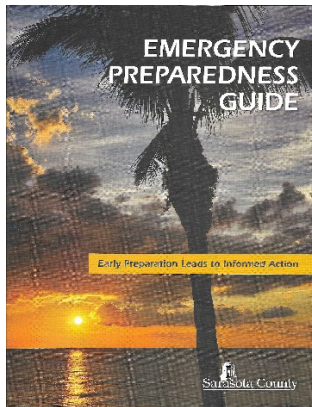




MAY 2026 NEWSLETTER

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS 2026



Florida's hurricane season is officially June 1st to November 30th, with mid-August through late October being the most active time for stormy weather. The **Watercrest Hurricane Binder (2020)** is currently under review. The Board hopes to obtain copies of Sarasota County's Emergency Preparedness Guide for each Watercrest household. Additionally, check out their web site at [Hurricane Preparedness | Sarasota County, FL](https://www.sarasotacountyfl.gov/Community-Engagement/Hurricane-Preparedness)

REMINDER: Hurricane shutters may not be left up for the season if you are heading out for the summer. Shutters may only be placed a few days in advance of a named storm predicted to potentially hit the Venice area. Shutters must be removed or retracted no later than seven days after the latter of the dates when a National Weather Service (NWS) hurricane watch or warning is withdrawn or when Venice is no longer within the NWS five-day "cone of uncertainty" for any future storm.

KENTUCKY DERBY NIGHT – SATURDAY, MAY 2 FROM 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

Wear your Derby finery and participate in Butch's "off-track betting"! Bring a chair, your favorite beverage and a snack to share. We're off to the races!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Architectural Review Committee: Thursday, May 7 & 28 - both at 10:30 a.m. - in the Guardhouse and on Zoom.

Watercrest Monthly Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, May 14 at 6:00 p.m., at the Jacaranda Public Library and on Zoom.

LANDSCAPING UPDATES

Watering: Given the extreme draught conditions and Sarasota County's increased watering restrictions, our plants and turf will likely not be getting enough water. Hand watering is allowed by the County so please hand water any plants or turf areas that show signs of heat/drought stress. Also, please note, our irrigation will now be running but at reduced output and within the hours of 8:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m.

BEWARE OF ALLIGATOR ACTIVITY

Mid-April through the end of May is alligator breeding season in Florida. In past years we have seen activity outside the ponds and far away from the water's edge, including in between homes and even crossing roads. Please take extra caution when out in the neighborhood. Never approach or feed gators.

FENCE / PERMACAST WALL SURVEY RESULTS

The Board recently surveyed residents to determine interest in supporting a special assessment for replacing the current PVC Fence on the north and east sides of our property. Large projects (greater than 15% of total budget) require the majority of the owners to support it. 175 members (60%) of the community responded to the survey. Of the 175 responses, only 32.6% supported replacing the fence. As a result, the Board will not be pursuing this project and will continue to repair the fence if future damage occurs.

ARTISTREE INFORMATION SESSION – APRIL 9, 2026



Our ArtisTree account executive, Troy Smith (2nd from left), and his team, gave residents an informative presentation at the Jacaranda Library. Troy provided an overview of ArtisTree and covered several current landscaping topics. A copy of his handout, detailing the Watercrest service schedule by month, the shrub and sod treatment/replacement process and the work order submission process, will be placed on our Watercrest website (mywatercrest.com).