Choose easy-to-clean areas such as utility rooms, bathrooms, and basements as safe zones.
- Access to a supply of fresh water is particularly important. In areas that may lose electricity, fill up bathtubs and sinks ahead of time to ensure that you have access to water during a power outage or other crises.
- In the event of flooding, go to the highest location in your home, or a room that has access to counters or high shelves where your animals can take shelter.

**If emergency officials recommend that you stay in your home**, it's crucial that you keep your pets with you. Keep your Evac-Pack and supplies close at hand. Your pets may become stressed during the in-house confinement, so you may consider crating them for safety and comfort.

### **Special Considerations for Birds**

- Birds should be transported in a secure travel cage or carrier.

- In cold weather, make certain you have a blanket over your pet's cage. This may also help reduce the stress of traveling.
  - In warm weather, carry a spray bottle to periodically moisten your bird's feathers.
  - Have recent photos available, and keep your bird's leg bands on for identification.
  - If the carrier does not have a perch, line it with paper towels that you can change frequently.
  - Keep the carrier in as quiet an area as possible.
  - It is particularly imperative that birds eat on a daily basis, so purchase a timed feeder. If you need to leave your bird unexpectedly, the feeder will ensure his daily feeding schedule.
- Items to keep on hand: Catch net, heavy towel, blanket or sheet to cover cage, cage liner.

### **Special Considerations for Reptiles**

- A snake may be transported in a pillowcase, but you should have permanent and secure housing for him when you reach a safe place.
- Take a sturdy bowl that is large for your pet to soak in. It's also a good idea to bring along a heating pad or other warming device, such as a hot water bottle.
- Lizards can be transported like birds (see above).

### **Special Considerations for Small Animals**

- Small animals, such as hamsters, gerbils, mice and guinea pigs, should be transported in secure carriers with bedding materials, food and food bowls.
- Items to keep on hand: Salt lick, extra water bottle, small hidebox or tube, a week's worth of bedding.

## **General Hazard Guidelines:**

Much of the following information is taken from the FEMA guide for disaster preparedness ***Are You Ready?*** You may download a copy of this publication from the ready.gov website, or call FEMA Publications to get a copy sent to you.

Visit <http://www.ready.gov/are-you-ready-guide> for directions on obtaining the booklet.

### Floods:

If you have to leave your home during a flood, remember these evacuation tips:

Do not walk through moving water. Six inches of moving water can make you fall. If you have to walk in water, walk where the water is not moving. Use a stick to check the firmness of the ground in front of you.

Do not drive into flooded areas. If floodwaters rise around your car, abandon the car and move to higher ground if you can do so safely. You and the vehicle can be quickly swept away. The following are important points to remember when driving in flood conditions:

- Six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars, causing loss of control and possible stalling.
- A foot of water will float many vehicles.
- Two feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles including sport utility vehicles (SUV's) and pick-ups.

### After a Flood:

Listen for news reports to learn whether the community's water supply is safe to drink.

Avoid floodwaters; water may be contaminated by oil, gasoline, or raw sewage. Water may also be electrically charged from underground or downed power lines.

Avoid moving water.

Be aware of areas where floodwaters have receded. Roads may have weakened and could collapse under the weight of a car.

Stay away from downed power lines, and report them to the power company.

Return home only when authorities indicate it is safe.

Stay out of any building if it is surrounded by floodwaters.

Use extreme caution when entering buildings; there may be hidden damage, particularly in foundations.

Service damaged septic tanks, cesspools, pits, and leaching systems as soon as possible. Damaged sewage systems are serious health hazards.

Clean and disinfect everything that got wet. Mud left from floodwater can contain sewage and chemicals.

### Tornados:

If you are under a tornado WARNING, seek shelter immediately!

If you are in: A structure (e.g. residence, small building, school, nursing home, hospital, factory, shopping center, high-rise building) — Go to a pre-designated shelter area such as a safe room, basement, storm cellar, or the lowest building level. If there is no basement, go to the center of an interior room on the lowest level (closet, interior hallway) away from corners, windows, doors, and outside walls. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside. Get under a sturdy table and use your arms to protect your head and neck. Do not open windows.

If you are in: A vehicle, trailer, or mobile home — Get out immediately and go to the lowest floor of a sturdy, nearby building or a storm shelter. Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes.

If you are in: The outside with no shelter — Lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands. Be aware of the potential for flooding. Do not get under an overpass or bridge. You are safer in a low, flat location. Never try to outrun a tornado in urban or congested areas in a car or truck. Instead, leave the vehicle immediately for safe shelter. Watch out for flying debris. Flying debris from tornadoes causes most fatalities and injuries.

### Hurricanes:

Before a Hurricane

Make plans to secure your property. Permanent storm shutters offer the best protection for windows. A second option is to board up windows with 5/8" marine plywood, cut to fit and ready to install. Tape does not prevent windows from breaking.

- Install straps or additional clips to securely fasten your roof to the frame structure. This will reduce roof damage.
- Be sure trees and shrubs around your home are well trimmed.
- Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- Determine how and where to secure your boat.
- Determine a room in your home that will be safest to ride out a storm with damaging winds.

If a hurricane is likely in your area, you should:  
Listen to the radio or TV for information.

Secure your home, close storm shutters, and secure outdoor objects or bring them indoors.

Turn off utilities if instructed to do so. Otherwise, turn the refrigerator thermostat to its coldest setting and keep its doors closed.

Turn off propane tanks.

Avoid using the phone, except for serious emergencies.

Moor your boat if time permits.

Ensure a supply of water for sanitary purposes such as cleaning and flushing toilets. Fill the bathtub and other large containers with water.

You should evacuate under the following conditions:

If you are directed by local authorities to do so. Be sure to follow their instructions.

If you live in a mobile home or temporary structure—such shelters are particularly hazardous during hurricanes no matter how well fastened to the ground.

If you live in a high-rise building—hurricane winds are stronger at higher elevations.

Be especially concerned if you live on the coast, on a floodplain, near a river, or on an inland waterway.

If you feel you are in danger during a hurricane:

If you are unable to evacuate, go to your wind-safe room. If you do not have one, follow these guidelines:

- Stay indoors during the hurricane and away from windows and glass doors.
- Close all interior doors—secure and brace external doors.
- Keep curtains and blinds closed. Do not be fooled if there is a lull; it could be the eye of the storm—winds will pick up again.
- Take refuge in a small interior room, closet, or hallway on the lowest level.
- Lie on the floor under a table or another sturdy object.

#### Thunderstorms:

To prepare for a thunderstorm, you should do the following:

Remove dead or rotting trees and branches that could fall and cause injury or damage during a severe thunderstorm.

Remember the 30/30 lightning safety rule: Go indoors if, after seeing lightning, you cannot count to 30 before hearing thunder. Stay indoors for 30 minutes after hearing the last clap of thunder.

The following are guidelines for what you should do if a thunderstorm is likely in your area:

- Postpone outdoor activities.
- Get inside a home, building, or hard top automobile (not a convertible).
- Although you may be injured if lightning strikes your car, you are much safer inside a vehicle than outside.
  - Remember, rubber-soled shoes and rubber tires provide NO protection from lightning. However, the steel frame of a hard-topped vehicle provides increased protection if you are not touching metal.

- Secure outdoor objects that could blow away or cause damage.
- Shutter windows and secure outside doors. If shutters are not available, close window blinds, shades, or curtains.
- Avoid showering or bathing. Plumbing and bathroom fixtures can conduct electricity.
- Use a corded telephone only for emergencies. Cordless and cellular telephones are safe to use.
- Unplug appliances and other electrical items such as computers and turn off air conditioners. Power surges from lightning can cause serious damage.
- Use your battery-operated NOAA Weather Radio for updates from local officials.

## **Other Considerations:**

### **Traffic Management:**

Within our POA, discourage unnecessary vehicle traffic through affected areas.

If the Assembly area is activated, traffic in and around this area location be managed as well. Parking is limited and pedestrian or vehicle congestion can impede emergency or service vehicle access into and within Sedgemoor.

Discourage “disaster tourists” from visiting and photographing damaged homes, especially if the occupant is present. What may be interesting to you is a catastrophe to them. Your innocent curiosity will not be appreciated unless you show up to offer physical help, consolation, or assistance of some sort.

Be aware that we are vulnerable to repair and recovery fraud by “front men” posing as legitimate contractors. Check out their offers with the BBB or neighbors who know of them. Your insurance company usually designates repair and recovery contractors. Verify with your insurance company before committing to any agreements.

Normal or casual pedestrian traffic (just out for a walk, etc.) should be aware of additional traffic by EMS or if the emergency gate is open for other POAs. EMS has priority and right of way when enroute to a service call (lights or siren in operation).

### **Security:**

Keep an eye out for unrecognized pedestrians walking through our area. Try to avoid threatening or violent provocation, but use your best judgement as necessary. Ask them who they are, do they live here (verify identify if necessary) or who are they here to see. Report them to SPA if they don't check out as being legitimate occupants or visitors.



Be prepared, if warranted, to establish observer/reporter functions or temporary traffic checkpoints.