

Emergency Evacuation Podcast Transcription

Host 1: Hey, everyone. Welcome back. Let's, dive into something really important today. We're going to be looking at the emergency evacuation support page. You know, if you're thinking about how to get ready for emergencies, especially if you need a little extra help, well, this is the place to be.

Host 2: Yeah, that's right.

And, you know, Space Coast Area Transit, they're the folks who make sure people who need it can get out safely when things get rough. Right.

Host 1: So like what, if you can't just hop in your car

Host 2: and take off. Yeah, exactly. Like if you've got special needs or

Host 1: something. Hmm. Interesting. Okay, so tell me more about what Space Coast Area Transit actually does.

I mean, it's more than just driving people around.

Host 2: Oh, for sure. It's way more. They're like the central hub for the whole emergency response, you know, working with public works, law enforcement, the Red Cross, you name it, everyone. They make sure the whole community is taken care of.

Host 1: Wow. So they really are kind of the, the backbone of making sure everyone gets to safety.

Host 2: You got it. And a big part of that is, as you said, getting people who can't get themselves to a shelter, , to a safe place.

Host 1: Right. And I see this thing about pre registration. What's that all about?

Host 2: Super important. If you think you might need help during an evacuation, you gotta pre register with the Emergency Management Office.

Host 1: So why is that so important? I mean, can't you just call them when something happens?

Host 2: Well think about it. In an emergency, things are chaotic. Phones might be down, everyone's trying to get help at once. Pre registering gives Space Coast Area Transit the heads up they need. They know who needs help, what kind of help, and where to take them.

Host 1: So it's like getting everything organized ahead of time so when it hits the fan they're ready to roll.

Host 2: Exactly. It's all about efficiency, you know? Making sure everyone gets the help they need as quickly and safely as possible.

Host 1: Smart. And I bet it takes a load off people's minds. Knowing they're already on the list, so to speak.

Host 2: Absolutely. Less stress for everyone.

Host 1: Okay. So something else I'm sure people are wondering about pets, what happens to them during an evacuation?

Host 2: Ah, yeah, good one. Pets are family, right? So Space Coast Area Transit works with Brevard County Animal Services.

Host 1: Oh, so they take care of the animals too. That's a relief.

I mean, imagine having to leave your pet behind.

Host 2: Yeah, no one wants to do that. So, Animal Services picks them up, takes them to a safe place, and then after the emergency, they reunite them with their owners.

Host 1: That's awesome. It's such a relief for people to know their furry friends are safe. I mean, it lets them focus on other things, like, you know, packing their go bag and stuff.

Host 2: For sure. It takes a huge worry off their shoulders.

Host 1: Okay, so, practical stuff.

Host 2: Mm

Host 1: hmm. How does the actual transportation work? I mean, who can get a ride, and how do they get picked up?

Host 2: Okay, so, anyone who's pre registered with special needs, they get a ride, no problem. . And it's all free, by the way.

Host 1: Free! Wow, that's amazing.

Host 2: Yep, completely free. So, when an evacuation is ordered, Space Coast Area Transit, they get in touch with you, they confirm your needs, and give you an estimated pickup time.

For you and your pet, too, if you've got one.

Host 1: That's great. So you know when to be ready. You're not just sitting there wondering when they're going to show up.

Host 2: Exactly. It's all planned out.

Host 1: Wow. This is really impressive. I mean, it sounds like they've thought of everything. It's not just individuals, right?

They also help get emergency workers where they need to be.

Host 2: Oh yeah, for sure. They transport crews, supplies, like you said, tarps, food, all that emergency equipment.

Host 1: Really? So they're like, The lifeline for the whole emergency response.

Host 2: Pretty much. They make sure everyone and everything gets where it needs to be.

Host 1: That's amazing. Okay. But what about after the storm passes? What happens then?

Host 2: Right. So once the all clear is given, they focus on getting folks back home, especially those with special needs. They get priority.

Host 1: Makes sense. I mean, they might need extra help getting settled back in. So. What about public transportation, like the buses and stuff?

How long does it take for that to get back to normal?

Host 2: So they jump right on that, they check all their facilities, equipment, make sure they have enough employees, you know, to get things running again. And they actually drive each route, checking for debris, traffic lights that are out, any obstacles.

Host 1: Wow, they really go all out.

So they're not just waiting around for things to get fixed on their own, they're out there making it happen.

Host 2: Absolutely. They're proactive and they make sure the most important routes, like those for people using mobility devices and routes to hospitals and stuff, those get top priority.

Host 1: That's really good to know.

So, they're not just focused on getting things back to normal, they're focused on getting the most important things back to normal first.

Host 2: You got it. They're all about making sure everyone in Brevard County can get around safely, even after an emergency.

Host 1: Wow, that's really impressive.

Host 2: It is.

Host 1: So, big takeaway here, Space Coast Area Transit, they're the heroes in these situations.

But, and this is important, you've got to pre register if you think you'll need help.

Host 2: Can't stress that enough. A little bit of prep work now, it can make a world of difference when an emergency hits.

Host 1: Right, like you pack a go bag before the hurricane, not during. Right. Same idea.

Host 2: Exactly. Thinking about these things ahead of time, it doesn't just make things easier in the moment, you know?

It actually helps you feel more in control, less scared.

Host 1: Oh, that's a good point. Like, you're not just reacting, you've got a plan.

Host 2: Exactly.

Host 1: Awesome. Well, thanks for breaking all that down for us.

Host 2: Glad to do it. Stay safe out there.

Host 1: You too.

Host 1: And for everyone listening, remember, be prepared, be informed, and stay safe.