

## **Appendix G**

Guidance for Implementation of  
Public Shelter Design Criteria

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### **G.0 PUBLIC SHELTER DESIGN CRITERIA**

The public shelter design criteria, which are also known as the Enhanced Hurricane Protection Area or EHPA criteria, were developed to ensure that appropriate new educational facilities can serve as public hurricane evacuation shelters. The EHPA criteria provide supplemental code provisions to existing applicable codes and standards. The EHPA criteria are performance-based, with limited prescriptive options provided to serve as a guide toward achieving the required level of performance.

The SREF public shelter design criteria are promulgated in Section 453.25, *Florida Building Code—Building* (FBC). This section of the code applies to public schools (K-12) and community colleges.

The EHPA criteria were also prepared to ensure that new educational facilities could meet or exceed applicable national design and construction standards, guidelines and “best practices.” In particular, the American Red Cross’ ARC 4496 should be considered during the planning and design process for an EHPA; see Appendix C. ARC 4496 is the minimum hurricane evacuation shelter criteria used by the Division, American Red Cross and local emergency management officials for surveying, ranking and designating public hurricane evacuation shelters.

### **G.1 EHPA Occupancy Period**

For planning purposes, the EHPA is assumed to be occupied at its maximum occupant capacity for, at a minimum, a continuous eight (8) hour period of exposure to major hurricane conditions (i.e., Category 3 or higher). Off-site and unprotected on-site structures and utilities should be assumed to be inoperable, damaged or destroyed.

Though the EHPA provisions assume only an 8-hour design occupancy period, hurricane evacuation shelters are much more likely to be occupied for about 24 to 36 hours in advance of arrival of hurricane force winds, 8 to 24 hours during hurricane conditions, and 24 to 72 hours (or longer) after hurricane force winds subside. Boards, design professionals and emergency managers should consider this fact during the design of an EHPA. A design planning guide of 24 hours of self-sufficient operations at maximum occupant capacity may be more appropriate. A shelter occupancy minimum design duration of 24 hours is consistent with the International Code Council’s *Standard on the Design and Construction of Storm Shelters* (ICC 500).

## **G.2 Structural Requirements**

The wind load performance objective of modern building codes and standards is to prevent or reduce deaths and injuries within the built environment. This is achieved through design and construction of buildings such that, under design loads, primary load carrying systems remain stable and do not collapse. Survival without collapse implies that occupants should be able to find an area of relative safety inside the structure during a severe wind event. Localized damage, breach of the structural envelope and flow of wind through the structure and water damage are acceptable. However, this design philosophy is not necessarily acceptable for public hurricane evacuation shelters (and certain other essential facilities).

Hurricane Andrew (1992) and other subsequent major hurricanes demonstrated that the potential exists for hundreds of shelter occupants to find themselves scrambling for safety as the structural envelope of a designated public shelter progressively collapses or disintegrates. This scenario is unacceptable to emergency management and other public officials. The EHPA criteria were developed to significantly enhance the safety of public hurricane evacuation shelters, and enhance their ability to survive and continue to serve the public after exposure to a major hurricane. Therefore, the performance expectation for EHPA's is that not only the structural frame resist collapse in a Category 3 or greater hurricane, but that the exterior envelope components, cladding materials and assemblies must also remain sufficiently intact to protect building occupants and preserve the mass care function.

**G.2.1 Wind Loads.** EHPA's are required to be designed and constructed in accordance with the hurricane wind load provisions of the International Code Council/National Storm Shelter Association *Standard for the Design and Construction of Storm Shelters* (ICC 500). ICC 500's design wind speed map is based on achieving a one (1) percent chance or less of occurrence over the life expectancy of the structure (approximately 75 – 100 years). The chance of occurrence in any given year is 0.0001; which is often referred to as a 10,000-year event. Figure G-1 shows the ICC 500 design wind speed map for Florida and the southeast United States

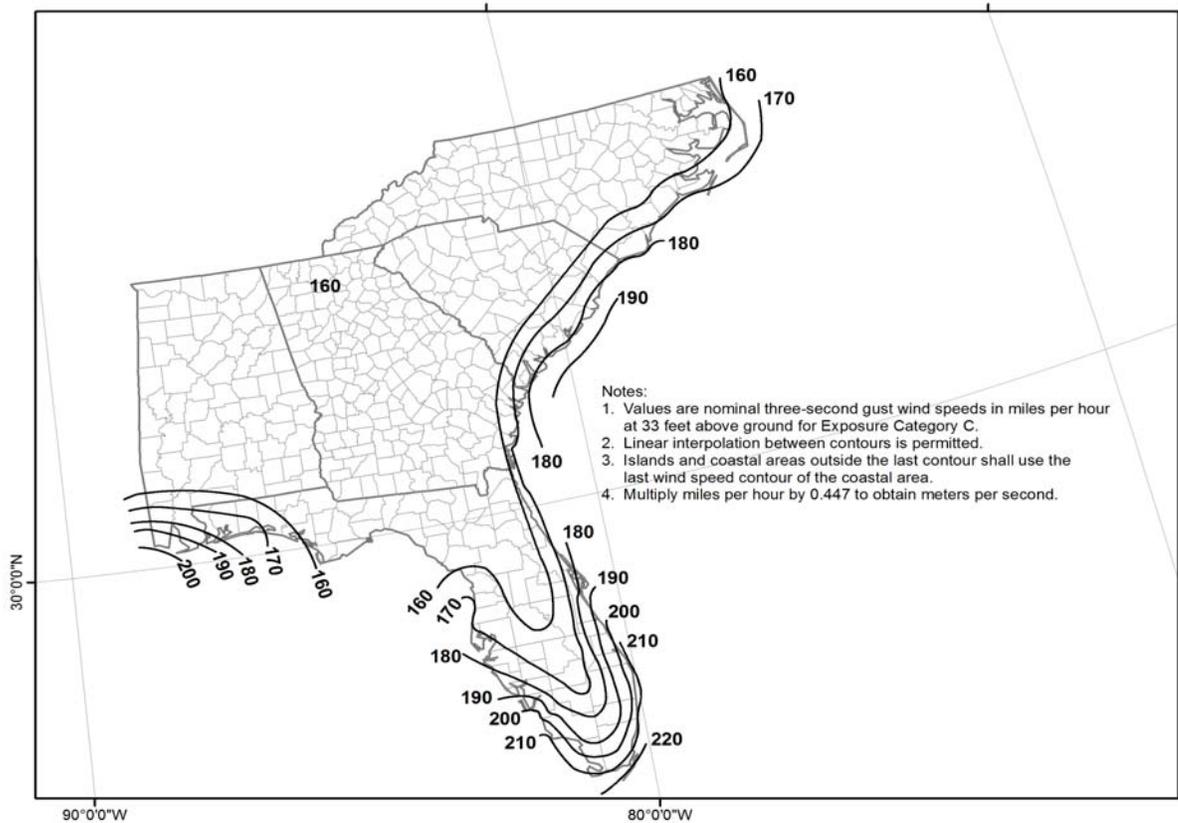
The International Code Council has published a commentary to assist designers with meeting the ICC 500 standard. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has also published useful guidance in *Design and Construction Guidance for Community Safe Rooms* (FEMA P-361) which provides assistance for federally-funded storm shelter construction programs.

FEMA P-361 can be viewed at the following web address:

<http://www.fema.gov/safe-room-resources/fema-p-361-design-and-construction-guidance-community-safe-rooms>

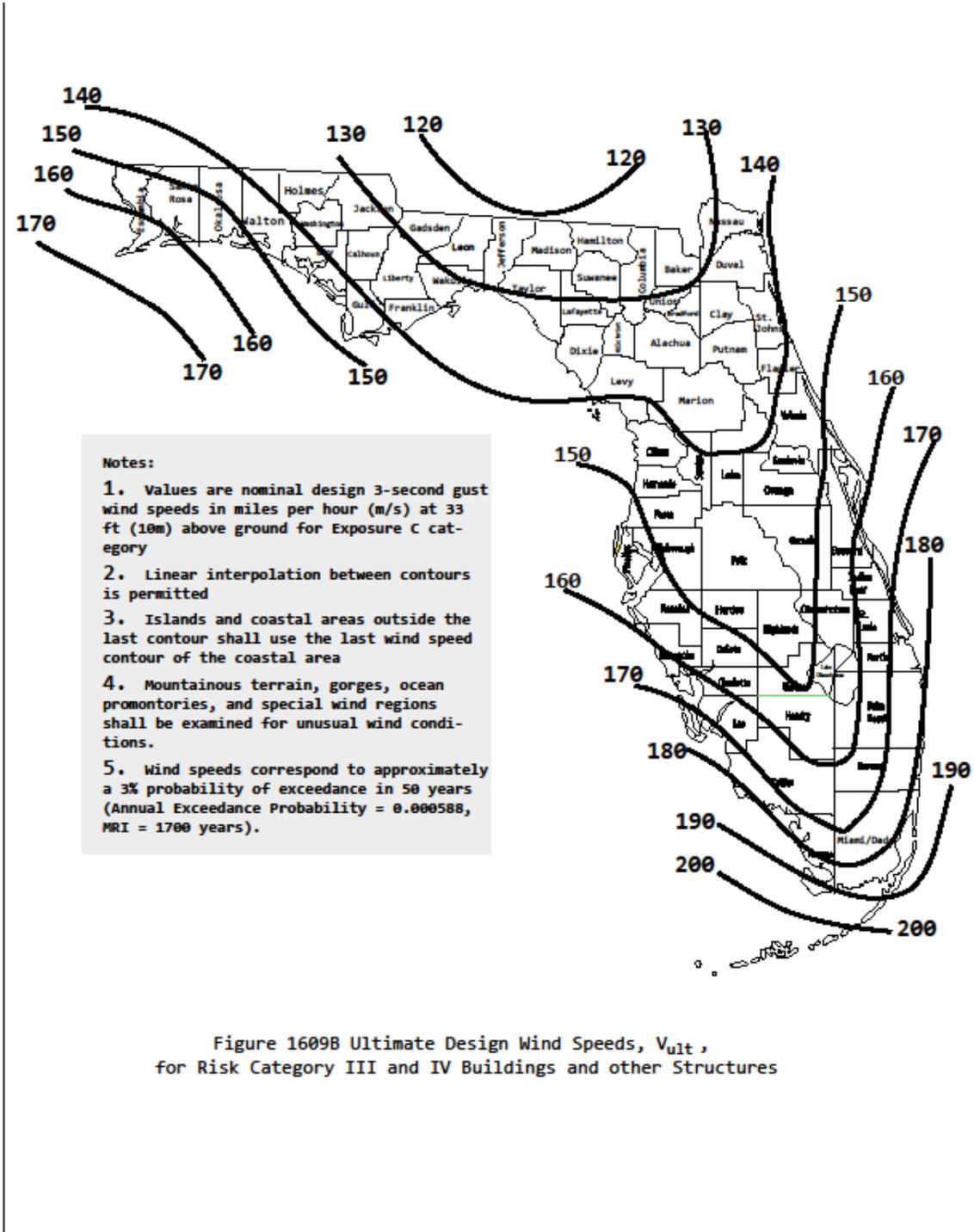
**G.2.2 Windborne Debris Impact.** All exterior surface components and cladding materials of EHPA's, and their supporting assemblies, are required to resist windborne debris impact. This includes walls, roofs, windows, skylights, glass block, doors, louvers, etc. This requirement is applicable to all EHPA's, regardless of proposed siting in a location outside of the normal windborne debris regions prescribed in ASCE 7 or the FBC.

**Figure G-1. ICC 500 Hurricane Design Wind Speed Map**  
 Source: International Code Council



For reference purposes, Figure G-2 shows the *2010 Florida Building Code—Building* design wind speed map. Figure G-3 shows the *Florida Building Code—Building* design wind speed with windborne debris regions.

**Figure G-2. ASCE 7-2010 and 2014 Florida Building Code—Building, Risk Category III and IV Design Wind Speed Map**



**Figure G-3. ASCE 7-2010 and 2014 Florida Building Code—Building, Risk Category III and IV Design Wind Speed Map (Wind-Borne Debris Region)**

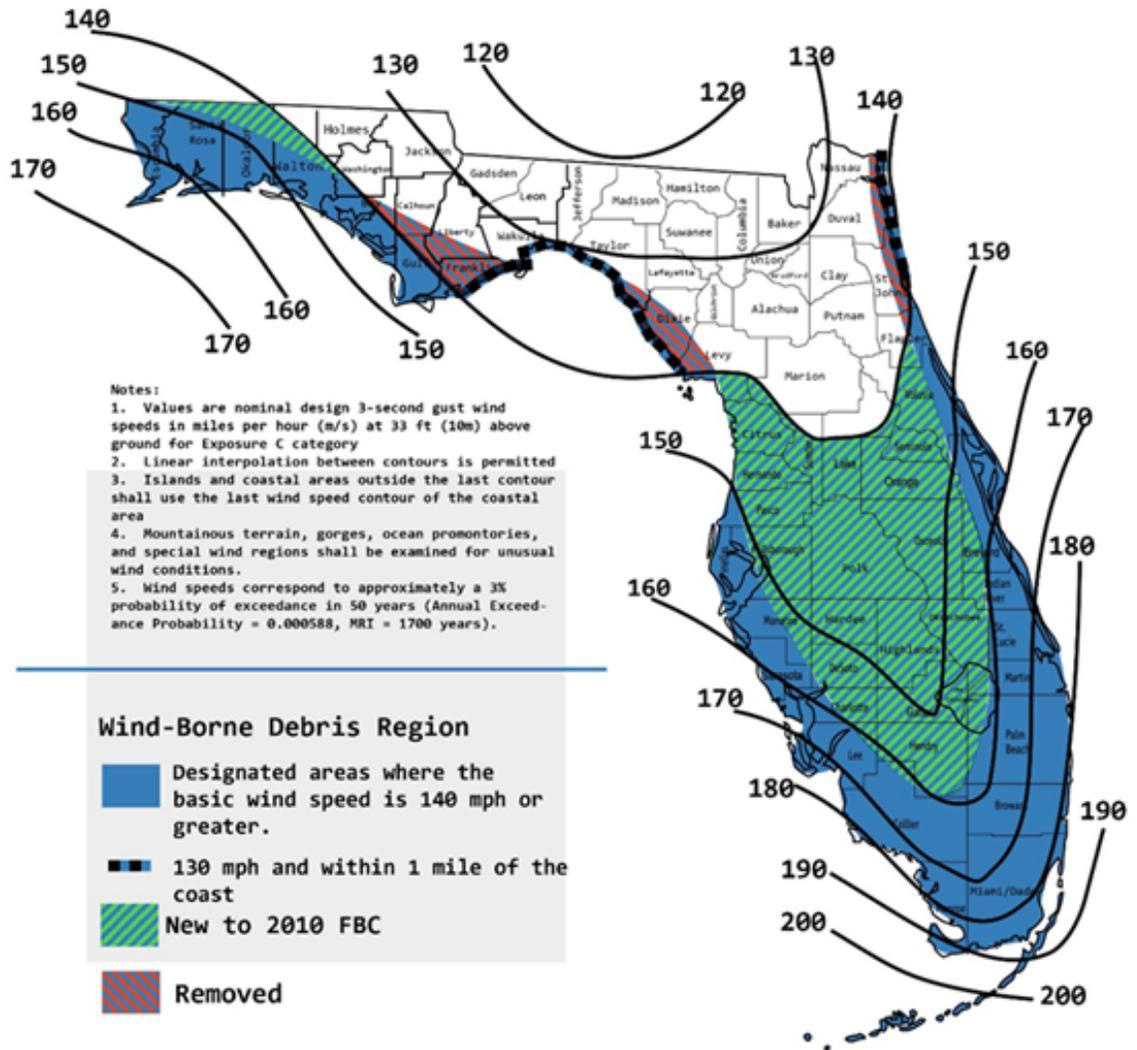


Figure 1609B Risk Category III and IV Buildings and other Structures and Category III healthcare facilities

Local emergency managers and school officials have asked for a comparison of the National Hurricane Center’s (NHC) hurricane category wind speeds and building code design wind speeds. The NHC categorizes hurricanes using the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Intensity Scale, which uses a one-minute sustained wind measurement method. ASCE 7-10 Commentary Tables C26.5-2 and C26.5-6 and ASCE 7-16 Commentary Table C26.5-7 provides information to assist with conversion.

Table G-1 below provides a comparison of common wind measurement methods. For comparison purposes, visualize an anemometer (measures wind velocity) with Table G-1 representing concurrent scales on its wind speed display, similar to a vehicle speedometer that registers vehicle speed in both miles per hour (mph) and kilometers per hour. The anemometer will read about 122 mph on the 3-second gust scale when the one-minute sustained scale reads 111 mph.

<b>TABLE G-1. Equivalent Basic Wind Speeds</b>						
Wind Speed Conversion <sup>1</sup>						
3-Second Gust (ult), 3-Second Gust (asd), Fastest-Mile and 1-Minute Sustained						
<b>Design Wind Measurement Method</b>	<b>Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Intensity Scale</b>					
	<b>Category 1</b>	<b>Category 2</b>	<b>Category 3</b>	<b>Category 4</b>	<b>Category 5</b>	<b>Extreme Category 5</b>
<b>3-Second Gust, mph</b> (ASCE 7-10, ASCE 7-16 and Florida Building Code, Ultimate)	105	134	155	182	218	266
<b>3-Second Gust, mph</b> (ASCE 7-98 to 7-05 and Florida Building Code)	81	106	122	143	173	210
<b>Fastest-Mile, mph</b> (ASCE 7-93 and Standard Building Code)	76	91	106	127	154	186
<b>One-Minute Sustained, mph</b> (Over open water; National Hurricane Center)	74	96	111	130	157	188

<sup>1</sup> - Reference Sources: ASCE 7-10 Tables C26.5-2 and C26.5-6, and ASCE 7-16 Table C26.5-7

**G.2.3 Foundations and Floor Slabs.** The finished floor elevation of EHPA’s and their essential life safety and emergency support systems need to be elevated above at least the maximum storm surge inundation elevation associated with a Category 4 hurricane. In multistory or elevated buildings, this applies to the lowest EHPA floor. The storm surge elevations are identified by reviewing the most current Sea, Lake and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) studies and atlases.

Some computer-based SLOSH models are also available, such as SLOSH Display Program version 1.65i. These models list several elevations based upon “hurricane scenario,” which includes storm intensity, forward speed and track. It is not uncommon for a site located in a Category 4 or 5 storm surge zone to be listed as “dry” for all but one or possibly a few scenarios, and could possibly be dry for all scenarios due to elevation of local grade.

The Division’s minimum recommendation for rainfall flood design elevation for EHPA’s is ASCE *Flood Resistant Design and Construction* (ASCE 24) Classification Category IV, Essential Facility. That is, the minimum elevation must be at least two (2) feet above base flood elevation (BFE) or a community’s Design Flood Elevation (DFE), whichever is greater. However, where determined, the lowest habitable EHPA floor elevation should be at or above the 500-year flood elevation.

**G.2.4 Certifications.** Board and emergency management agencies have often found that it is difficult, if not impossible, to document that a facility was designed and constructed to the EHPA criteria after the passage of time. Construction drawing notes often do not provide the required information, and building officials, design professionals-of-record, constructors, product manufacturers and providers, and other relevant agents move on to other projects. Maintaining a viable record to certify that a facility has been designed and constructed to meet the EHPA criteria is critical.

The following information is needed by emergency managers to document that a facility is an EHPA:

1. Statement that the wind design conforms to the provisions of the Public Shelter Design Criteria, Section 453.25, Florida Building Code with year of revision specified
2. Statement that the building or EHPA, as applicable, is capable of withstanding or exceeding wind loads according to ASCE 7 structural design criteria (this statement is essential for ARC planners)
3. Basic Wind Speed ( $V$ ), mph
4. Wind Importance Factor ( $I$ ); if applicable by standard or code in effect
5. Wind Exposure
6. Wind Directionality Factor ( $K_d$ )
7. Internal Pressure Coefficient ( $GC_{pi}$ )
8. Provide documentation that walls, windows, doors, louvers, roofs, skylights, exhaust fans, rooftop air-conditioning equipment and other exterior components comply with ASTM E 1886 and E 1996, SSTD 12 or other applicable performance standards (e.g., FBC High Velocity Hurricane Zone testing protocols TAS 201, 202 and 203, etc.); documentation may include large missile impact product approval notice(s), certified lab test results, etc.
9. Floor plan drawing or image indicating location of EHPA portions of the facility; includes drawing or image indicating the entire facility when applicable

The documentation can be provided in the form of a certification letter or memorandum, or as a note page within the construction drawings of record. It is requested that the design professionals-of-record sign and seal the certification document(s), and forward the certification to the board, local emergency management agency and Division.

**G.2.5 Observations from the 2004 and 2005 Hurricane Seasons.** Following the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons, federal, state and local building code and mitigation assessment teams observed the types of damages found in the most heavily impacted areas of Florida. In general, the impacted EHPA's performed in a manner similar to other recently constructed light commercial facilities. That is, there were no observed structural failures but improvements were recommended for cladding integrity and weather protection. In particular, roof coverings, light metal exterior wall coverings, soffits and door hardware damage led to rainwater intrusion.

The following is a summary of selected recommendations from the federal Mitigation Assessment Team for critical/essential facilities (which includes shelters):

1. To better ensure adequate performance of shelters, the 40 mph increase in base wind speed should be required and not just "highly recommended."
2. Ensure that appropriate ASCE 7 Exposure Categories are selected during the design process; ensure full wind loads are calculated in open areas (Exposure C) where reductions are not appropriate.
3. The minimum windborne debris impact criteria should be increased from the current SSTD 12/ASTM E 1996 Level D (9 lb 2"x4" @ 34 mph) basic protection to the essential facility Level E (9 lb 2"x4" @ 55 mph) enhanced protection.
4. Assure code compliance through increased enforcement of construction inspection requirements, such as the Threshold Inspection Law.
5. It was recommended that designers calculate loads on building envelope cladding and components (including soffits), roof coverings and roof top equipment and specify/detail adequate attachments to resist the loads. A minimum safety factor of 2.0 is typically recommended. Note that industry or manufacturers' recommendations may be higher than 2.0.
6. For roof coverings, a secondary weather-resistant underlayment is recommended to improve rainwater intrusion protection.
7. Designers should clearly indicate on the construction drawings the area of the facility that was designed to function as the high wind shelter or hardened core area.
8. Perform follow-up inspections every five years or after a hurricane to identify interior moisture damage that may affect the structure or building envelope.
9. It was recommended that designers consider and use guidance found in FEMA P-361 and *Design Guide for Improving School Safety in Earthquakes, Floods and High Winds* (FEMA 424).

To view the full Hurricane Charley and Hurricane Ivan Mitigation Assessment Team Reports, please see FEMA 488 and 489 at the following web addresses:

<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/905>

<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/2338?id=1569>

Also, FEMA 424 can be viewed at the following web address:

<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/5264>

There was one finding during the 2004 hurricane season that is related to human behavior that could increase the vulnerability of shelters. About forty (40) percent of the sites reported that persons (evacuees, shelter staff and managers, and public safety officials) purposely opened windows and doors during hurricane conditions. The reasons for the openings varied from admittance of late arrivals, to smoking, distribution of food and other supplies, fresh air ventilation, and equipment repairs or maintenance. Buildings are designed to be enclosed structures, and openings of possibly as small as one (1) percent of a building's exterior envelope can cause internal pressures that exceed original design loads. This essentially negates the benefits of any added window, door or other envelope protection.

In less intense storms, such as the conditions experienced by most of the shelters in 2004, the effects caused by the openings were minimal, with occupants experiencing only minor atmospheric pressure changes and a temporary, but pronounced, creaking of lightweight roof decks (e.g., metal). However, when doors were opened on building sides perpendicular to or opposite the windward facing walls, the doors occasionally were pulled open violently by suction forces. This may have damaged some doors making them impossible to re-close, and in one case may have broken a door window pane. For additional findings specific to occupied hurricane evacuation shelters during the 2004 season, please see Chapter 5, Performance of Public Shelters during the 2004 Hurricane Season, of the *2005 Shelter Retrofit Report*.

**G.2.6 Roof and Utility Enclosure Rainfall Drainage.** The EHPA criteria requires that roof drain systems be sized for normal use (i.e., 100-year, 1-hour rainfall design per FBC—Plumbing, Figure 1106.1), and when applicable also required to have additional emergency overflow capacity. The Division recommends that where drainage confining roof perimeter construction or parapets are present, that secondary (emergency) roof drains or scuppers be designed for an eleven (11) inch, 1-hour rainfall rate. This is about a 10,000-year, 1-hour recurrence rainfall rate for Florida, so a low probability event. A rainfall design rate of 8 inches per hour is also consistent with ICC 500 standards for Florida.

The Division also recommends that utility, mechanical, electric and plumbing equipment enclosures with open or screen roofs provide similar emergency rainfall drainage capacity at or near floor or ground level.

### **G.3 Location and Site Requirements**

**G.3.1 Emergency Access.** EHPA's are required to have at least one major means of access for emergency vehicles that is above the 100-year floodplain. However, this requirement may be impractical in some areas due to generally low-lying topography. Therefore, this requirement can be waived by the board with concurrence of the local emergency management agency or the Division. A potential EHPA with access routes below the 100-year floodplain may be subject to isolation due to hurricane rainfall flooding, and should be reviewed as a potential exemption request per section 2.2.1 of this Plan.

**G.3.2 Landscaping and Parking.** Landscaping around the EHPA must be designed to preserve safety and emergency access. Trees must not conflict with overhead or underground utilities, including electricity, telecommunications, potable and wastewater, natural gas, etc. Trees, utility poles or other tall structures are required to be located to avoid lay-down or impact hazard for the EHPA and its occupants. The Division recommends that trees located within 50 feet of an EHPA be limited to trunk diameters that do not exceed about six (6) inches at maturity. This recommended standoff distance will prevent medium-size trees from inflicting battering damage to EHPA roofs, walls, windows and doors and reduce the potential for entry and egress door blockage.

Trees that exceed 12 inch trunk diameters may cause most of the lay-down impact damage to buildings. Therefore, the Division recommends that trees that typically exceed 12 inches in diameter at maturity should be located with a standoff distance of more than 100 feet from their base to the closest potential impact point of an EHPA's outside perimeter wall; preferably a standoff distance of more than 115 feet. However, due to their relatively greater height potential, pine trees (e.g., Slash, Spruce, Shortleaf, Longleaf, Loblolly, etc.) should be located with a standoff distance of more than 125 feet from the EHPA; preferably a standoff distance of more than 140 feet.

Structures, equipment and other objects within 300 feet of the EHPA's perimeter should be anchored to avoid generating large windborne, falling or roll-over debris. Vehicles must be parked more than 50 feet from the perimeter of the EHPA during hurricane conditions.

**G.3.3 Rainfall Drainage.** The civil designer may also want to consider the potential for exceptionally high rainfall rates that will exceed normal site drainage design standards. The following are select maximum single-day (24 hour) rainfall records for locations in Florida:

- Pensacola – 11.68 inches
- Crestview – 11.44 inches
- Apalachicola – 10.67 inches
- Tallahassee – 8.86 inches
- Jacksonville – 6.33 inches
- Yankeetown – 38.7 inches (Florida Record)
- St. Petersburg – 15.45 inches
- Tampa – 11.45 inches

Orlando – 8.19 inches  
Melbourne – 27.65 inches  
Fort Myers – 9.92 inches  
West Palm Beach – 15.22 inches  
Miami – 12.56 inches  
Key West – 22.75 inches

Other extreme rainfall events of note for the United States:

Alvin, TX (1979) – 43 inches (NWS national record)  
Dauphin Island, AL (1997) – 32.5 inches  
Hackberry, LA (1962) – 22.0 inches  
Americus, GA (1994) – 21.1 inches

During slow-moving large “wet” hurricanes, a 10 to 20 inch or greater rainfall event is possible. The designer should consider the impact that flooded parking lots, overwhelmed storm drains and retention ponds, closed basin ponding, riverine and sheetflow flooding, and dam or reservoir containment failure may have on an occupied EHPA.

An essential performance requirement of hurricane evacuation shelters is that they not be inundated by rainfall flooding. For design purposes, the Division recommends that the EHPA’s civil designer consider the effects of an extraordinary event on the site drainage design. The designer should assume pre-hurricane saturated soil conditions and at-capacity drainage retention structures, then apply a hurricane-caused single-day rainfall event of about 30 inches. This is approximately a point maximum 2,000-year, 24-hour recurrence rainfall rate (1 sq.mi. basin) for most of Florida, so a low probability event.

#### **G.4 Hurricane Evacuation Shelter Capacity**

A minimum of fifty percent of the net square feet of certain types of rooms and spaces (referred to as “included spaces”) of new educational facilities are required to be constructed to meet the EHPA criteria. The calculated EHPA capacity is used by board staff, emergency managers and design professionals to determine the shelter occupant capacity and infrastructure-related requirements (potable water, toilets, hand washing sinks, parking, etc.) EHPA’s may be located in a single large room or a combination of rooms, located on one or more floors, and possibly in more than one building. To begin the EHPA capacity calculation process, identify those rooms or spaces that are to be excluded. Section 453.25.3.1, FBC and s. 252.385(4)(b), Fla.Stat. serve as guides for identifying excluded space.

The following is a summary of the excluded spaces:

**Excluded Spaces.** Spaces such as mechanical, plumbing, electrical, telecommunication and information technology utility equipment rooms, storage rooms and closets, exterior/outside circulation and open corridors, restrooms and

shower areas, kitchen and food preparation rooms, science rooms and labs, computer and information technology rooms and labs, vocational and industrial technology shop areas and labs, library and media rooms and labs, administrative office and support areas, record vaults, attics and crawl spaces.

**Included Spaces.** All other rooms and areas not listed as an excluded space.

To determine the net square feet of EHPA floor area, subtract the floor area square feet of excluded spaces from the gross square feet of the facility. The board, with the concurrence of the local emergency management agency or the Division may adjust the list of excluded/included spaces or the formula for calculation of design capacity.

Net usable floor area is defined as follows:

**Net Usable Floor Area.** Floor area of included spaces reduced to account for partitions and walls, columns, fixed or movable objects, furniture, equipment or other features that under probable conditions cannot be removed or stored during use as a hurricane evacuation shelter.

The following empirical usability factors can be used to determine net usable floor area:

1. Reduce the gross floor area of assembly areas with concentrated furnishings or fixed seating by 50 percent. Examples are auditoriums, amphitheater classrooms, etc. To calculate a room's net usable floor area, multiply gross floor area by a **usability factor (UF)** of 0.50.
2. Reduce the gross floor area of assembly areas with unconcentrated furnishings and without fixed seating by 35 percent. Examples are conference rooms, educational classrooms and skills labs, dining areas, band and music rooms, etc. To calculate a room's net usable floor area, multiply gross floor area by a UF of 0.65.
3. Reduce the gross floor area of assembly areas with open floors and without fixed seating by 15 percent. Examples are gymnasiums, dance floors, exhibition galleries, open multipurpose rooms, interior/inside circulation corridors and areas, etc. Retractable seating is not considered fixed seating. To calculate a room's net usable floor area, multiply gross floor area by a UF of 0.85.

A more comprehensive list of Department of Education room design codes, descriptions and UF is available in Appendix H. Usability factors listed are empirical in that they are based upon large-scale typical conditions. Boards, local emergency management agencies and design professionals may adjust the empirical usability factors to address site-specific conditions.

The capacity of an EHPA is calculated using 20 square feet per occupant. The FBC formula is as follows:

$$\text{(Gross Floor Area} - \sum \text{Excluded Floor Areas)} / 20 = \text{Occupant Capacity}$$

To calculate occupant capacity based upon net usable floor area, the formula is:

$$\sum \text{(Included Gross Floor Areas} \times \text{UF values)} / 20 = \text{Usable Occupant Capacity}$$

The designer should be aware that SpNS “client” occupant capacity is based upon 60 sq.ft. per client. The 60 sq.ft. includes an allowance for care-givers, medical staff, medical equipment and supplies, and a cot or bed. Therefore, no additional space allowance is required for these personnel, equipment or material.

In an emergency, on a short-term basis during hurricane conditions, the American Red Cross and emergency management officials may temporarily reduce the occupant floor area requirement to 15 square feet per occupant. This emergency contingency measure does not affect the EHPA criteria’s requirement to use 20 square feet per occupant to calculate design capacity.

The designer should be aware that for adults and children with certain access or functional needs support services (FNSS), such as persons that need wheelchairs or scooters, lift equipment, service animal and/or personal assistance services, FEMA recommends a floor space allocation of 100 sq.ft. For design or planning purposes, the larger accessibility accommodation space may apply to one (1) of every 10 occupants. In some cases the 100 sq.ft. may be shared with a caregiver (i.e., 50 sq.ft. for two of 10 occupant spaces). Additional guidance on space layout considerations can be found in Appendix F and at the following web address:

[http://www.ct.gov/demhs/lib/demhs/space\\_\\_layout\\_\\_considerations.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/demhs/lib/demhs/space__layout__considerations.pdf)

To estimate the number of design occupants assuming one (1) FNSS space per 10 occupants, the designer can replace the 20 sq.ft. allowance of the EHPA criteria with 28 sq.ft. Assuming that FNSS space is shared by a caregiver, replace 20 sq.ft. with 26 sq.ft. These will reduce the facility’s occupant capacity to account for the additional functional needs space. However, the EHPA criteria do not permit use of the larger design occupant allowance. Therefore, 20 sq.ft. should be used to calculate mechanical, electrical and plumbing related design features.

For planning and guidance purposes only, Table G-2 provides the Division’s recommendations for calculating the number of occupants of both evacuation and extended duration shelter types. The floor area allowances apply to all sizes of shelters from small with design occupants of less than 50 to mega-shelters with thousands of occupants. The allowances also include additional accommodation space for persons needing FNSS. The definitions for the shelter types can be found in Appendix E, Glossary. To use Table G-2 (below), replace the code value of “20” in the Occupant Capacity formula(s) given previously with values shown in Table G-2. The calculated

occupant capacity will provide the number of occupants with a reduction for FNSS spaces.

As an example, a risk evacuation shelter with a total of 10,000 gross sq.ft. of floor area and 0.85 usability factor, replace the “20” with “26” as follows:

$$(10,000 \times 0.85) / 26 = 326 \text{ occupant spaces}$$

Of the 326 total occupant spaces, two of 10 (or 2:10) are based on 50 sq.ft. each (65 FNSS spaces), and the remaining eight of 10 (8:10) are based on 20 sq.ft. each (261 code minimum/standard spaces).

<b>Table G-2. Florida Shelter Occupant Space Calculation Recommendations with FNSS for Dormitory Areas</b>		
<b>Type of Shelter (Duration of Shelter Occupancy)</b>	<b>Floor Area Minimum Recommendation, average net usable sq.ft.</b>	<b>Floor Area Range, average net usable sq.ft.</b>
<b>General Population</b>		
Risk Evacuation Shelter (0-72 hours)	26	22-46
Host Evacuation Shelter (0-72 hours)	26	26-46
Recovery/Short Term Shelter (72 hours - 2 weeks)	42	42-64
Long Term Shelter (more than 2 weeks)	60	60-82
<b>Special Needs Population</b>		
Risk Evacuation Shelter (0-72 hours)	60	60-82
Host Evacuation Shelter (0-72 hours)	60	60-82
Recovery/Short Term Shelter (72 hours - 2 weeks)	80	80-100
Long Term Shelter (more than 2 weeks)	100	100-120

## **G.5 Plumbing and Sanitation**

It is essential that the EHPA remain a safe and sanitary environment. The plumbing and sanitary provisions of the EHPA criteria are primarily based upon the American Red Cross’s *Mass Care Standards and Indicators, Version 011-072209* (Mass Care Standards). Mass care Standards requires that emergency shelters, regardless of cause(s) necessitating their need, provide a minimum level of service.

In general, support systems for toilets, sinks and other essential water distribution and disposal systems are required to be capable of supplying water and containing waste for the design capacity of the EHPA. Plumbing and valve systems of toilets and sinks within the EHPA may be designed for conversion to emergency operation to meet the required demand. The method selected to achieve the required level of performance is at the discretion of the board, design professionals and emergency management agencies.

It should be noted that EHPA plumbing and sanitation design requirements should not be reduced for pre-designated SpNS facilities. SpNS client capacity is calculated based on 60 sq.ft. per client instead of the 20 sq.ft. used for the general population. This may give the appearance of a reduced design load for critical support systems. However, the 60 sq.ft. includes an allowance for care-givers and the additional medical service staff necessary for operating the shelter. Therefore the plumbing and sanitary systems must be designed to accommodate a loading condition similar to that found in general population shelters.

**G.5.1 Potable Water.** Neither the EHPA criteria nor Mass Care Standards specify a minimum potable water requirement. ICC 500 design standards require a minimum of one (1) gallon of potable water per person for all uses (i.e., drinking water, hygiene, food preparation, etc.) The Division doesn't recommend a potable water design of less than one (1) gallon (3.8 liters or 0.133 cubic feet) per person for all uses. A minimum of two quarts (1/2 gallon or 2 liters) per person should be for drinking water purposes. As an example, an EHPA with a design occupant capacity of 250 persons (includes both evacuees and management staff) will require a minimum of 250 gallons (950 liters or 33.3 cubic feet) of potable water. This is a relatively small quantity of water if it must be extended for more than 24 hours, so conservation measures are recommended (i.e., identify and provide access to sources for clean non-potable water for toilet flushing and certain other hygiene activities, etc.)

Both the shelter environment (temperature and humidity) and physical condition/health of evacuees (e.g., age, diet, medications, pregnancy/ nursing, etc.) can significantly affect drinking water needs. Table G-3 can be used as a guide to estimating minimum drinking water needs as shelter temperatures rise. A potable water design of 3 to 7 gallons per occupant per day may be more appropriate.

<b>Table G-3. Estimate of Minimum Daily Drinking Water Needs in Unconditioned Shelters</b>			
<b>Shelter's Daily Mean Temperature, °F</b>	<b>Daily Drinking Water Needs<sup>1</sup>, quarts (liters)</b>		
	<b>Normal Demand (normal activity or at rest)</b>	<b>Moderate Demand (moderate work load)</b>	<b>High Demand (hard work load)</b>
<b>70 °F</b>	2 (1.9)	3 (2.8)	5 (4.7)
<b>80 °F<sup>2</sup></b>	3.5 (3.3)	5 (4.7)	7.5 (7.1)
<b>90 °F<sup>3</sup></b>	6 (5.7)	8.5 (8.0)	11.5 (10.9)
<b>100 °F<sup>4</sup></b>	8.5 (8.0)	12 (11.4)	15 (14.2)

<sup>1</sup> - Source: *Medical Aspects of Harsh Environments, Volume 1*, 2001, Chapter 1 Introduction to Heat-related Problems in Military Operations, Figure 1-3  
<sup>2</sup> - Caution: 80 - 90°F Fatigue possible with prolonged exposure  
<sup>3</sup> - Extreme Caution: 90 - 105°F Heat exhaustion possible with prolonged exposure  
<sup>4</sup> - Danger: 105°F or higher; Heat stroke possible with prolonged exposure

The potable water can be provided by on-site wells or water treatment package plants, stored in a permanent flow-through tank, or less preferably, stored in temporary containers or bladders. Temporary systems will be infrequently used (possibly less than

once a year) they will require regular maintenance to ensure operational viability. Large volume tanks must also be monitored to assure sufficient chlorine residual. Systems that rely on pumps or other electro-mechanical equipment or devices will require a back-up power supply.

In some circumstances, an alternative to large volume tank storage, and its associated plumbing and valve systems, is on-demand delivery of potable water. If this approach is used, the EHPA will need a delivery and protected storage area for the bulk water. This approach has significant benefits and drawbacks. The benefits are minimal (or no) construction costs associated with this approach, and there are no recurring maintenance or contamination concerns. The drawbacks are logistical and financial: who is going to be responsible for ordering, receiving, distributing, paying for, and if necessary, disposing of the water in time of need? These issues are not show-stoppers, but require a written agreement to assure operational viability.

**G.5.2 Toilets and Sinks.** The EHPA criteria require one (1) toilet and one (1) sink per 40 occupants of design capacity. The toilets and sinks can be fixed units incorporated into the EHPA during design and construction, or less preferably portable/temporary toilets and hand washing facilities. The EHPA required toilets and sinks are not in addition to those required for normal school occupancy, and are to be included in the overall facility fixture count. Generally there are sufficient quantities of toilets and sinks required for normal school occupancy capacity to meet the EHPA requirement. The designer will need to consider placement of the fixtures such that the needs of both the normal school occupancy and the EHPA are served.

EHPA required toilets and sinks must be available (or reachable) from within the protected area, or must be available via a protected passageway that meets the EHPA criteria. Portable chemical toilets may also require separation from occupied spaces and circulation of fresh air. Also, consider how a portable toilet will be delivered, serviced and removed from the facility. This may require a larger door opening than normal and the use of removable door frame mullions.

For adults with certain access or functional needs, low-profile toilets, sinks and grab bars installed in elementary classroom water closets and toilet rooms may be inadequate. The Division recommends that the designer incorporate permanent or adaptive structural and fixture size elements that can safely and expediently accommodate adults with functional or access needs. The adult toilets may also be incorporated into the design by adding adult restrooms into EHPA floor plan.

The American Red Cross' *Mass Care Standards and Indicators* (Mass Care Standards) recommends that on average there be one toilet and hand washing sink per 20 persons.

**G.5.3 Showers.** Given that the EHPA criteria assume only an 8-hour occupancy, normal shower requirement can be relaxed. Therefore, showers are not an EHPA code requirement. However, boards and design professionals should consider that in a post-

hurricane recovery environment, Mass Care Standards normally require one (1) shower per 25 occupants.

**G.5.4 Wastewater.** The EHPA criteria require that the plumbing system be capable of containing (or otherwise disposing of) the wastewater generated by the design capacity occupant load. During the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons, about 30 percent of occupied hurricane evacuation shelters experienced wastewater/sewage back-up into the facility. It is critical that wastewater be prevented from backing up into the EHPA. This can be accomplished through installation of storage tanks, a wastewater treatment package plant, or other suitable measure.

For those facilities with an on-site wastewater lift station, the lift station reservoir can be sized to meet the storage requirement. The lift station reservoir must be set at a lower elevation than the EHPA to prevent back-up of wastewater into the shelter area. The lift station should also be equipped with a standby back-up power system to support drainage into the local utility system. As a contingency, the stored wastewater can be drained and properly disposed of by a mobile pump unit.

Instead of a tank, an alternative is to utilize the waste drain pipe as the storage container. In this method, the pipe is over-sized to accommodate the required volume of waste on the facility side of the back-flow preventer. Wastewater and sewage back-up is normally caused by continued disposal (or flushing) of wastewater into the drain pipe system after the utility side back-flow preventer has closed; the drain pipe has insufficient capacity for continued use. With an over-sized drain pipe, the waste is stored in the pipe until the utility system is restored. A drainage connection or fixture should be incorporated into the drain pipe to accommodate expedient drainage and proper disposal by a mobile pump unit.

The Division recommends that the wastewater system design be based upon a ratio of 1.5 gallons wastewater for every gallon of potable water. In addition to the basic potable water design volume, the 1.5:1 ratio provides extra capacity for solid materials and introduction of non-potable water into the system (e.g., toilet flushing). Thus, based upon a minimum recommended potable water load of 1 gallon per occupant, the minimum recommended wastewater capacity is 1.5 gallons (0.2 cubic feet) per occupant. The Division recommends that the reservoir capacity be based upon a 24-hour design occupant capacity instead of the 8-hour design capacity (i.e., 3 to 5 gallons per occupant instead of 1 gallon). As an example, an EHPA with a design occupant capacity of 250 persons (includes both evacuees and management staff) will require a minimum wastewater storage capacity of 1,250 gallons (166.7 cubic feet).

**G.5.5 Garbage Disposal.** The Division recommends that janitorial service areas be located within the EHPA, and provisions be considered for temporary storage or disposal of solid wastes and garbage. Mass Care Standards recommends one (1) 30 gallon waste receptacle/container with lid and trash bags for every 10 persons.

## **G.6 Electrical Standby and Emergency Power System**

Back-up and emergency power provisions are an important feature for hurricane evacuation shelters. Utility electrical power can be disrupted for a few hours to several days (or possibly weeks) following arrival of hurricane conditions. During a utility electrical power outage, EHPA's must remain a safe and sanitary environment. Life-safety systems must continue to function, minimal lighting must be provided to support safe movement, security and emergency egress needs, and adequate ventilation provided to maintain a habitable environment.

At a minimum, the EHPA criteria require installation of an standby electrical power system with an outlet for coupling to a back-up portable generator. The EHPA criteria do not require installation of a permanent electrical power generator, but rely on emergency battery power and "pre-wiring" the facility's electrical system to accept expeditious and safe installation of a compatible portable generator. Therefore, the minimum EHPA requirement relies upon on-demand delivery of a compatible electrical power generator. If the on-demand approach is used, the EHPA will need a protected storage area for the generator.

The on-demand approach has significant benefits and drawbacks. The benefits are reduced initial construction costs, minimal recurring maintenance expenses and no fuel-degradation concerns. The drawbacks are logistical and financial: who is going to be responsible for ordering, receiving, installing, maintaining, refueling, redeploying and paying for the generator in time of need? Very few, if any, boards or local government agencies possess an adequate quantity of compatible portable generators to meet EHPA requirements. Also, state and federal agencies do not normally deploy portable emergency power generators until at least 24 hours after impact by hurricane conditions, and in many cases it may be more than 72 hours. These issues are not show-stoppers, but require emergency power provisions be included in board and local facilities and emergency operations plans (and possibly a written agreement) to assure operational viability.

Boards and design professionals must note that state and local emergency management agencies are under no statutory or code obligation to provide portable emergency generator(s) for EHPA's. Boards and design professionals are responsible for developing an appropriate EHPA emergency power capability to maintain a safe and sanitary environment for at least the required 8-hour minimum design occupant capacity.

For facilities that are pre-designated to serve as SpNS facilities, the Division strongly recommends that the standby emergency power system be designed to accommodate additional branch circuits to support medical equipment, refrigeration of medical supplies and air-conditioning of client occupied areas. These special requirements may exceed basic EHPA design criteria, but post-construction retrofitting to accommodate these requirements is often difficult and costly. The Division strongly encourages the designer to coordinate with local emergency management and county health department staff when designing a facility that is pre-designated as a SpNS.

## **G.7 Emergency Management Considerations**

**G.7.1 Shelter Manager's Office.** The EHPA criteria require that an administrative office be identified for shelter management use and included within the EHPA. The office is required to have provisions for standby power, lighting, communications, main fire alarm control panel and storage for the manager's equipment. Communications may include both internal (within the EHPA) and external (to outside shelter support agencies) communications.

The EHPA criteria do not specify a minimum floor area requirement for shelter management needs. ARC 4496 recommends that shelter management functions be based upon a minimum of 40 square feet per staff person. Therefore, the Division recommends that the shelter manager's office be a minimum of 40 square feet of net floor area, and an additional 40 square feet per assistant manager(s), communications person(s) and equipment storage. As an example, assuming the shelter manager and assistant manager occupy a single office area with equipment storage, the shelter manager's office should have about 120 net square feet of floor area (i.e., 40 sq.ft. x 3 management functions = 120 sq.ft.) The communications person(s) may be located in adjacent spaces.

**G.7.2 Signage.** A sign with a floor plan drawing or image indicating the EHPA's location and perimeter boundaries or limits is required to be mounted in the shelter manager's office.

**G.7.3 Food Service.** The EHPA criteria states that "where feasible, include counter tops for food distribution functions in the EHPA's." Mass Care Standards requires that emergency shelters have a feeding area and a means of storing, preparing and distributing food (and concurrently drinking water). Ideally, for sanitation purposes, emergency managers and shelter support agencies prefer to have feeding-related areas separate from general population areas. However, to maximize utilization of the EHPA's floor area during hurricane conditions, this preference can be relaxed and feeding areas occupied by a shelter population.

Mass Care Standards normally requires 2,000 Calories per person per day (about three pounds of unprepared food). However, on a temporary basis, a hurricane evacuation shelter's feeding services can be relaxed. For design purposes, the EHPA planning assumption is 8-hours, or one-third (1/3) of a day. Therefore, at a minimum the Division recommends that boards and design professionals plan for distribution of about one-third of the ARC's daily requirement, or about 667 Calories (about one pound per person). This minimum feeding requirement can be met via "bag lunches" or heavy snacks. As an example, an EHPA with a design occupant capacity of 250 persons (includes both evacuees and management staff) should have a minimum of 250 pounds of food. Given that bag lunches and one-quart containers of bottled water can be distributed from a movable table (or straight out of bulk delivery boxes or containers), a fixed counter top may not be required; thus the "where feasible" preface in the code.

**G.7.4 Supplemental Space Allocations.** Ideally, in addition to shelter management space needs, adequate space should be set aside within the EHPA for registration, emergency medical care, safety and fire considerations, janitorial services and sanitation. For post-hurricane recovery shelter operations, Mass Care Standards also recommends addition of space for storage of bulk food and supplies, food preparation and feeding, separate rooms for general population, elderly and families with small children, sleeping areas, recreation, and possible storage of occupants’ belongings.

**G.7.5 Parking.** EHPA vehicle parking areas may be paved or unpaved, but must be located more than 50 feet from perimeter of the EHPA. This doesn’t apply to temporary emergency vehicles, occupant/client or supply drop-off parking that will be cleared out during hurricane conditions.

**G.8 Americans with Disabilities Act Shelter Requirements.** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that public shelters provide equal access and service to all persons. For guidance reviewing accessibility of existing facilities as emergency shelters please see Appendix L.

Additional guidance can be found in *Guidance on Planning for Integration of Functional Needs Support Services in General Population Shelters* (FEMA, November 2010), which can be found at the following web address:

[http://www.fema.gov/pdf/about/odc/fnss\\_guidance.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/pdf/about/odc/fnss_guidance.pdf)

**G.9 Comparison of Florida’s EHPA to the International Code Council’s ICC 500**  
 The ICC 500 was published in August, 2008 and updated October 2014. Florida’s EHPA code provisions were considered during preparation of ICC 500 so there are many design consistencies between them. However, the objective of the ICC storm shelter committee was to ensure a high-degree of safety and broader occupancy requirements. Therefore, wind design provisions are based on a near-ultimate hurricane event. Table G-4 provides a limited comparison of Florida’s EHPA criteria and ICC 500.

<b>Table G-4. Comparison of Florida Building Code’s Public Shelter Design Criteria (EHPA) and the International Code Council’s ICC 500 Hurricane Shelter Standard</b>		
<b>Design Criteria</b>	<b>2017 FBC—Building (5<sup>th</sup> Edition), EHPA</b>	<b>ICC 500—2014, Hurricane Provisions</b>
<i>2017 Florida Building Code-- Building References</i>	Section 453.25	Section 423
<b>Design Occupancy Period</b>	8 hours	24 hours
<b>Net Usable Floor Space per Occupant</b>	20 sq.ft. all adults and children five years or older	20 sq.ft. for standing, seated or wheelchair; 40 sq.ft. for bedridden

<b>Table G-4. Comparison of Florida Building Code's Public Shelter Design Criteria (EHPA) and the International Code Council's ICC 500 Hurricane Shelter Standard</b>		
<b>Design Criteria</b>	<b>2017 FBC—Building (5<sup>th</sup> Edition), EHPA</b>	<b>ICC 500—2014, Hurricane Provisions</b>
<b>Sanitary Facilities</b>	Toilets 1:40 Handwashing 1:40	Toilets 1:50 Handwashing 1:100
<b>Potable Water Capacity, minimum quantity</b>	No Capacity Given	1 Gallon per Occupant
<b>Waste Water Capacity, minimum quantity</b>	No Capacity Given	1.5 Gallons per Occupant
<b>Flood Design Criteria</b>	ASCE 7 and ASCE 24	ASCE 7, Section 5 and ASCE 24
<b>Storm Surge Flood Elevation (if applicable)</b>	EHPA must be located outside Category A, B and C evacuation zones.	No limitation on location inside a hurricane evacuation zone. Lowest shelter floor slab must be elevated above the maximum modeled hurricane category, including coastal wave effects (i.e., Category 5 hurricane for Florida).
<b>Inland Rainfall Flooding</b>	ASCE 24, Risk Category IV Classification. Floor slab of lowest finished floor must be elevated above base flood elevation (BFE) plus two (2) feet or local design flood elevation (DFE), whichever is higher.	Lowest floor slab of occupied shelter must be elevated to the higher of the following elevations at the site: 1) flood having 0.2% annual chance; 2) flood elevation of the highest recorded flood if no flood hazard study in the area; 3) hurricane storm surge/see design criteria above; 4) minimum flood elevation of the lowest floor required by the authority having jurisdiction; and, 5) two (2) feet above 1% annual chance.
<b>Rain Loads and Drainage</b>	FBC (100-year recurrence interval for both normal and emergency overflow; no additional rainfall rate capacity provided)	ICC 500, Section 303.1 (100-year recurrence interval plus 3 inches per hour normal drains, and 100-year plus 6 inches per hour for secondary/emergency overflow; ranges from total of 10.3 to 11 inch emergency overflow capacity for Florida)
<b>Hurricane Wind Load Design</b>	ICC 500	ASCE 7 with design wind speeds per ICC 500 Chapter 3
<b>Minimum Design Wind Speed</b>	ICC 500	ICC 500 Hurricane Wind Speed Map (10,000 year recurrence)

<b>Table G-4. Comparison of Florida Building Code's Public Shelter Design Criteria (EHPA) and the International Code Council's ICC 500 Hurricane Shelter Standard</b>		
<b>Design Criteria</b>	<b>2017 FBC—Building (5<sup>th</sup> Edition), EHPA</b>	<b>ICC 500—2014, Hurricane Provisions</b>
<b>Importance Factor, <i>I</i></b>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
<b>Directionality Factor, <i>K<sub>d</sub></i></b>	ICC 500	1.00
<b>Optional Increase in Design Wind Speed</b>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
<b>Exposure Classification</b>	ASCE 7	ASCE 7 Exposure C (Exposure B may be applied to MWFRS in certain situations)
<b>Enclosure Classification</b>	ASCE 7	ASCE 7 with largest door or window on each side individually considered an opening (breach)
<b>Load Combinations</b>	ASCE 7	ASCE 7 with ICC 500 Section 304 provisions
<b>Building Enclosure Missile Impact Criteria (all exterior surfaces)</b>	FBC	ASTM E 1886 and E 1996 with modifications (large missile: 9 lb 2x4 Vertical Surface=0.5*Design Wind Speed, and Horizontal Surface=0.1*Design Wind Speed)
<b>Impact Testing Procedures</b>	ASTM E-1886 and ASTM E-1996 or SBC/SSTD 12	ASTM E 1886 or E 1996 as modified by ICC 500 Chapter 8
<b>Weather Protection (rainwater intrusion)</b>	Exterior envelope and air intakes/vent assemblies must meet design wind loads; Roof covering to be specified and designed to meet wind uplift forces and meet ASTM and Factory Mutual Standards	All exterior components and cladding assemblies and roof coverings must be designed and installed to meet design wind loads
<b>Fire Separation</b>	Applicable Code	Applicable Code or 2-hour fire resistance rating of walls/assemblies, whichever is greater, that separate shelter areas from the host building
<b>Natural Ventilation</b>	S. 453.13.8.1, FBC—Building (5 % of internal floor area as net free open area equivalent in exterior walls of rooms on perimeter of building, with exceptions)	12 net sq.in. of vent area openings per occupant

<b>Table G-4. Comparison of Florida Building Code's Public Shelter Design Criteria (EHPA) and the International Code Council's ICC 500 Hurricane Shelter Standard</b>		
<b>Design Criteria</b>	<b>2017 FBC—Building (5<sup>th</sup> Edition), EHPA</b>	<b>ICC 500—2014, Hurricane Provisions</b>
<b>Mechanical Ventilation</b>	2 cfm per sq.ft. of EHPA floor area	Ventilation rate determined by applicable building code for normal use of space (typically 15 cfm per occupant)
<b>Emergency Lighting</b>	FBC	1 foot-candle (11 lux)
<b>Standby Lighting</b>	10 foot-candle (110 lux)	10 foot-candle (101 lux)
<b>Standby and Emergency Power System(s), minimum loads</b>	Required; minimum loads: emergency lighting, illuminated exit signs, fire protection, alarm and sprinkler systems, ventilation for health/safety purposes, and four (4) electrical receptacles in shelter manager's office	Required; minimum loads: critical branch lighting and life safety systems, and select HVAC circuits as required by authority having jurisdiction
<b>Standby Electric Power System, optional loads</b>	1. Remainder of the school's campus security lighting (building and site); 2. Additional ventilation circuits; 3. Intercom system; 4. Food storage equipment; 5. Additional electric receptacles; and 6. Additional non-life safety systems deemed necessary by local officials for health, welfare and safety of the public during occupancy	Not Applicable
<b>Permanently installed Standby Electric Generator</b>	Not Required	Not Required
<b>Special Inspections</b>	EHPA's are designated "threshold buildings" and subject to special structural and electrical inspections	Community shelters are subject special inspections and structural observations
<b>Peer Review</b>	Not Required	Construction documents for community shelters with design occupancies greater than 50 are subject to peer review