

# **Evacuations**

Vacation rental occupants are required to participate in all mandatory evacuations due to hurricanes, tropical storms, or other threats to resident safety, as required by state and local laws.

## **Evacuation Routes**

- Know your primary and alternate evacuation routes; choose several destinations in different directions so you have options in an emergency.
- See the next page which shows evacuation routes and shelters throughout the county.
- Evacuate early.
- Travel tens of miles, not hundreds of miles, and shelter locally.
- Choose a sturdy home or hotel outside of the evacuation zone, or a public shelter.
- Remember, shelters are your last resort and shelter openings are incident-specific – so tune into the local news, radio, social media, or contact the Community Information Hotline (2-1-1) for open shelter locations.

## **Evacuate When Directed**

When an Atlantic-approaching hurricane threatens Brevard County, a mandatory evacuation will be called for Zone A, which includes the barrier islands, (Melbourne Beach, Indian Land, etc.). All portions of the islands are included in an evacuation due to storm surge which can affect causeway and bridge approaches, making it impossible for vehicles to access. Causeways remain open to leave the barrier island, however once winds reach 45 MPH, crossing them can be very dangerous. Don't wait till the last minute to decide to leave the barrier island. In addition, it is not safe for high-profile vehicles, like fire trucks or ambulances, to operate when wind speed exceeds 40 MPH. Remember that if you should decide to violate the requirement to evacuate and stay, should you have an emergency of any kind you will most likely have to wait until the storm passes and the winds subside before first responder's can reach you. The causeways remain closed post storm to return to the barrier island until they are inspected to ensure they are safe for vehicle traffic.