

MAY 11, 2011

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS PLAN

Mission Statement

To Provide Safety for all the Residents of MBYCC

The Pinellas County Emergency Management team makes the decision as to whether evacuation is voluntary or mandatory. Radio and television stations will continue to update information. You are urged to follow their advice, but once bridges to our barrier islands are closed, residents may not be able to reconsider their decision.

Preparedness Goals

To provide information for owners and residents in advance of hurricane season.
To stress to owners that protection of their property is their responsibility.
To ensure that temporary residents are provided with the same information.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS

The Emergency Director is: Property Manager

The Emergency Management Team:

Administrative Assistant

Maintenance Staff

Security



The Property Manager is responsible to make all final decisions regarding the preparations of MBYCC. In the event that the Property Manager is unavailable, the Board of Directors will assume the responsibility to make final decisions. All employees are responsible to report to their immediate supervisor as follows:

Management: Board of Directors

Administrative Assistant and Maintenance: Property Manager

Security: Security Firm and Property Manager

The Emergency Operation Center will be located: 210 Medallion Blvd.

The alternate location will be: The offices of the Management Firm.

The Property Manager will identify the nature of emergencies. Assistance for evacuation should be pre-arranged.

Problems with utilities should be reported to the utility provider. Know that utilities may be shut off to the barrier islands during a mandatory evacuation.

How and Why Hurricanes Form

Counterclockwise winds draw heat and moisture from the tropical ocean, contributing to the formation of an intense and strong tropical cyclone. Hurricane conditions are reached when winds are sustained at 74 miles per hour (mph) or more. This air revolves around a relatively calm 20- to 30-mile-wide center, referred to as an "eye," spreading outward as much as 400 miles. As a storm moves forward at about 15 mph, it releases heavy rains and accelerating winds and causes the ocean to swell. A hurricane may be preceded by tornadoes in the right front quadrant. Losing some intensity as it approaches land, a storm brings severe wind, rain, and storm surges that inundate coastal areas. A hurricane loses strength as it moves further inland, but high winds and rain continue.

Hurricanes are formed in the North Atlantic, Caribbean Sea, Gulf of Mexico, and the Pacific Coast of Mexico. The greatest likelihood of a hurricane striking land in the United States is along the Gulf Coast and the southeastern seaboard. However, hurricanes have also hit central Pennsylvania and the coasts of New Jersey, New York and New England.

Over land, hurricanes break up quickly. Cut off from their oceanic source of energy and with the added effects of frictional drag from land, their circulation rapidly weakens and becomes more disorganized. Torrential rains, however, may continue even after the winds are much diminished. In the southeastern United States, about one-fourth of the annual rainfall comes from dissipating hurricanes.

The Atlantic hurricane season lasts from June through November. August and September are peak months. There is no "season" for Pacific hurricanes. Hurricanes occur north of the equator over the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Typhoons occur in the South Pacific. Tropical cyclones occur over the Indian Ocean. All of these storms are the same phenomenon.

Why Hurricanes are a Risk to People

Nearly 100 million Americans are at risk from hurricanes. Hurricanes pose three major threats:

Wind - Hurricane winds exceed 74 mph. The winds of Hurricane Andrew measured more than 120 mph. Hurricane winds can rip buildings apart, uproot unstable structures or objects, damage utility lines and threaten lives. Wind damage can occur hundreds of miles inland. Heavy rains in mountainous areas can cause flash flooding where there is little warning of this major threat to life and property.

Heavy rain - There are "dry" and "wet" hurricanes. A "dry" hurricane moves quickly over land and may drop a total of five inches of rain or less. These hurricanes usually do not pose much of a risk from flooding but can cause great wind damage. "Wet" hurricanes can drop more than nine inches of rain per square mile and are slow moving. They can stall, dropping 18 inches or more of rain in some areas.

Storm surge - A large dome of water often 50 miles wide that comes sweeping across the coastline near the area where the eye of the hurricane makes landfall. This dome of water can exceed 20 feet, depending on the strength of the hurricane. The surge, aided by the hammering effect of breaking waves, acts like a giant bulldozer sweeping away everything in its path. This buildup of water level can cause severe flooding in coastal areas, particularly when the storm surge coincides with normal high tides. Nine out of ten hurricane deaths are caused by storm surge.

The Saffir/Simpson Hurricane Scale

All hurricanes are dangerous, but some are more so than others. The way wind, storm surge, and other factors combine determines the hurricane's destructive power. To make comparisons easier and to make the predicted hazards of approaching hurricanes clearer to emergency forces, hurricane forecasters at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) use a disaster-potential scale, the Saffir/Simpson Hurricane Scale, which assigns storms to five categories. Category 1 is a minimum hurricane; category 5 is the worst case.

The criteria for each category are shown below. This scale can be used to give an estimate of the potential property damage and flooding expected along the coast with a hurricane.

Category 1 - Winds 74-95 mph or storm surge 4-5 feet above normal*. No real damage to building structures. Damage primarily to unanchored mobile homes, shrubbery and trees. Also, some coastal road flooding and minor pier damage.

Category 2 - Winds 96-110 mph or storm surge 6-8 feet above normal*. Some roofing material, door and window damage to buildings. Considerable damage to vegetation, mobile homes and piers. Coastal and low-lying escape routes flood 2-4 hours before arrival of center. Small craft unprotected anchorages break moorings.

Category 3 - Winds 111-130 mph or storm surge 9-12 feet above normal*. Some structural damage to small residences and utility buildings with a minor amount of curtainwall failures. Mobile homes are destroyed. Flooding near the coast destroys smaller structures, with larger structures damaged by floating debris. Terrain continuously lower than 5 feet above sea level may be flooded inland as far as 6 miles.

Category 4 - Winds 131-155 mph or storm surge 13-18 feet above normal*. More extensive curtainwall failures with some complete roof structure failure on small residences. Major erosion of beach areas. Major damage to lower floors of structures near the shore. Terrain continuously lower than 10 feet above sea level may be flooded requiring massive evacuation of residential areas inland as far as 6 miles.

Category 5 - Winds greater than 155 mph or storm surge greater than 18 feet above normal*. Complete roof failure on many residences and industrial buildings. Some complete building failure with small utility buildings blown over or away. Major damage to lower floors of all structures located less than 15 feet above sea level and within 500 yards of the shoreline. Massive evacuation of residential areas on low ground with 5-10 miles of the shoreline may be required.

** Actual storm surge values will vary considerably depending on coastal configurations and other factors.*

The Family Disaster Plan

Disasters can affect any part of the world at any time of the year, swiftly and without warning. Most people don't think of a disaster until it is too late, then they suddenly realize how unprepared they are for the massive changes it makes in their lives. During a disaster, local officials are often overwhelmed and emergency response personnel may not be able to reach everyone who needs help right away. Therefore, it is important to prepare ahead of time to reduce the fear, confusion and losses that come with disaster.

The four-step plan described in this handbook will help individuals or families prepare for any type of disaster.

1. Create a Family Disaster Supplies Kit

One of the first steps towards preparedness is to create a family disaster supplies kit. This kit should contain all the essential items needed during the period immediately following a disaster, such as water, food, tools, medical supplies, clothing and bedding, and other special items like important documents. It often becomes necessary after a disaster to seek refuge in a public shelter. These shelters may not have some of the basic necessities. A disaster supplies kit can make a stay in a public shelter more comfortable.

Your Family Disaster Supplies Kit

After a disaster, local officials and relief workers will be on the scene, but they cannot reach everyone immediately. You could get help in hours, or it may take days. Would your family be prepared to cope with the emergency until help arrives?

Your family will cope best by preparing for disaster before it strikes. One way to prepare is by assembling a Disaster Supplies Kit. Once disaster hits, you won't have time to shop or search for supplies. But if you've gathered supplies in advance, your family can endure an evacuation or home confinement.

First Aid Kit

Assemble a first aid kit for your home and one for each car. A first aid kit should include:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sterile adhesive bandages in assorted sizes | <input type="checkbox"/> Needle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2-inch sterile gauze pads (4-6) | <input type="checkbox"/> Moistened towelettes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4-inch sterile gauze pads (4-6) | <input type="checkbox"/> Antiseptic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hypoallergenic adhesive tape | <input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Triangular bandages (3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tongue blades (2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2-inch sterile roller bandages (3 rolls) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tube of petroleum jelly or other lubricant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3-inch sterile roller bandages (3 rolls) | <input type="checkbox"/> Assorted sizes of safety pins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleansing agent/soap |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tweezers | <input type="checkbox"/> Latex gloves (2 pair) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen |

Non-prescription drugs

- Aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever
- Anti-diarrhea medication
- Antacid (for stomach upset)
- Syrup of Ipecac (use to induce vomiting if advised by the Poison Control Center)
- Laxative
- Activated charcoal (use if advised by the Poison Control Center)

Tools and Supplies

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mess kits, or paper cups, plates and plastic utensils | <input type="checkbox"/> Matches in a waterproof container |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency preparedness manual | <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum foil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Battery-operated radio and extra batteries | <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic storage containers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight and extra batteries | <input type="checkbox"/> Signal flare |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cash or traveler's checks, change | <input type="checkbox"/> Paper, pencil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nonelectric can opener, utility knife | <input type="checkbox"/> Needles, thread |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire extinguisher: small canister, ABC type | <input type="checkbox"/> Medicine dropper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tube tent | <input type="checkbox"/> Shut-off wrench, to turn off household gas and water |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pliers | <input type="checkbox"/> Whistle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tape | <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic sheeting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compass | <input type="checkbox"/> Map of the area (for locating shelters) |

SUGGESTIONS AND REMINDERS

- Store your kit in a convenient place known to all family members. Keep a smaller version of the Disaster Supplies Kit in the trunk of your car.
- Keep items in airtight plastic bags.
- Change your stored water supply every six months so it stays fresh.
- Rotate your stored food every six months.
- Rethink your kit and family needs at least once a year. Replace batteries, update clothes, etc.
- Ask your physician or pharmacist about storing prescription medications.

Select a friend or relative to be an out-of-town family contact. Call this person before and after the disaster to let them know the status of your situation. Make sure everyone knows the contact's phone number.

Out-of-town contact: _____

Phone number: _____

Learn what to do if advised to evacuate (see sections on Keys to Hurricane Safety and Evacuation).

Evacuation Route: _____

Alternative Route: _____

Determine locations of area shelters:

Shelter location: _____

Phone number: _____

Shelter location: _____

Phone number: _____

When a Hurricane Watch is Issued

Make plans early. Listen constantly to radio or TV. Monitor storm reports and keep a log of hurricane positions. Remember, evacuation routes sometimes can be closed up to 20 hours before landfall by wind gusting or storm surge flooding.

If considering moving to a shelter, refill needed prescriptions and make arrangements for pets. Pets are usually not allowed in shelters.

If evacuation has not already been recommended, consider leaving the area early enough to avoid long hours on limited evacuation routes.

Check supplies:

- Have a transistor radio with fresh batteries.** A radio will be the most useful source of information. Have enough batteries to last several days. There may be no electricity.
- Flashlights, candles or lamps, and matches.** Store matches in a waterproof container. Have enough lantern fuel for several days, and know how to use it safely.
- Full tank of gasoline.** Never let vehicle gas tanks get below half-full during hurricane season. Fill the tank as soon as a hurricane watch is posted. **Remember:** when there is no electricity, gas pumps won't work.
- Canned goods and nonperishable foods.** Store packaged foods which can be prepared without cooking and need no refrigeration. There may be no electricity or gas.
- Containers for drinking water.** Have clean, airtight containers to store sufficient drinking water for several days. The city supply will probably be interrupted or contaminated.
- Materials to protect glass openings.** Acquire shutters or plywood to protect large windows and doors.
- Materials for emergency repairs.** Insurance policies may cover the cost of materials used in temporary repairs, so keep all receipts. These also will be helpful for any income tax deductions.

When A Hurricane Warning Is Issued

- Continue listening to radio or TV.** Continue to monitor hurricane position, intensity and expected landfall.
- If living in a mobile home, check tie-downs and leave immediately for a safer place.** Mobile homes are not safe in hurricane force winds.
- Prepare for high winds.** Brace garage doors. Lower antennas. Be prepared to make repairs.
- Anchor outside objects.** Garbage cans, awnings, loose garden tools, toys and other loose objects can become deadly missiles. Anchor them securely or move them indoors.
- Protect windows and other glass.** Board up or shutter large windows securely. Draw drapes across windows and doors to protect against flying glass if shattering does occur.
- Move boats on trailers close to house.** Fill boats with water to weight them down. Lash securely to trailer and use tie-downs to anchor the trailer to the ground or house.
- Check mooring lines of boats in water.** Leave the area immediately.
- Store valuables and personal papers.** Put irreplaceable documents in waterproof containers and store in the highest possible spot. If evacuated, be sure to take them.
- Prepare for storm surge, tornadoes and floods.** Storm surge, tornadoes and flash floods are the worst killers associated with a hurricane. During a tornado warning, seek shelter inside, below ground level if possible, or in an interior hallway, closet or bathroom on ground level. If outside, move away at right angles from the tornado. If escape is impossible, lie flat in a ditch or low spot. The surge of ocean water plus flash flooding of streams and rivers due to torrential rains combine to make drowning the greatest cause of hurricane deaths.
- Check the Disaster Supplies Kit again.**

Prepare for Evacuation

Advance planning will make evacuation procedures easier. First, have the family disaster supplies kit and plan ready. Additional steps that can aid preparedness include:

- Know the home's elevation and flood level.** This information is available from local Emergency Management officials. The nearest weather station office can supply flood-stage data for area streams and bayous.

Our elevation: _____

- Learn potential maximum storm surge.** Find out if the home is subject to storm surge (tidal) flooding. Information about the potential for inland flooding and storm surge is available through the nearest weather station office.

Possible storm surge for a:

Category I hurricane: _____

Category II hurricane: _____

Category III hurricane: _____

Category IV hurricane: _____

Category V hurricane: _____

- Plan to relocate during a hurricane emergency when living near the seashore.** If living in a mobile home, always plan to relocate.
- Review possible evacuation procedures with the family.** Find out where children will be sent if they are in school when an evacuation is announced.
- Plan now where to go if forced to evacuate.** Consider the homes of relatives or friends who live nearby, but outside the area of potential disaster. Know the location of the nearest shelter. Emergency Management or Red Cross personnel can give the location of the shelter nearest the home and explain what to bring to the shelter. Plan for the family's safety. Know how to contact family members should the need arise.
- Contact the local emergency management office for information on shelters and community evacuation plans.**

Evacuation

Evacuation Safety Rules

Before making any last-minute preparations, be absolutely certain there is time. If advised to evacuate, do so immediately. Don't wait until the last minute to leave, hoping to save possessions. Save lives.

Move quickly and calmly. Don't take chances. Getting safely away from the storm area is the first consideration.

Keep a radio turned on and located where it can be heard.

Know where to go before leaving. Local officials will probably establish shelters in public buildings. If the location of public shelters is unknown, listen to the radio for evacuation instructions. If an evacuation route is suggested, use it. Other short cuts could have roads or bridges blocked or washed away, or downed power lines.

If traveling to a shelter, take blankets or sleeping bags, flashlights, special dietary foods, infant needs and lightweight folding chairs. Register every person arriving at the shelter. Do not take pets, alcoholic beverages or weapons of any kind to shelters. Be prepared to offer assistance to shelter workers if necessary, and stress to all family members their obligations to keep the shelter clean and sanitary.

If there is limited time for evacuation preparations, take only family medicines, blankets, and a battery-powered radio. If a disaster supplies kit was made, take it.

If there is definitely time before leaving the house:

- Turn off utilities.
- Relocate the most valuable possessions. Possessions that can not be taken should be moved to higher points in the home. Check to see that everything possible has been done to protect property from damage and loss.

When It Is Necessary to Stay At Home

Remain indoors away from doors and windows. Don't go outside in the brief calm during passage of the eye of the storm. The lull sometimes ends suddenly as winds return from the opposite direction. Winds can increase to 75 mph or more in a matter of seconds.

Protect property. Without taking any unnecessary risks, protect property from damage. Temporary repairs can reduce losses.

Stay away from windows and glass doors. Move furniture away from exposed doors and windows.

Stay tuned to media broadcasts. Keep a radio or television tuned for information from official sources. Unexpected changes can sometimes call for last minute relocations.

Remain calm. The ability to meet emergencies will help others.

Severe Weather Terms And What They Mean

Eye - A relatively calm area, generally 20-30 miles in diameter, in the center of a storm. Winds are light in this area and the sky is often only partly covered by clouds.

Gale warning - A warning of sustained winds within the range of 39 to 54 miles per hour (mph).

Hurricane - A tropical storm with sustained winds of 74 mph or greater.

Hurricane advisories - A message released by the National Hurricane Center in Miami, usually at 6 hour intervals, updating information on storms and hurricanes, including watches and warnings whenever they are in effect. A special advisory is a message given any time there is a significant change in weather conditions or change in warnings previously released. An intermediate advisory updates information in advisories at 2 to 3 hour intervals, whenever a watch or warning is in effect.

Hurricane season - June 1 through November 30 is officially designated as hurricane season.

Hurricane warning - Notice that within 24 hours or less, a specified coastal area may be subject to (a) sustained winds of 74 mph or higher and/or (b) dangerously high water or a combination of dangerously high water and exceptionally high waves, even though expected winds may be less than hurricane force.

Hurricane watch - The first alert when a hurricane poses a possible, but as yet uncertain, threat to a certain coastal area. Small craft advisories are issued as a part of a hurricane watch advisory.

Landfall - The position at a seacoast where the center of the hurricane passes from sea to land.

Local statement - A public release prepared by a Weather Service Office in or near a threatened area giving specific details to protect life and property in the office's area of responsibility.

Floods And Tornadoes: Get out of the Car

Floods and tornadoes often accompany hurricanes. Do not try to stay with the car under these conditions.

Never attempt to drive through water on a road. Water can be deeper than it appears, and water levels can rise very quickly. Most cars will float dangerously for at least a short while. A car can be buoyed by floodwaters and then swept downstream during a flood. Floodwaters also can erode roadways, and a missing section of road - even a missing bridge - will not be visible with water running over the area. Wade through floodwaters only if the water is not flowing rapidly and only in water no higher than the knees. If a car stalls in floodwater, get out quickly and move to higher ground. The floodwaters may still be rising and the car could be swept away at any moment.

A car is the least safe place to be during a tornado. When a warning is issued, do not try to leave the area by car. If in a car, leave it and find shelter in a building. If a tornado approaches and there are no safe structures nearby, lie flat in a ditch or other ground depression and use arms to cover your head.

If Trapped by a Storm

Avoid overexertion and overexposure.

Stay in the car which provides shelter and increases the likelihood to be found.

Stay calm.

Keep fresh air in the car. Keep the downwind window open about an inch if running the motor.

Exercise from time to time by clapping hands and moving arms and legs vigorously. Don't stay in one position long.

Keep the dome light on at night to make the car visible to rescue crews.

Have one person keep watch. Don't allow everyone in the car to sleep at once.

Signal with the horn. An automobile horn can be heard for as far as a mile downwind. Flash the lights from time to time at night.

Hurricane Preparedness Videos

The following videos can be obtained from the Federal Emergency Management Agency by writing to: FEMA, P.O. Box 70247, Washington, D.C. 20024; 1-800-480-2520.

Against the Wind (Homeowners and General Audience – running time 18:12; includes an 8 page brochure in English and Spanish): Step-by-step instructions for protecting a home from hurricane winds.

Hurricane: Prepare to Survive (General Audience – running time 20:35; includes handout): A remake of *Hurricane, It's Not Just Another Storm*, based on the experiences of Hurricane Andrew. Provides guidance on actions to take before, during, and after a storm.

Jason and Robin's Awesome Hurricane Adventure (Third through Fifth Grade – running time 12:00; includes 12 page, full color activity booklet): Video and activity booklet for school children and their families on how to prepare for and respond to a hurricane.

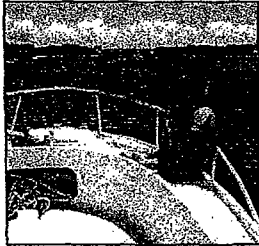
Hurricane: It's Not Just Another Storm (General Audience): A three part video consisting of (1) a twenty minute presentation designed to provide general information to the public concerning hurricane preparedness and awareness, based on lessons learned during Hurricane Hugo; (2) a two minute presentation showing how the technical information developed as part of a comprehensive hurricane study for a community can be utilized to better prepare residences for future storms; and (3) six one minute sample public service announcements.

Recovery

Insurance - Insurance representatives will be on the scene immediately following a major disaster to speed up the handling of claims. Notify the insurance agent or broker of any losses, and leave word where to be contacted.

Take steps to protect property. Report damage to common property so our staff or contractors may make temporary repairs to protect personal property from further damage or looting. Use only reputable contractors (sometimes in the chaotic days follow in a disaster, unscrupulous operators prey on the unsuspecting). If possible, check contractors through the Better Business Bureau. Keep receipts for materials purchased.

Be patient. Hardship cases will be settled first by insurance representatives. Don't assume the settlement will be the same as a neighbor's. Policy forms differ and storm damage is often erratic. In a major catastrophe, the insurance industry will have emergency offices and extra manpower to expedite claim settlements and to speed recovery. Everyone cannot be first.



Hurricane Preparedness for Boat Owners

The key to protecting your boat from hurricanes or any threatening severe weather is planning, preparation and timely action. If a boat causes damage during a natural disaster, the boat owner/operator may be held responsible. Normally the National Weather Service will issue a 24-hour warning; however, in some instances only a 12-hour warning will be given. Upon receiving this warning the boat owner/operator should immediately take precautionary measures to see that his/her boat is properly secured.

Each boat owner needs a plan unique to the type of boat, the local boating environment, the severe weather conditions and the characteristics of safe havens and/or plans for protection. The following preparation and precautionary suggestions are issued as guidelines to be used by the marine community. The following precautions and checklists are meant as guides only. It is stressed that following these guidelines does not necessarily exempt the owner/operator from being held responsible should his boat cause damage to another's property; nor will acquisition of required safety equipment and following the suggested safety procedures necessarily assure that no damage will occur to the boat.

General Precautions

Prior to the hurricane season, develop a detailed plan of action to secure your vessel in the marina, if permitted, to remove your boat from the threatened area, or to take your boat to a previously identified hurricane refuge. Specifically identify and assemble needed equipment and supplies.

Hurricane moorings should be located in advance. Permission should be obtained from appropriate persons. For keel boats, make certain there is enough water at low tide.

A practice run should be made to check accessibility, depth of water, bridges, location of aids and/or obstructions to navigation and locations to secure lines or drop anchors. According to a Florida statute beginning in 1993, drawbridges will not open for boats during evacuation procedures.

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Before a hurricane threatens, plan how you will remove valuable equipment from the boat. Determine how long it will take so you will have an accurate estimate of the time and work involved. After you have made anchoring or mooring provisions, remove all movable equipment such as canvas, sails, dinghies, radios, cushions, biminis and roller furling sails. Lash down everything you cannot remove, such as tillers, wheels, booms, etc. Seal all openings (use duct tape) to make the boat as watertight as possible. Make sure the electrical system is off unless you plan to leave the boat in the water. If the boat is not to remain in the water, remove the battery to eliminate the risk of fire or other damage.

Arrange for a reliable person to learn and carry out your hurricane plan if you are out of town during a hurricane or severe storm. Check your lease or rental agreement with the marina or storage area. Know your responsibilities and liabilities as well as those of the marina or storage area.

Consolidate all documents including insurance policies, a recent photograph or video tape of your vessel, boat registration, equipment inventory, lease agreement with the marina or storage area, and telephone numbers of appropriate authorities, such as the harbor master, Coast Guard, insurance agent, National Weather Service, etc. Keep the documents in your possession in a locked water-proof box. They may be needed when you return to check on your boat after the hurricane.

Maintain an inventory list of both the items removed and those left on board. Items of value should be marked so that they can be readily identified.

Trailerable Boats

Determine the requirement to load and haul your boat to a safer area. Be sure your tow vehicle is capable of properly moving the boat. Check the condition of your trailer; tires, bearings and axle. Too often a flat tire, frozen bearings or broken axle prevents an owner from moving a boat.

Once at a safe place, lash your boat to the trailer and place blocks between the frame members and the axle inside each wheel. Owners of lightweight boats may wish to consider letting out about half the air in the tires, then filling the boat one-third full of water to help hold it down. (The blocks will prevent damage to the springs from the additional weight of the water.) Consult with the manufacturer for the best procedure for your lightweight boat.

Secure your boat with heavy lines to fixed objects. Because hurricane winds rotate and change direction, try to pick a location that allows you to secure the boat from four directions. It can be tied down to screw anchors secured in the ground.

Non-Trailerable Boats in Dry Storage

Determine the safest obtainable haven for your boat and make arrangements to move your boat there. When selecting a safe location, be sure to consider whether storm surge could rise into the area. Wherever you choose to locate your boat for the duration of the hurricane, lash the boat to its cradle with heavy lines. Based on the weight of the boat, consider adding water to the bilge to help hold it down. Never leave a boat in davits or on a hydro-lift.

Non-Trailerable Boats in Wet Storage

The owner of a large boat, usually one moored in a berth, has three options. Each action requires a separate strategy. Another alternative, running from the storm, is not encouraged except for large commercial vessels.

- Secure the boat in the marina berth.

- Moor the boat in a previously identified safe area.
- Haul the boat.

Boats Remaining in Marina Berth

Double all lines. Rig crossing spring lines fore and aft. Attach lines high on pilings to allow for tidal rise or surge. Make sure lines will not slip off pilings. Inspect pilings and choose those that seem strongest and tallest and are properly installed. All storm lines should be at least one size larger than regular lines.

Cover all lines at rough points to prevent chafing. Wrap with tape, rags, rubber hoses, etc. Install fenders to protect the boat from rubbing against the pier, pilings and other boats.

Assess the attachment of primary cleats, winches and chocks. These should have substantial back plates and adequately sized stainless steel bolts.

Batteries should be fully charged and checked to ensure their capability to run automatic bilge pumps for the duration of the storm. Consider backup batteries. Turn off all other devices consuming electricity.

Do not stay aboard. First and foremost, safeguard human life. Winds during any hurricane can exceed 100 mph, and tornadoes are often associated with these storms. In addition, when winds and seas warrant, marine agencies remove their boats from service and will be unavailable to rescue foolish boaters.

Prior to the Hurricane Season

Make sure your vessel is in sound condition. This includes the hull, deck hardware, rigging, ground tackle, machinery and electronics. Absentee owners should arrange for a boatyard haulout or a supervised inspection of the vessel prior to, and in preparation for, the hurricane season. Make sure batteries are charged, bilge pumps are operable and all equipment is secured.

Inspect the vessel's deck hardware in light of planned mooring arrangements. Assess the size and structural attachment of the primary chocks, cleats, bits, bollards and winches. These high load/high stress points should have substantial backing plates and be secured with bolts of adequate size.

Avoid chafing of mooring lines. Chafing gear that has been proven successful is a double neoprene hose arrangement. Storm moorings, whether at dock or otherwise, should have doubled lines. The second set of lines should be a size larger than the normal lines, including spring lines at a dock.

Purchase necessary materials ahead of time, such as additional lengths of mooring lines, screw anchors, fenders, fender boards, chafing gear and anchors. These items may not be readily available during the hurricane season or just prior to a hurricane.

If the vessel is to be unattended during the hurricane season, make arrangements for the vessel to be hauled to a storage yard on its trailer, if trailerable. Arrangements for wet storage at a protected dock, mooring or marina is another alternative.

Make up an inventory of all vessel equipment. Note items to be removed from the vessel. Take photographs or videotapes of your vessel. Keep a copy of these documents on board and ashore in a safety deposit box or a locked water-proof box.

For wet berthing locations, ensure that seawalls and docks are sound, mooring bits and cleats are secure, and that dock pilings and dolphins are in good condition. At private berthing and dock facilities in residential areas, check with neighbors and other vessel owners in the area. Coordinate safety and mooring arrangement plans. At marina facilities find out from the dock master or marina management personnel what their hurricane plans and/or procedures are in regard to vessels left at the facility.

Check with local marine and law enforcement organizations for local plans. This is especially important in boating centers of south Florida where access to inland protected rivers and canals is limited by bridges that may be permanently closed for land evacuation routes when a hurricane warning is issued.

If your plan calls for moving your vessel from its current berthing location to an inland waterway location, know your route, your vessel navigation requirements at different tides and the restrictions along the route such as bridges (auto and train) and channels. This is especially important for sailboats or large vessels.

Rehearse your planned vessel movement, including an actual visit to the alternate dock or hurricane mooring/anchoring location. If rental of a protected dock or slip space is required, make arrangements well ahead of time. Be sure that family or key crew members know your hurricane plan or arrangements and how to contact you or your designated representative or agent.

Hinge your plan on quick response. Moving a vessel, stripping sails and derigging, and anchoring in seas resulting from 35 mph winds is extremely difficult—impossible in 45 mph winds. Prepare your hurricane plan in writing and make copies of it. Keep a copy on the vessel and at home. Extra copies should also be made for marina or yacht club facilities which may require you to have one on file with them.

Make sure your insurance policy is current. Read the policy thoroughly. Your policy may contain helpful information relative to what the vessel owner should and should not do if there is storm or hurricane related loss or damage to the vessel. Understand the coverages, exclusions and your duties as a vessel owner.

Prior to the Hurricane

If your plan calls for moving your vessel, move it at least 48 to 72 hours before the hurricane is estimated to strike the area. This may be before a hurricane watch is issued. Make sure that:

- Fuel tanks are full.
- Fuel filters are clean.
- Batteries are charged.
- Bilges are clean.
- Cockpit drains are free and clear.
- Fire fighting equipment is in good order.
- Lifesaving equipment is in good condition, in place and readily accessible (these items will be secured later).

Remove and/or secure all deck gear, portable gear, radio antennas, outriggers, fighting chairs, deck boxes, bimini tops and side canvas/curtains, sails, booms, dorades, extra halyards, canister rafts, and dinghies. Make sure that you secure all hatches, ports, doors, lazarettes and sailboat rudders. (The dinghy may be required to take lines ashore.)

Enhance the watertight integrity of your boat, both above and below the water line. Seal windows, doors and hatches, if necessary, with duct tape. Shut sea cocks and cap off or plug unvalved through-hull fittings, such as sink drains.

If your vessel is moored at a dock on a canal, river, or in a marina near the ocean, it is possible that with an additional 5- to 10-foot or greater storm surge the vessel could take a beating against the dock or even impale itself on the pilings. The best offshore mooring location for a vessel to ride out a storm is in the center of a canal or narrow river where at least doubled mooring lines can be secured to both shores, port and starboard, fore and aft. Do not raft vessels together at moorings or docks, especially if larger and smaller vessels are involved. The probability of damage to the vessels is greater than if they are moored separately.

If the vessel must remain dockside at a private dock or marina, heavy duty fender boards (2x6) should be installed on a bare wood center piling to prevent damage. Lines should be doubled and even tripled where necessary to hold a vessel in the center of a berth or off seawall or dock pilings. Preventers should be installed at the top of the pilings so lines cannot slip off the top. Note that nylon line will stretch five to ten percent of its length.

During the Hurricane

Do not stay aboard any vessel during a hurricane. If you have taken all the preliminary precautions previously outlined, you have done all that can be done in anticipation of the storm. Stay in a protected and safe place. Attend to the safety of family, home and other personal property. Stay tuned to news broadcasts and weather advisories concerning the hurricane so that you will know when the danger has passed.



My Local Emergency Contacts

In planning for a disaster, you should learn about the emergency departments in your community and their services. Before, during, and after a disaster, listen closely to the information they provide. They will supply you with details regarding the disaster event; including shelter openings/closings, safety tips to consider, and instructions to follow to ensure your safety. These emergency departments are here for your protection; please be sure to listen closely and follow their instructions in a disaster event.

Here are the Emergency Management contacts for Pinellas County and the State of Florida:

Pinellas County Emergency Management

Sally Bishop
400 South Fort Harrison Avenue
Clearwater, FL 34616
727-464-3800
727-464-4024
<http://www.co.pinellas.fl.us/bcc/emergency>

Florida Division of Emergency Management

2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100
<http://www.FloridaDisaster.org>

When a disaster threatens or strikes, the Pinellas County Red Cross provides shelter, food, and health/mental health services to address basic human needs. They also feed emergency workers, handle inquiries from concerned family members outside the disaster area and help those affected by disaster to access other available resources. The Red Cross can also provide you with emergency shelter information.



**American
Red Cross**

Tampa Bay Chapter
3310 West Main Street
Tampa, FL 33607
813-348-4820
813-348-4830
<http://www.redcrossfbc.org>

The following telephone numbers are also provided to assist in the recovery from a future disaster.

- Florida Emergency Information Line (FEIL) - 1-800-342-3557
(Road closures/alternate routes, status of emergency shelters)
- Life safety issues: 9-1-1
- Small Business Administration (SBA): 1-800-359-2227
- FEMA Tele-registration hot-line: 1-800-462-9029
- Florida Department of Insurance: 1-800-528-7094

FLOOD INFORMATION

FEMA has identified the entire City of Madeira Beach as a Special Flood Hazard Area on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps. These maps establish base flood elevations for development within these areas with the lowest permitted habitable flood levels ranging from 10 to 15 feet above sea level.

Flood Insurance Rate Maps

The most recent Flood Insurance Rate Map for Madeira Beach went into effect in 2003. If you think the flood zone identified by your insurance agent is in question, please contact Madeira Beach at 391-9951, ext. 255.

The City of Madeira Beach is the community's primary source of information regarding Flood Insurance Rate Maps. Since all of Madeira Beach is in a Special Flood Hazard Area, it is important to know the base flood elevation of the property and the flood insurance purchase requirements, if applicable.

Please contact the City of Madeira Beach at the above phone number if you have questions regarding the Flood Insurance Rate Maps. The City also has copies of the elevation certificates for many of the structures in the community. If you need such a certificate, please contact the City to determine if one is on file.

Are You Insured?

For many people, their home and its contents represent their greatest investment. **Property losses due to flooding are not covered under most standard homeowner insurance policies.**

You can protect your home and its contents with flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program. The NFIP is a federal program established by Congress in 1968 that enables property owners to buy flood insurance at reasonable rates in participating communities. In return, participating communities carry out flood management measures designed to protect life and property from future flooding. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through its Federal Insurance Administration administers the NFIP.

Flood insurance is required for properties in the Special Flood Hazard Area in the City of Madeira Beach for any federally backed mortgage.

Property Protection - Every year, flooding causes more property damage in the United States than any other type of natural disaster. While recent construction practices and regulations have made new homes less prone to flooding many existing structures remain susceptible.

Retrofitting non-compliant buildings is a recommended approach to reduce flooding because the property itself remains subject to flooding while the building is modified to prevent or

minimize flooding of habitable space.

There are several approaches to retrofitting:

1. Elevation of the structure above flood protection levels.
2. Construction of barriers (floodwalls, berms)
3. Dry flood proofing (water tight floor and wall systems).
4. Wet flood proofing (construction that allows the entry and passage of flood water and also removing or relocating items of value to higher elevation levels).

Before a flood

In the event of pending flood threats, it is always advisable to take the following emergency actions:

1. Elevate furniture above flood levels.
2. Create floodway openings in non-habitable areas such as garage doors.
3. Seal off sewer lines to the dwelling to prevent the backflow of sewer waters.

Floodplain Management

One reason Madeira Beach is recognized for its good floodplain management policies is that the City provides public information regarding flood hazards, flood insurance, flood protection, and mitigation measures designed to correct existing deficiencies in flood prone construction.

The City has adopted Storm-water Management Regulations issued by FEMA and the Florida Department of Community Affairs which require new construction and substantial remodeling to meet stringent standards in order to increase the survivability of structures, reduce the cost of repair and reconstruction after a storm event, and ensure that reasonably priced flood insurance is available.

Drainage System Maintenance

727-391-9951 ext. 260

The City continues to improve and maintain its storm-water management system. This has reduced the amount and duration of road and yard flooding during the rainy season. The City routinely inspects and performs maintenance on drainage ditches, catch basins, and culverts that comprise the City's storm-water drainage system.

WE'RE IN SOUND FINANCIAL CONDITION!

The City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010 has been completed and was presented to the Board of City Commissioners at a special meeting on March 29th.

The City received an unqualified audit opinion, which is the most favorable opinion an auditor can express. The report is available at City Hall and online at http://www.madeirabeachfl.gov/Pages/MadeiraBeach_FL_Finance/CAFR/2010CAFR.pdf