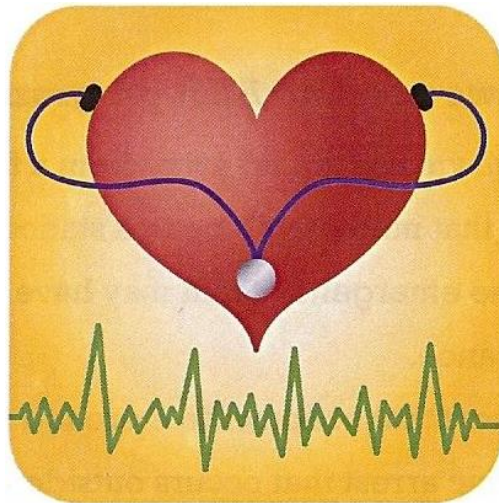


The PenneLoafer AED Program



For all residents on Pennecamp Dr., The Villages, FL and Mangrove Villas, located within Pennecamp Dr.

What it is
Why we need it
What does the AED Unit do
How it will work
Who will be responsible
How much it will cost

What is the AED program?

We have joined the “Pulse Point” Sumter County Emergency Communications (911) Program. We have two AED's (Automatic External Defibrillators) which have been placed in waterproof cabinets on the outside of 2 strategically located positions on Pennecamp Drive in order to provide rapid response to anyone who experiences a sudden cardiac or respiratory arrest. One is located across from the intersection of Pennecamp Dr and Pennecamp Dr. and the second is at the Northwest entrance to Mangrove Villas.

Why do we need an AED program?

Even though we are not far away from a fire station, we cannot be sure that medics will be in a station when the need arises, and the emergency team may have to come from a greater distance.

Statistics show that nationwide there is a 6% chance of surviving a cardiac arrest that occurs outside a hospital. The Villages has a much higher survival rate (44%) largely due to the number of AED units located throughout the community at recreation centers, the existing Villages AED communities, and the response time of medics.

The AED combined with immediate CPR has saved the lives of numerous people in the Villages. **For every one minute delay in starting CPR and using an AED, the chance of survival decreases by 10%.** Thus, if the medics arrive in seven minutes there is only a 30% chance of survival if a person has not had CPR administered.

CPR BUYS TIME. THE AED BUYS LIFE!

What does the AED unit do?

When sudden cardiac arrest occurs, the heart starts to flutter (fibrillate) but not enough to pump blood. CPR (chest compression) makes the heart pump and keeps oxygen flowing to the body, but will not "start" the heart. The AED is a battery-operated device that diagnoses whether a heart needs to be defibrillated (shocked) into resuming a normal rhythm. It gives audible commands and is so simple anyone who understands English can be taught its use in a few minutes.

How would the program work?

There are approximately 104 homes in the proposed AED community area of the "PennyLoafers". We would like to have at least 15-20 persons trained as "responders." The Villages Public Safety will provide CPR training free of charge. The more "responders" trained the better our community will be able to handle an emergency situation. In this way, one or more responders would be in the area at any time. Each responder would be set up as a Registered CPR Responder in the "PulsePoint AED" Sumter County Emergency Communications (911) and would be notified ***immediately*** on their smart phone when there is a need for CPR in their immediate vicinity.

For extremely time-sensitive emergencies like cardiac arrest, notifying community first responders that are in the immediate vicinity of an event, ***simultaneously*** with a conventional Fire/EMS response, offers the potential to improve outcomes. By expanding situational awareness beyond the purview of a traditional witnessed arrest radius, the opportunity to instantly draw skilled individuals, including off-duty healthcare professionals, grows, enabling critical life-sustaining interventions to begin sooner and more often and potentially of higher quality.

While one or more responders would go immediately to the home, others would pass by the homes where the AED units are located and take them where needed. The units are stored in **unlocked** cabinets attached to poles at two (2) locations on Pennecamp Drive. The units are identified on the maps that are on the output screen of PulsePoint.

Who would be responsible?

The Sumter County Emergency Communications (911) oversees and assists the program. They will order the equipment under their state contract, train the volunteers and provide continuing updates on training and equipment. The responder volunteers would be responsible to administer CPR and pick up the AED unit on the way to the emergency. The batteries in the AED's are guaranteed to last 4 years before they need to be replaced and the Pads are good for up to 2 years.

What are the costs?

The Sumter County Emergency Communications (911) provides this service ***free of charge*** and will replace all equipment when required.

SOME QUESTIONS

What if some people don't participate?

Participation is automatic if you live within the Pennecamp Drive homes area. This includes the Mangrove Villas area also.

Do I have to be a volunteer?

No. Just if you want to.

Is the AED difficult to use?

It is virtually foolproof, and so easy to use anyone who understands English can use it. The required action is clearly defined and articulated at the needed time by the AED Unit.

Do I have any legal liability?

Florida's **Good Samaritan Laws** protect any lay person who goes to the aid of a person in distress. Since the AED "shocks" only people who are clinically dead (i.e., not breathing) there is no risk of hurting someone.

What about mouth-to-mouth?

Mouth-to-mouth is **no longer recommended**.

How long is the CPR! AED training?

2 to 2 1/2 hours. [Sumter County Emergency Communications \(911\)](#) would schedule a training class (or classes) at no charge for those individuals who are part of the community AED program wishing to be responders.

Would we respond to all emergencies?

No, **ONLY** cardiac/respiratory arrests emergencies.

For further information refer to our website:

www.PenneLoafers.com

If you think this is a good idea and are willing to be a responder, call or email any of the individuals listed on the above website.

