

# ALLIGATOR PROTOCOL FOR HARBORAGE RESIDENTS AND STAFF

Alligators inhabit practically all fresh and brackish water areas in Florida. Occasionally alligators will enter The Harborage lakes from nearby canals or ditches. If alligators are 4 feet in length or greater, and they are a potential threat to people, pets or property, they can legally be removed from The Harborage lakes through a State-licensed trapper. Alligators under 4 feet in length are generally not deemed a threat, and are not eligible for removal, and alligators in the canals are not eligible for trapper removal because they are not covered by our permit. To learn more, about alligator safety, visit Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's website at [myfwc.com](http://myfwc.com).

## Protocol for Alligator Removal from Lakes:

1. Residents should call or text Trapper Tracy Hansen at (239) 218-9420 and give specific information about the size and location of alligator. When possible, also text a photo.
2. Residents should then contact the guard house to let staff know the trapper was called and the estimated size and location of alligator. Guard on duty will make a dated note with details for other security staff and then post the "Gator Spotted" sign. Guards will be able to answer resident questions if they call or stop by the guard house.
3. Residents can also email [Harborage@gmail.com](mailto:Harborage@gmail.com) with specific gator information and date the trapper was called.
4. Once trapper leaves with alligator, guard should take down "Gator Spotted" sign, update the other security staff, and email [Harborage@gmail.com](mailto:Harborage@gmail.com) with relevant information.
5. If no alligator sightings have taken place for a 3 day period, the "Alligator Spotted" sign will be taken down until the next resident sighting and call to the trapper. (Guard staff should have notes of when the sign was posted, when alligator information was received from residents, and when the trapper left with an alligator.)
6. Email notifications will take place periodically to remind residents of this protocol, or to alert residents if a particularly aggressive, or dangerous alligator has been reported.
7. "Gator Spotted" sign will not be posted for alligators less than 4 feet in length.