Dear Property Owner/Resident:

**Your property has been identified as in or near a repetitive flood area.** Sarasota County is subject to flooding from storm surge from the Gulf of Mexico and/or excessive rainfall from a subtropical event.

Last year we notified residents and property owners, within these repetitive flood areas, that Sarasota County, working with Weiler Engineering Corporation, was conducting a 'Repetitive Loss Area Analysis'.

We've concluded the data collection portion of the project and continue to analyze data to identify the causes of flooding and mitigation options available for each identified area. We will hold a public meeting in your area when we finalize the report.

Flood insurance remains one of the easiest ways to protect your property. Homeowners recover from floods quicker when they have flood insurance.

Sarasota County is a Community Rating System (CRS) Class 5 rated community and our policy holders can receive up to a 25% discount on flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

To learn more about property protection measures, flood insurance and methods to reduce your flood risk, visit Sarasota County’s Flood Protection website at [www.scgov.net/floodprotection](http://www.scgov.net/floodprotection).

For more information on grants available through FEMA go to: [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) and use the keyword HMA in the search bar, or contact Des Companion for more information at: (941) 861-5000.

Attend a Flood Zone workshop at one of the local libraries. A copy of the workshop schedule is included with this letter.

Call Sarasota County at (941) 861-5000 for a property protection consultation or site visit to evaluate your drainage and retrofitting options.
Protect your property from flooding.

1. **Know your flood hazard.** Sarasota County is prone to flooding from fresh water and saltwater. To find your FEMA flood zone and hazards in your area, visit [www.scgov.net/FloodMaps/](http://www.scgov.net/FloodMaps/) or call 941-861-5000. Sarasota County staff can help you evaluate your flood risk and flood protection alternatives.

2. **Get flood insurance.** Hurricanes, tropical storms and heavy rainfall can occur at any time in Sarasota County, potentially subjecting your property to flooding. Flood insurance is recommended and may be mandatory to protect your property from flood events. Contact your insurance agent for more information on rates and coverage options, or visit [www.floodsmart.gov/](http://www.floodsmart.gov/) to find an agent.

3. **Protect yourself and your loved ones.** Monitor your surroundings and follow emergency instructions. Tune to 1450 AM or 970 AM for up-to-date information, and remember to “turn around, don’t drown.” As little as six inches of water can cause your tires to lose traction, and 12 inches of water may cause your car to float.

4. **Protect your property.**
   - Consider elevating your house or business above flood levels. To see if you are eligible for hazard mitigation grants and loans, visit [www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance](http://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance).
   - Know how to shut off the electricity and gas to your house or business.
   - Inventory, photograph or videotape your home or business.
   - Put insurance policies, valuable papers and medicine in a safe place.
   - Develop a disaster response plan. Visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) for information about preparing your home and family.
   - For specific information on emergency preparedness and flooding in Sarasota County, visit [www.scgov.net/AllHazards/](http://www.scgov.net/AllHazards/).

5. **Build responsibly.**

6. **Prevent pollution and localized flooding. ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN!**
   Keep lawn clippings, leaves, waste and other debris out of streets, storm drains and waterways. Everything that goes into a storm drain or conveyance system will eventually end up in our bays and has the potential to clog the drainage system. This can cause flooding and damage to roadways and surrounding properties. There are regulations against dumping. If you observe dumping, please call the Sarasota County Contact Center at 941-861-5000.

$$ Find out your flood costs $$.
Flooding remains the costliest natural disaster in the U.S. Visit [www.floodsmart.gov/](http://www.floodsmart.gov/). All it takes is a few inches of water to cause major damage to your home and its contents.

For more information, visit the Sarasota County Flood Information website at [www.scgov.net/RLAA](http://www.scgov.net/RLAA) or call the Sarasota County Contact Center at 941-861-5000.