

August 28, 2023, 5 PM

Please see the message below from the Hurricane Response Team.

Dear VGRC Community,

According to the National Hurricane Center, our area is under a tropical storm warning and continues under a hurricane watch (as of 3:00 p.m. 8/28). To keep you informed, we would like to share some information as our city and community are being proactive and making the best decisions for our community.

1. Sarasota County/ Venice will be opening evacuation shelters as of tomorrow, 8/29 at 8:00 a.m. The closest evacuation center in the

Venice area is Taylor Ranch Elementary School 2500 Taylor Ranch Tr. (off U.S. 41), South Venice.

*2. Venice City Hall and other City buildings will be closed to the public Tuesday, August 29 and Wednesday, August 30. The lobby in the Public Works building at 1350 Ridgewood will be open until noon Tuesday to provide bags for self-serve sandbag distribution at Wellfield Park and the Venice Community Center.*

3. Sandbags are now available, should you feel like you want to get them. (Note: we do not expect the rainfall and therefore flooding that we saw

from Hurricane Ian). Please use discretion in the decision to get them since there will be a limited number of bags and sand available. *“Sand is now available at both Wellfield Park, 1400 Lucaya Avenue; and the Venice Community Center, 326 Nokomis Avenue South. Bring your own bags or pick up bags at City Hall, 401 W. Venice Ave.; OR Public Works, 1350 Ridgewood Avenue. Limit 10 bags per household. The sandbag stations are self-service, shovels provided onsite.”*

4. Publix (and other grocery stores) are monitoring the storm and will make timely decisions about when to close and open again.

5. As a side note: Venice Theatre will be closed tomorrow and tomorrow night's performance of Golf with Alan Shepherd is postponed. A decision will be made about Wednesday's performance later. The box office will be reaching out to ticket holders regarding alternative dates.

Please take the appropriate steps to prepare for high winds and rain that might come from a tropical storm. Please be safe.

Hurricane Response Team