



abc 25 WPBF
FIRST ALERT
WEATHER

2017 HURRICANE SURVIVAL GUIDE

The Official Hurricane Guide for South Florida

**HURRICANE
TRACKING MAP**

**STORM SUPPLY
CHECKLIST**

**EMERGENCY
INSTRUCTIONS**



THIS SEASON'S OUTLOOK



A message from WPBF 25 First Alert Severe Weather Expert Mike Lyons

Luck. The dictionary defines luck as a combination of circumstances, events, etc., operating by chance to bring good or ill to a person.

While it was a trough of low pressure in the Gulf of Mexico that kept Hurricane Matthew from a direct impact on our coastline, a little bit of luck may have played a role in last October's close call.

I've said it repeatedly for the past few months: we were incredibly lucky. If Matthew had drifted west 20 or 30 miles, the damage from the category 4 hurricane could have been catastrophic. It is safe to say that we would still be picking up the pieces.

Yet, somehow it remained off shore (hurricane force winds came within 10 miles of the Palm Beach County coast) meaning last October's high-stress event turned out to be the perfect hurricane drill.

Think about it: you did everything to prepare for that storm and now you know exactly what you need to do the next time a hurricane threatens South Florida. You know what worked and what did not and, except for some few fresh supplies, you are ready for the 2017 hurricane season.

You may need that knowledge again this year. While some early seasonal forecasts are predicting a less active hurricane season, every season can be an active one here in South Florida.

We have a geography issue: Florida sticks out like a sore thumb. It is one of the reasons Florida has been struck by so many storms and even in slow seasons Florida is still vulnerable.

The 1992 hurricane season is a classic example. Just 7 named storms formed that year (the average is 12) and only 4 hurricanes. Yet, one of those hurricanes was Andrew, a category 5 monster that leveled many areas of Miami-Dade County.

Let us hope that this year is quiet, but let us also prepare for the possibility of a storm. Remember, you know what to do. You can thank Matthew for that, along with a little bit of luck.



TRACK HURRICANES ON THE GO!

Monitor and track hurricanes and tropical storms with this all-inclusive free app from WPBF 25. Interactive maps, forecasts, local shelters, evacuation zones and emergency numbers are right at your fingertips. This is the one "must-have" app for hurricane season.



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BEFORE THE STORM

HURRICANE **WATCH** CHECKLIST



Planning

- Review your family plan.
- Check your hurricane supply list.



Communications

- Have a conventional cord telephone that will work in case of power outage.
- Charge up your cell phones and have a car adapter.
- **Stay tuned to WPBF 25 News and WPBF.COM for weather updates and evacuation orders.**



Supplies

- Check medical supplies and prescription medicines and have a minimum two-week supply on hand.
- Check all battery-operated TV's, radios, flashlights and lanterns. Make sure they are in good working order with fresh batteries.
- Have enough cash for up to a week. ATMs may be out of cash or not working if power is out.



Fuel

- Fill all vehicles with gas and park them in a garage or close to the side of your house.
- Turn off propane gas at the tank before evacuating.
- Check with your natural gas provider to determine whether to turn off before leaving.

TIP

During hurricane season, designate a friend or family member who lives out of state to be your family's single point of contact. That way, you can be sure all your loved ones are accounted for after the storm.



Shutters

- Locate storm shutters, garage door supports and any hardware or tools necessary for installation.
- Install shutter and supports. Install second story and other difficult shutters first.

TERMS TO KNOW

TROPICAL STORM WATCHES AND WARNINGS

Take these alerts seriously. Although Tropical Storms have lower wind speeds than hurricanes, they often bring life-threatening flooding and dangerous winds. Take precautions!

HURRICANE WATCH

Hurricane conditions are possible within the specified coastal area. Because hurricane preparedness activities become more difficult once winds reach tropical storm force, the hurricane watch is issued 48 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical storm-force winds.

HURRICANE WARNING

Hurricane conditions are expected in the specified area of the warning. Because hurricane preparedness activities become difficult once winds reach tropical storm force, the hurricane warning is issued 36 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical-storm-force winds.

BEFORE THE STORM

HURRICANE **WARNING** CHECKLIST



Outside Your Home

- Cover or brace all windows and door openings.
- Remove a door or one screen panel on each side of your pool enclosure to allow wind to flow through, and cutting down wind resistance. This could save your pool enclosure.
- Disconnect propane gas at the tank.
- Bring your barbecue grill and propane tank inside— this may be your only means of cooking during a power outage. (Note: Only use grill outdoors, after the storm has passed.



Swimming Pools

- Drain swimming pools 6"-12" to allow for possible heavy rainfall – do not drain completely.
- Shock the pool by adding additional chlorine. Stock up on chlorine to keep your pool water clean. In the event of a prolonged power outage you will not be able to run the filter.
- Disconnect power to your pool pump but do not wrap in plastic. If there is flooding, water will collect in the plastic and ruin the pump.
- Use your own discretion about throwing outdoor furniture in the pool. If it sinks to the bottom, it will not blow away but you risk damaging the pool's finish. Do not throw in any metal furniture that is subject to rust.



Refrigeration/Water

- Turn your refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting.
- Freeze water in plastic jugs to help keep your freezer cold when power goes out.
- Stock up on jugs of bottled water – at least seven gallons per person – **one gallon per person per day**.
- Fill bathtub with water for non-drinking use.



Safety/Valuables

- Prepare your safe room. Stock it with a battery-powered TV and/or radio with spare batteries, sleeping bags, pillows, chairs, snacks & drinking water, and games for children.
- Have a mattress nearby to get under in case your home suffers structural damage.
- Place valuables and personal papers in water-proof containers or zip lock bags.



Mobile/Manufactured Home Residents

- Turn off main water supply source to your home.
- Turn off gas at the tank but do not disconnect.
- Bring in or secure all outdoor objects.
- **Evacuate.** Do not attempt to ride out the storm in a manufactured home.



High-Rise/Condo Residents

- Bring in loose objects from balconies.
- Install shutters on windows & doors.
- Evacuate if you are in an evacuation zone.
- Leave early since you have the furthest to travel from the coast.



If you Evacuate to a Shelter

- Only do so as a last resort.
- Try to eat a meal before entering the shelter.
- Take pillows, blankets and other supplies.
- Check to make sure the shelter is open – all shelters do not open at the same time.

BE PREPARED

HURRICANE **SUPPLY** LIST

First Aid / Health

- ☐ Prescription Medicine (Two week supply)
- ☐ First Aid Kit
- ☐ Insect Repellent
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Disinfectant
- ☐ Tincture of Iodine/Water Purification Tablets

Non-Perishable Food

- ☐ Powdered Milk / Evaporated Milk
- ☐ Canned Meats / Fish (tuna, ham, etc.)
- ☐ Canned Fruit and Vegetables
- ☐ Dried Foods (spaghetti, rice, etc.)
- ☐ Canned Soups / Chili
- ☐ Dried Fruit and Nuts
- ☐ Cereal
- ☐ Crackers and Cookies
- ☐ Coffee and Tea
- ☐ Peanut Butter and Jelly
- ☐ Pudding
- ☐ Pet Food and Medicine

Utensils / Food Supplies

- ☐ Ice Chest and Ice
- ☐ Disposable Plates, Glasses, and Utensils
- ☐ Manual Can Opener
- ☐ Baby Food / Formula

Hygiene

- ☐ Toilet Paper
- ☐ Diapers and Wipes
- ☐ Soap and Detergent
- ☐ Bleach for Sterilization (unscented with Hypochlorite, the only active ingredient)

Rain / Power Outage

- ☐ Spare Batteries
- ☐ Flashlights / Lantern
- ☐ Rain Gear
- ☐ Waterproof Matches / Sterno
- ☐ Charcoal and Lighter Fluid
- ☐ Fuel for Generators and Cars
- ☐ Propane Gas (for grills)

Emergency Repairs

- ☐ Plastic Sheeting / Tarp
- ☐ Duct or Masking Tape
- ☐ Nails, Rope, Lumber, Tools
- ☐ Plastic Garbage Bags

Recreation / Communication

- ☐ Camera and Film
- ☐ Books, Magazines, and Games
- ☐ Battery-operated TV/Radio and Clock

Miscellaneous

- ☐ Fire Extinguisher
- ☐ Cash (ATMs may not work after the storm)

TIP 

Prepare one gallon
of drinking water per
person - per day.

BE PREPARED

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

PHONE LIST

Post all emergency numbers by your phone, store them in your cell phone, and make sure your kids know how to access them. Your phones could be your lifeline when a hurricane or severe weather hits.

Emergency Operations and Hotlines

SOUTH FLORIDA TELEPHONE NUMBERS

FPL Outage	(800) 468-8243
AT&T Landline Repair	(877) 737-2478
AT&T Business Repair	(866) 620-6900
Elder Helpline	(800) 963-5337
Crisis Helpline	211
Water Emergency Line	(877) 429-1294
United Way Volunteers	(561) 375-6600
Division of Consumer Services	(800) HELP-FLA
Citizens Insurance	(888) 685-1555
FEMA	(800) 621-3362
Florida Department Financial Services	(800) 227-8676
Tri-Rail	(800) 874-7245

RED CROSS COVERING THE PALM BEACHES & TREASURE COAST

(561)833-7711

E.O.C. NUMBERS

Palm Beach County	(561) 712-6400
Martin County	(772) 287-1652
St. Lucie County	(772) 462-8100
Indian River County	(772) 567-2154
Okeechobee County	(863) 763-3212



YOUR FAMILY PLAN

WHAT EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW

Your family needs to be prepared with a disaster plan at the beginning of hurricane season. Taking time now to develop your plan will save time, stress, even lives. Use the resources in this guide and on WPBF.com to develop your family plan.

In case of a Hurricane Watch:

- Stay tuned to WPBF 25 News, WPBF.COM, or NOAA Weather Radio for storm updates.
- Prepare to bring inside any lawn furniture, outdoor decorations or ornaments, trash cans, hanging plants, and anything else that can be picked up by the wind.
- Prepare to cover all windows of your home. If shutters have not been installed, use precut plywood as described below. Note: Tape does not prevent windows from breaking, so taping windows is not recommended.
- Fill your car's gas tank.
- Recheck manufactured home tie-downs.
- Check batteries and stock up on canned food, first aid supplies, drinking water, and medications.

In case of a Hurricane Warning:

- Listen to the advice of local officials, and leave if they tell you to do so.
- If you are not advised to evacuate, stay indoors, away from windows.
- Be aware that the calm "eye" is deceptive; the storm is not over. The worst part of the storm will happen once the eye passes over and the winds blow from the opposite direction. Trees, shrubs, buildings, and other objects damaged by the first winds can be broken or destroyed by the second winds.
- Be alert for tornadoes. Tornadoes can happen during a hurricane and after it passes over.
- Remain indoors, in the center of your home, in a closet or bathroom without windows.
- Stay away from flood waters. If you come upon a flooded road, turn around and go another way.

Prepare for High Winds

Locate your hurricane shutters, installation hardware, and tools or purchase precut 1/2"-5/8" outdoor plywood boards for each window of your home. Install anchors for the plywood and pre-drill holes in the plywood so that you can put it up quickly.

Make trees more wind resistant by removing diseased and damaged limbs, then strategically removing branches so that wind can blow through.

What to pack when evacuating:

- ☐ Prescription medications and medical supplies
- ☐ First aid kit
- ☐ Clothing
- ☐ Bedding, including sleeping bags and pillows
- ☐ Bottled water
- ☐ Battery-operated radio
- ☐ Batteries
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Car keys
- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Driver's license
- ☐ Important documents (Social Security card, proof of residence, insurance policies, wills, deeds, birth and marriage certificates, tax records, etc.)



What to pack in your home disaster supplies kit:

- ☐ First aid kit and essential medications
- ☐ Canned food
- ☐ Can opener
- ☐ At least seven gallons of water per person
- ☐ Protective clothing/rainwear
- ☐ Bedding and/or sleeping bags
- ☐ Battery-powered radio
- ☐ Batteries
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Special items for infants, elderly, or disabled family members.
- ☐ Written instructions on how to turn off electricity, gas and water if authorities advise you to do so.



Prepare a Personal Evacuation Plan

1

Pick a location before the storm

Decide ahead of time where to go if you are told to evacuate. Due to the unpredictability of storm tracks, choose several places; a friend's or relative's home in another town, a motel, or as a last resort, a Red Cross shelter.

2

Keep information on hand

Keep handy the telephone numbers of these places as well as a road map. You may need to take alternate routes if major roads are closed or clogged.

3

Stay tuned for news and updates

Stay tuned to WPBF 25 News for evacuation instructions.

If advised to evacuate, do so immediately.



EVACUATING BY CAR

Bring maps. Hurricanes are very unpredictable. If you drive out, the storm could change direction and you could be driving into the path of the storm. Be prepared to re-direct your evacuation. The later you leave, the more likely you will encounter long delays & traffic jams. Leave early and have a backup plan.



PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

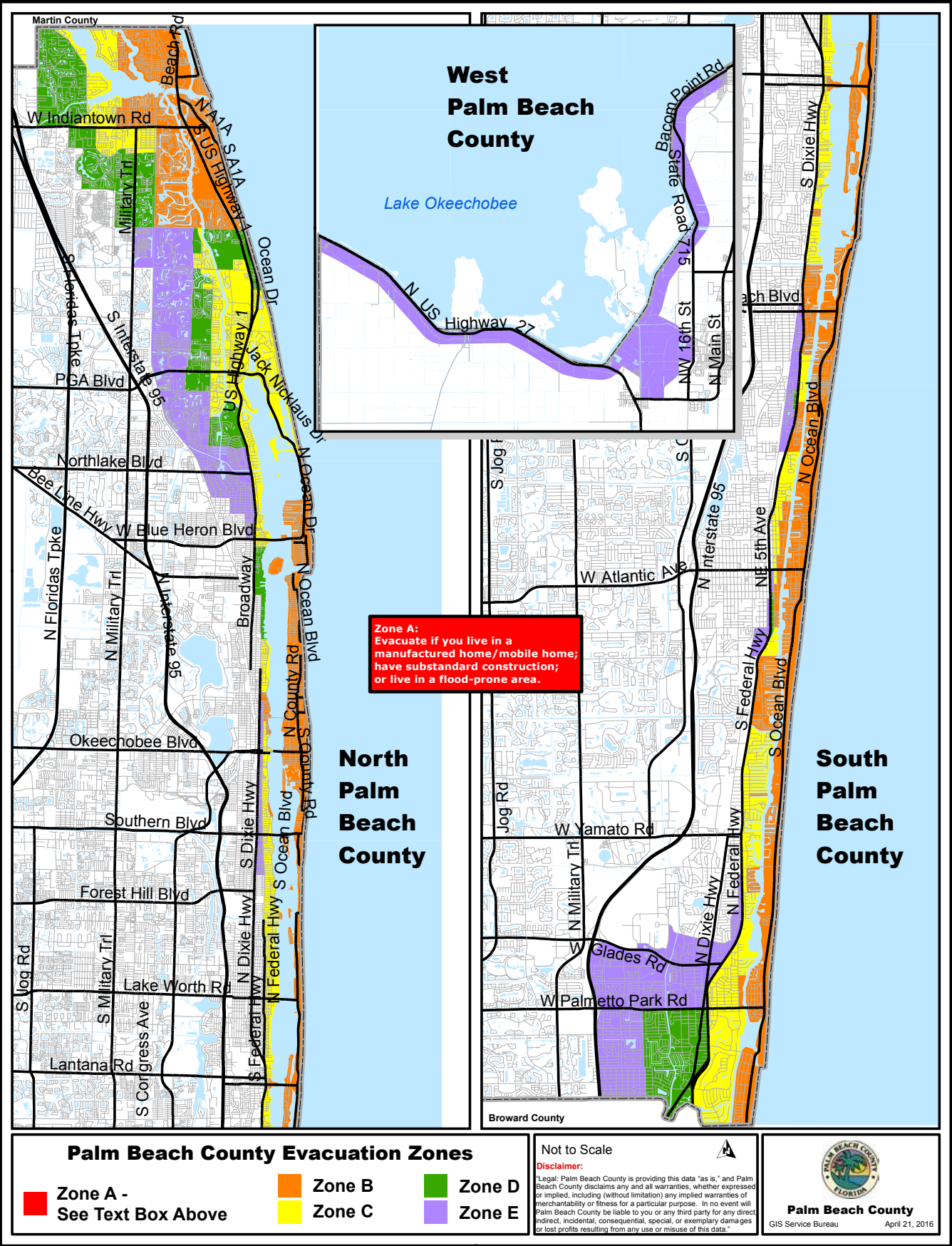
The availability of public transportation is not meant to be a convenient alternative for you and your family during an evacuation. Using public transportation is the means of LAST RESORT. Only take what you can carry and prepare for long lines, slow service, and lack of air conditioning.

If you do not evacuate:

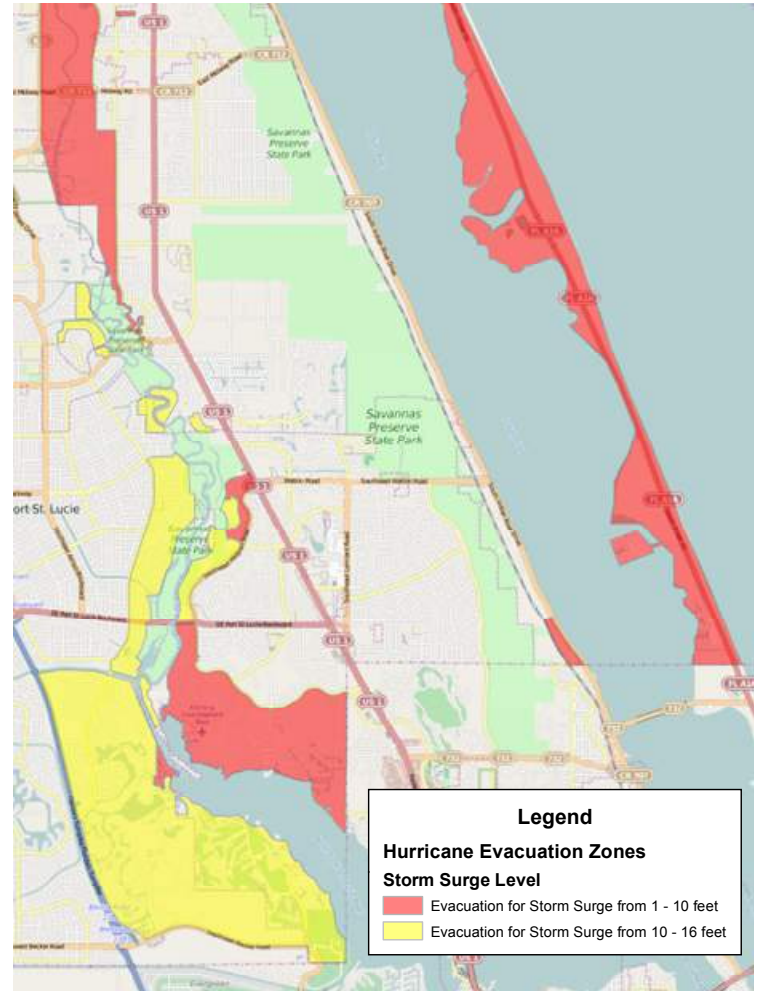
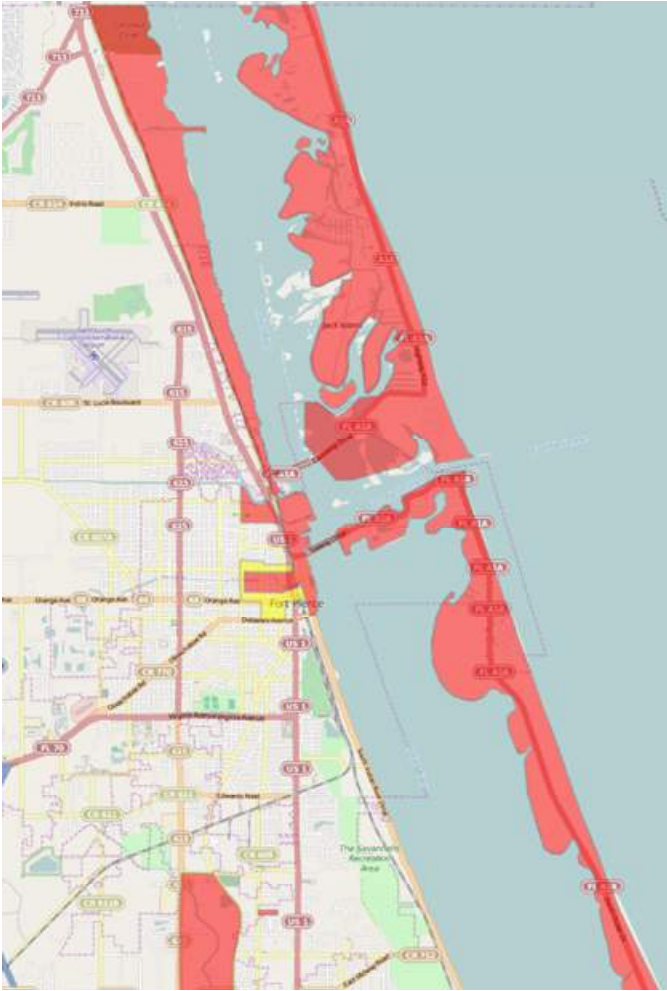
- Install shutters or check shutters to ensure they are operable.
- Stock up on hurricane supplies on the list in this guide.
- Identify a safe room in your house. A safe room has no windows and will protect your family if your house should sustain damage. Large interior closets, hallways, bathrooms, or stairwells make good safe rooms.

EVACUATION ZONES

From Palm Beach County



From St. Lucie County



EVACUATION SAFETY

ARRANGE TRANSPORT

If you do not have a car, plan how you will leave if you have to. Make arrangements with family, friends or your local government.

MEETING POINTS

Plan places where your family will meet, both within and outside of your immediate neighborhood.

GET FUEL

Gas stations may be closed during power outages. Keep a full tank of gas in your car if an evacuation seems likely.

BACKUP ROUTE

Become familiar with alternate routes and other means of transportation out of your area.

MULTIPLE DESTINATIONS

Choose several destinations in different directions so you have options in an emergency.

DON'T WAIT

Leave early enough to avoid being trapped by severe weather.

HAZARDS

Be alert for road hazards such as washed-out roads or bridges and downed power lines. Do not drive into flooded areas.

STAY ON COURSE

Follow recommended evacuation routes. Do not take shortcuts; they may be blocked.

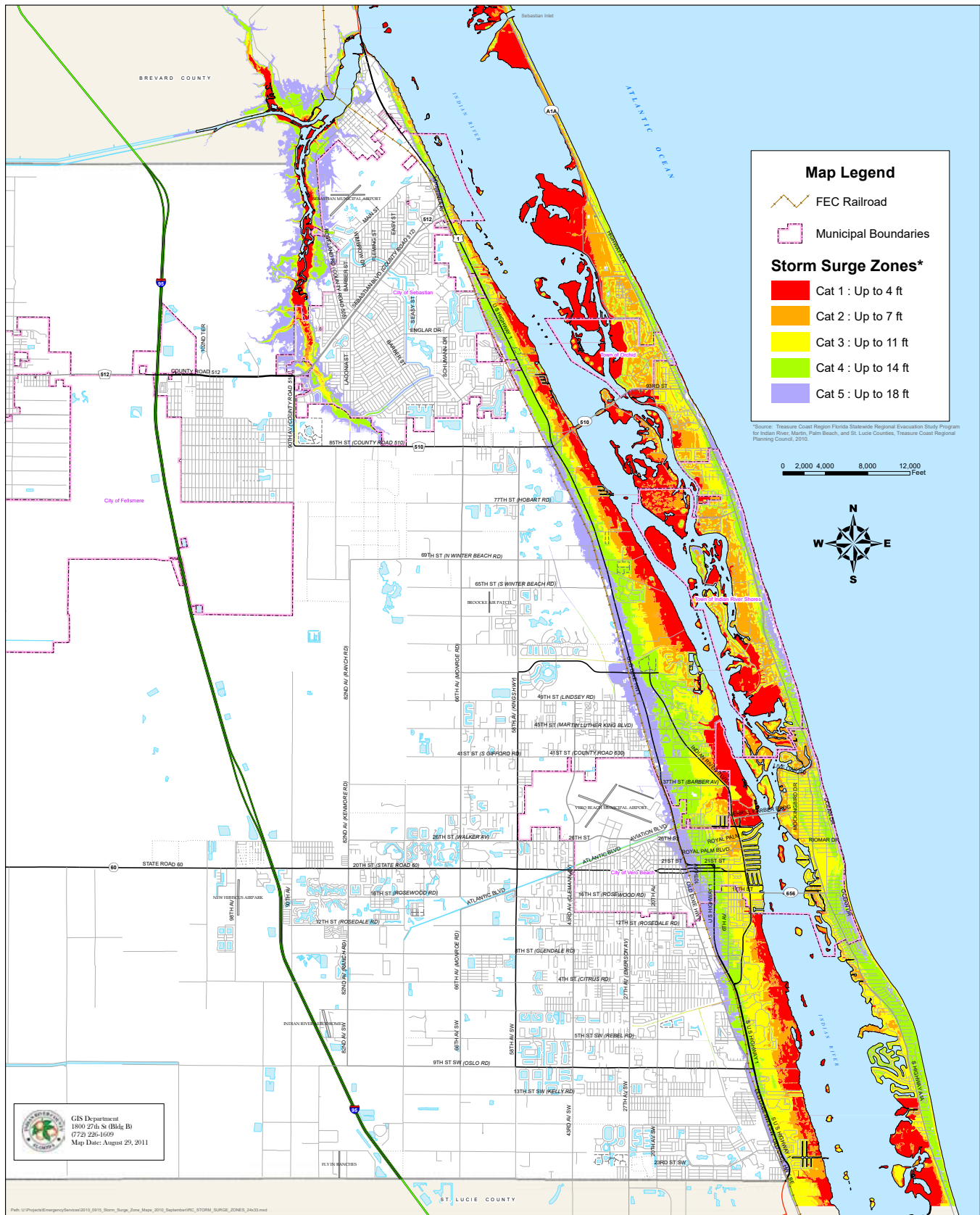
SUPPLY KIT

Take an emergency supply kit unless you have reason to believe it has been contaminated.

STAY TUNED

Listen to a battery-powered radio and follow local evacuation instructions.

From Indian River County



ANATOMY OF A HURRICANE

LIFE CYCLE



FORMATION

Storms in disturbed area of ocean



TROPICAL DEPRESSION

Thunderstorms start to swirl around a center



TROPICAL STORM

Winds over 39 mph



HURRICANE

Winds over 74 mph. Eye of storm 20-40 miles across



HURRICANE WEAKENS

After making landfall

Tropical Storm

WINDS **39–73 mph**

Tropical storms are weaker than hurricanes, but can cause flooding from intense rainfall, and some property damage

Category 1 Hurricane

WINDS **74–95 mph** | STORM SURGE **4–5 ft**

- Possible injuries from flying/falling debris
- Possible damage to roof, shingles, vinyl siding, and gutters
- Large tree branches will snap and shallowly rooted trees may be toppled
- Power outages could last several days

Category 2 Hurricane

WINDS **96–110 mph** | STORM SURGE **6–8 ft**

- Flying/falling debris can be a threat
- Roofing, siding, and glass windows vulnerable
- Can cause structural damage to apartment buildings and mobile homes
- Power outages can last a few weeks
- Stock up on potable water, as filtration systems can fail

Category 3 Hurricane

WINDS **111–130 mph**

- Mobile/poorly constructed frame homes can be destroyed
- Significant damage to apartments possible
- Extensive inland flooding
- Electricity/water might be unavailable for several days/weeks after the storm

Category 4 Hurricane

WINDS **131–155 mph** | STORM SURGE **13–18 ft**

- Can cause catastrophic damage to property, humans, and animals
- Severe structural damage to mobile/frame homes and apartments
- Long-term power/water outages can last for weeks to months

Category 5 Hurricane

WINDS **155+ mph** | STORM SURGE **18+ ft**

- **You should be nowhere near this storm**
- Can cause complete destruction of mobile/frame homes and apartments
- Nearly all trees in area might be uprooted
- Power/water outages can last for months
- Area could be uninhabitable for months

HURRICANE & SPECIAL NEEDS **SHELTERS**

Palm Beach County

South Florida Fairgrounds*

9067 Southern Blvd
West Palm Beach
(561) 793-0333

Palm Beach Central High School

8499 Forest Hill Blvd, Wellington
(561) 304-1000

Independence Middle School

4001 Greenway Drive, Jupiter
(561) 799-7500

Palm Beach Gardens Community High School

4245 Holly Drive
Palm Beach Gardens
(561) 694-7300

Lake Shore Middle School

425 W Canal St N, Belle Glade
(561) 829-1100

Dr. Mary Mcleod Bethune Elementary School

1501 Avenue U, West Palm Beach
(561) 882-7600

West Gate Elementary School

1545 Loxahatchee Dr
West Palm Beach
(561) 684-7100

Pahokee Middle School

850 Larrimore Rd, Pahokee
(561) 924-6500

Forest Hill Community High School

6901 Parker Ave
West Palm Beach
(561) 540-2400

Seminole Ridge Community High School

4601 Seminole Pratt Whitney
Rd, Loxahatchee
(561) 422-2601

John I. Leonard Community High School

4701 10th Ave N, Greenacres
(561) 641-1200

Park Vista Community High School

7900 Jog Rd, Lake Worth
(561) 491-8400

Atlantic Community High School

2455 W Atlantic Ave,
Delray Beach
(561) 243-1500

Boynton Beach Community High School

4975 Park Ridge Blvd,
Boynton Beach
(561) 752-1200

Boca Raton Community High School

1501 NW 15th Ct, Boca Raton
(561) 338-1400

West Boca Raton

Community High School
12811 Glades Rd, Boca Raton
(561) 672-2001

PET-FRIENDLY SHELTER

West Boynton Park and Recreation Center

6000 Northtree Blvd
Lake Worth

- Pre-registration required
- Must provide proof of residency in a Palm Beach County mandatory evacuation zone.
- **To pre-register, please call (561) 355-1125**

***Accommodations available for Special Medical Needs**

What to expect at a shelter

- **Evacuation shelters are usually schools or other solidly constructed buildings** that provide a large, safe area.
- **They should always be considered a last resort** if relatives or friends aren't available.
- They tend to lack many comforts such as **bedding, pillows and food - so bring your own.**
- **Space can be limited.** Leave ASAP if your home is vulnerable and under evacuation order.
- **Locations can change from year to year;** stay informed via television, radio and the Internet.
- **Be prepared to live with strangers** in close quarters for the duration of the storm.
- **Daycare is not provided;** supervise your children.

Martin County

Anderson Middle School*

7000 Atlantic Ridge Dr, Stuart
(772) 221-7100

Citrus Grove Elementary School

2527 SW Citrus Blvd, Palm City
(772) 223-2513

Hidden Oaks Middle School

2801 SW Martin Hwy, Palm City
(772) 219-1655

Jensen Beach High School

2875 NW Goldenrod Rd
Jensen Beach
(772) 232-3500

Felix A Williams Elementary School

401 NW Baker Rd, Stuart
(772) 219-1640

Port Salerno Elementary School

3260 SE Lionel Terrace, Stuart
(772) 219-1610

Warfield Elementary School

15261 SW 150th St, Indiantown
(772) 597-2551

Indiantown Middle School

16303 SW Farm Rd, Indiantown
(772) 597-2146

PET-FRIENDLY SHELTER

Treasure Coast Humane Society

4100 SW Leighton Farm Ave,
Palm City

- ONLY for pets of families living in mandatory evacuation zones
- To pre-register, please call (772) 223-8822

St. Lucie County

Havert L. Fenn Center*

2000 Virginia Ave, Fort Pierce
(772) 462-1521

Morningside Elementary School

2300 SE Gowin Dr, Port St Lucie
(772) 337-6730

Oak Hammock K-8 School

1251 SW California Blvd
Port St Lucie
(772) 344-4490

Treasure Coast High School

1000 SW Darwin Blvd
Port St Lucie
(772) 807-4300

West Gate K-8 School

1050 NW Cashmere Blvd
Port St Lucie
(772) 807-7600

Windmill Point Elementary School

700 SW Darwin Blvd, Port St Lucie
(772) 336-6950

Parkway Elementary School

7000 NW Selvitz Rd, Port St Lucie
(772) 340-4800

Floresta Elementary School

1501 SE Floresta Dr, Port St Lucie
(772) 340-4755

Fort Pierce Westwood High School

1801 Panther Ln, Fort Pierce
(772) 468-5400

Lakewood Park Elementary School

7800 Indrio Rd, Fort Pierce
(772) 468-5830

Fort Pierce Central High School


4101 S 25th St, Fort Pierce
(772) 468-5888

Samuel S. Gaines Academy K-8

2250 S Jenkins Rd, Fort Pierce
(772) 462-8888

Chester A. Moore Elementary School

827 N 29th St, Fort Pierce
(772) 468-5315

 **No pet-friendly shelters available in St. Lucie county.** Contact your local animal hospital/clinic to make arrangements.

***Accommodations available for Special Medical Needs**

Indian River County

Treasure Coast Elementary School*

8955 85th St, Sebastian
(772) 978-8500

Sebastian Elementary School

400 Sebastian Blvd, Sebastian
(772) 978-8200

Pelican Island Elementary School

1355 Schumann Dr, Sebastian
(772) 564-6500

Sebastian River Middle School

9400 Fellsmere Rd, Sebastian
(772) 564-5111

Sebastian River High School

9001 90th Ave, Sebastian
(772) 564-4170

Glendale Elementary School

4940 8th St, Vero Beach
(772) 978-8050

Storm Grove Middle School

6400 57th St, Vero Beach
(772) 564-6400

Gifford Middle School

4530 28th Ct, Vero Beach
(772) 564-3550

Indian River Academy

500 20th St SW, Vero Beach
(772) 564-3390

Vero Beach Elementary School

1770 SW 12th St, Vero Beach
(772) 564-4550

Osceola Magnet School

1110 18th Ave SW, Vero Beach
(772) 564-5821

VBHS Freshman Learning Center

1507 19th St, Vero Beach
(772) 564-5800

Oslo Middle School

480 20th Ave SW, Vero Beach
(772) 564-3980

Fellsmere Elementary School

50 N Cypress St, Fellsmere
(772) 564-5970

PET-FRIENDLY SHELTER

Liberty Magnet School

6850 81st St, Vero Beach

- ONLY for pets of families living in mandatory evacuation zones
- To pre-register, please call (772) 388-3331 Ext. 28

Okeechobee County

Osceola Middle School

825 SW 28th St, Okeechobee
(863) 462-5070

South Elementary School

2468 SW 7th Ave, Okeechobee
(863) 462-5087

Okeechobee High School

2800 US-441, Okeechobee
(863) 462-5025

Yearling Middle School

925 NW 23rd Ln, Okeechobee
(863) 462-5056

Everglades Elementary School

3725 SE 8th St, Okeechobee
(863) 462-5108

Seminole Elementary School

2690 NW 42nd Ave, Okeechobee
(863) 462-5116

American Legion

501 SE 2nd St, Okeechobee
(863) 763-2950

First Baptist Church

401 SW 4th St, Okeechobee
(863) 763-2171

Fort Drum Community Church

32415 US-441, Okeechobee
(863) 467-1733

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

901 SW 6th St, Okeechobee
(863) 763-3727

North Elementary School


3000 NW 10th Terrace,
Okeechobee
(863) 462-5100

Okeechobee Freshman Campus - Auditorium

610 SW 2nd Ave, Okeechobee
(863) 462-5288

Okeechobee Achievement Academy

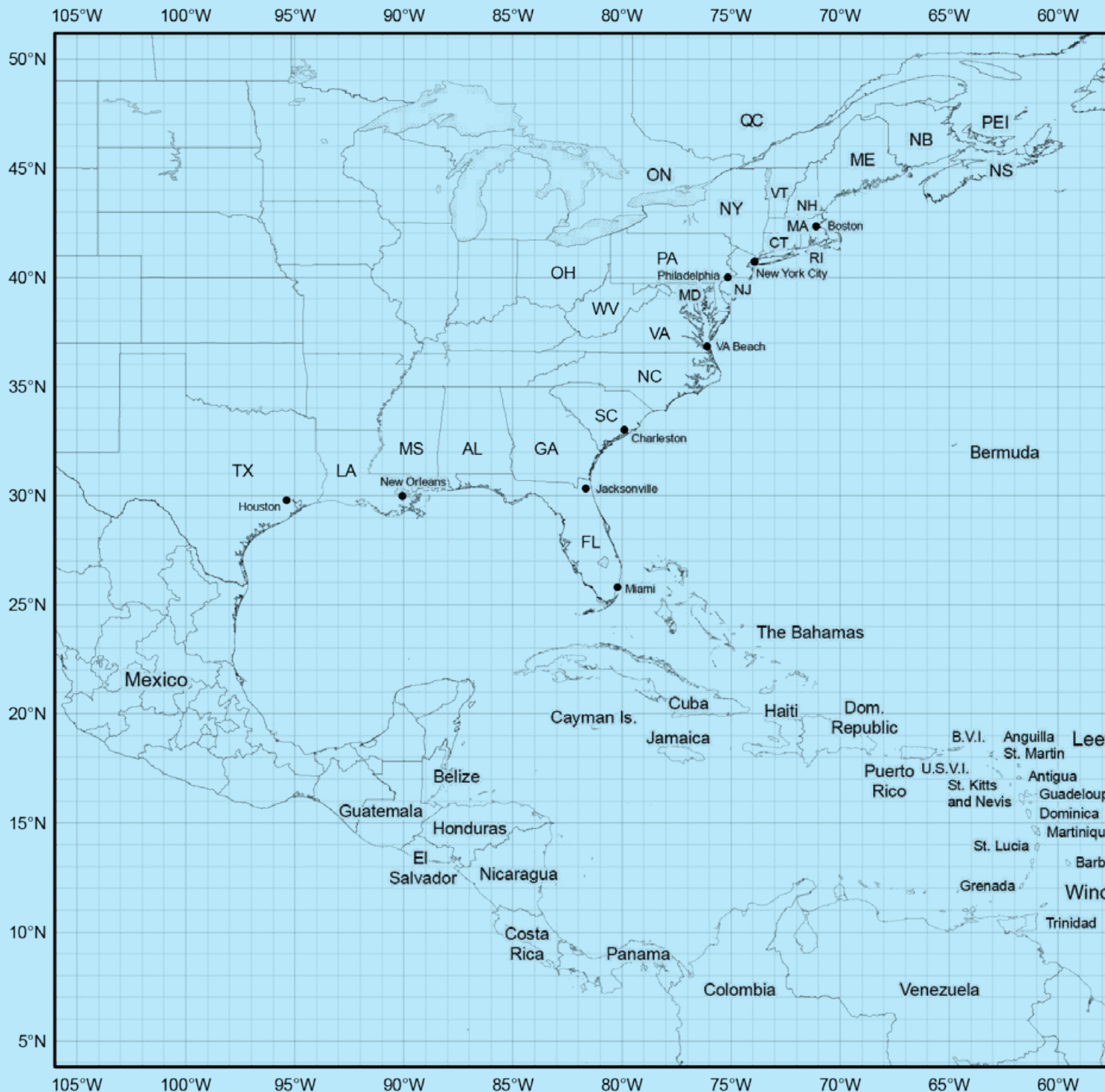
575 SW 28th St, Okeechobee
(863) 462-5125

 **No pet-friendly shelters available in Okeechobee county. Contact your local animal hospital/clinic to make arrangements.**

***Accommodations available for Special Medical Needs**

2017 HURRICANE TRACKING CHART

NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER, MIAMI, FL

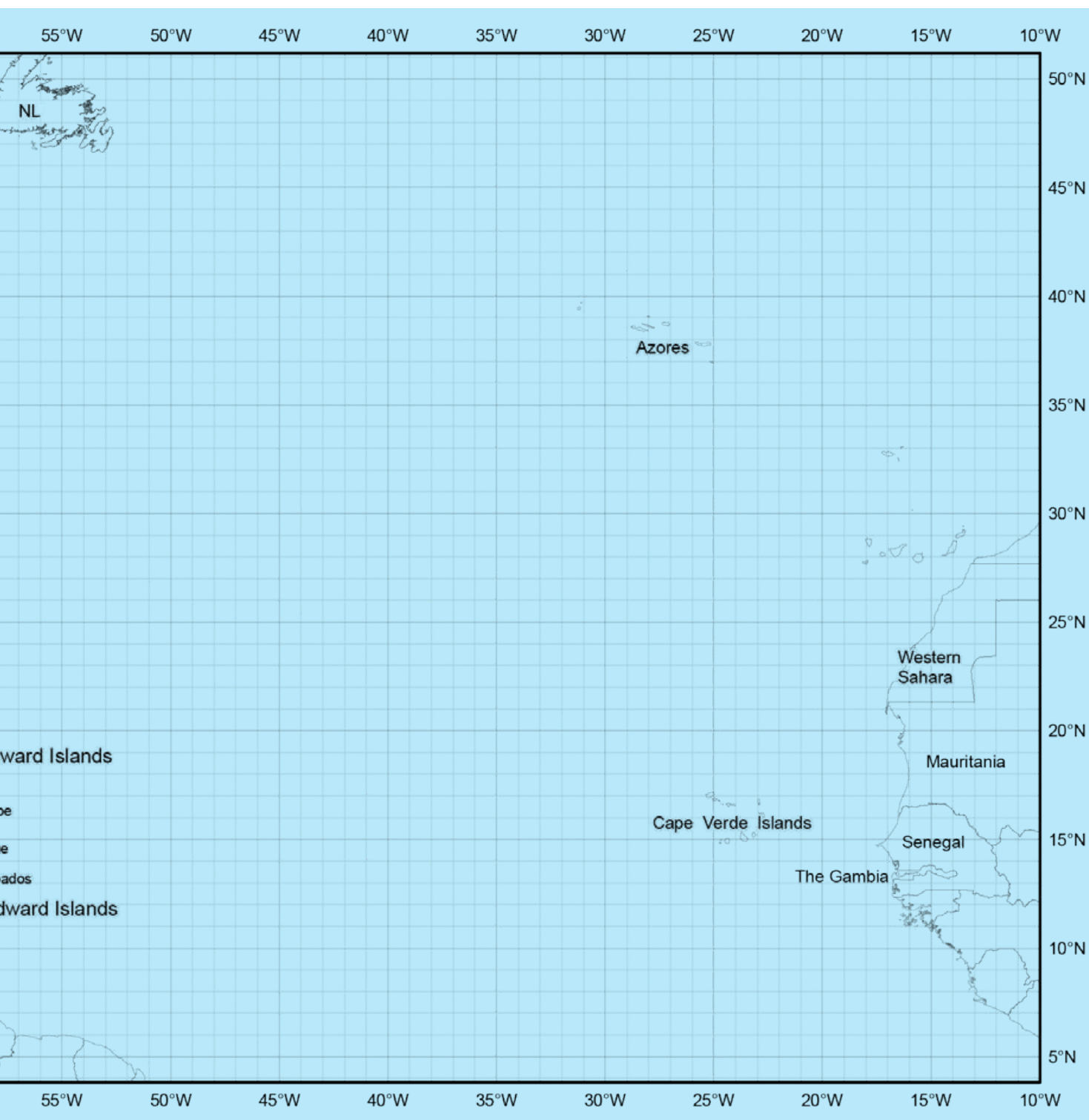


GET THE MOST UP TO DATE
FORECASTS THIS HURRICANE SEASON
WITH OUR TRUSTED RADIO PARTNERS



2017 HURRICANES

ARLENE • BRET • CINDY • DON • EMILY • FRANKLIN • GERT • HARVEY
IRMA • JOSE • KATIA • LEE • MARIA • NATE • OPHELIA • PHILIPPE • RINA
SEAN • TAMMY • VINCE • WHITNEY



BE PREPARED

PET & ANIMAL SAFETY

Your pet should be a part of your family plan. If you must evacuate, the most important thing you can do to protect your pets is to evacuate them too. Leaving pets behind, even if you try to create a safe place for them, is likely to result in their being injured, lost, or worse.



ASSEMBLE A PORTABLE PET SUPPLIES KIT

- ☐ Medications and medical records (stored in a waterproof container) and a first aid kit.
- ☐ Sturdy leashes, harnesses, and/or carriers to transport pets safely and ensure that your animals can't escape.
- ☐ Food, potable water, bowls, cat litter/pan, and can opener.
- ☐ Current pet photos in case they get lost.
- ☐ Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems
- ☐ Name and number of your veterinarian in case you have to foster or board your pets.
- ☐ Pet beds and toys, if easily transportable.

Have a safe place to take your pets.

Red Cross disaster shelters cannot accept pets due to health and safety regulations and other considerations. Service animals that assist people with disabilities are the only animals allowed in Red Cross shelters. It may be difficult, if not impossible, to find a shelter for your animals in the midst of a disaster, so plan ahead. Do not wait until disaster strikes to do your research.

- Contact hotels and motels outside your immediate area to check policies on accepting pets and restrictions on number, size and species.
- Prepare a list of boarding facilities and veterinarians who could shelter animals in an emergency; include 24-hour numbers.
- Ask friends, or relatives outside the affected area whether they could shelter your animals.
- Ask local animal shelters if they provide emergency shelter or foster care for pets in a disaster. Animal shelters may be overburdened caring for the animals they already have as well as those displaced by a disaster, so this should be your last resort.

When the storm approaches:

- Plan ahead to protect your pet.
- Call ahead to confirm emergency shelter arrangements for you and your pets.
- Check to be sure your pet disaster supplies are ready to take at a moment's notice.
- Bring all pets into the house so that you won't have to search for them if you have to leave in a hurry.
- Make sure all dogs and cats are wearing collars and are securely fastened, with up-to-date identification. Attach the phone number and address of your temporary shelter, if you know it, or of a friend or relative outside the disaster area. You can buy temporary tags or put adhesive tape on the back of your pet's ID tag, adding information with an indelible pen.

For more information call your local animal control office number.

BE PREPARED **YARD AND LAWN**



Pre-Storm Maintenance

- Trim your trees and any branches that could hit your home in a storm.
- Thin out vegetation to lessen wind resistance.
- Place your tree trimmings at the curb on your vegetation collection day.
- Tie up in bundles of less than 50 lbs. and less than 6 ft in length.
- Clear your yard & property of any bulky waste items early, before hurricane season.



As the Storm Approaches

- It's a good idea to plan ahead and trim your trees at the beginning of storm season.
- Do not trim trees once a hurricane watch or warning has been issued.
- Do not take your trash to the curb or to landfills during a hurricane watch or warning.
- Services will be temporarily halted and facilities may close early for storm preparation.



After the Storm Passes

- Stay tuned to WPBF 25 News for information about waste collection service.
- Residents will be notified when normal pick-up service resumes, although it may be several weeks before yard waste is removed.
- Keep household garbage separate from other waste materials in tied plastic bags in case of a delay in garbage collection.
- Place small debris, loose items and household refuse in garbage cans or tied plastic bags.
- Keep debris away from fences, mailboxes, power poles, transformers, and any downed electric wires.
- Trash and debris will be collected only from curbside or public roadways.

DID YOU KNOW?

When the National Hurricane Center began giving official names to storms in 1953, they were all female. This practice of using only women's names ended in 1978.

— Source: National Hurricane Center



LIVE. LOCAL. LATE BREAKING.

**BREAKING NEWS
FROM WHERE YOU LIVE**
WEEKNIGHTS AT 11PM

PROTECTING YOUR **PROPERTY**

Your Home: After the Storm



Making Repairs

Make temporary repairs to protect your home or property from further damage. Cover holes in the roof or walls with plywood and use heavy-duty plastic to cover windows.



Hiring a Contractor

Before hiring a contractor, verify their license and insurance company.



Estimates and Receipts

Get an estimate first and discuss payment terms. Get receipts for the labor and materials.



Price Gouging

Price gouging is a significant increase in the cost of goods or services following a disaster and is illegal.



Save your Records

Keep records, bills, and paid invoices until your insurance representative visits.



Save Evidence

Take photos of damaged areas and possessions.



Federal Disaster Assistance

Check for availability.

FILING AN INSURANCE CLAIM

Notify your agent as soon as possible.

Give an address and phone number where you can be reached if you have evacuated.

Present your photos and inventory to help your adjuster assess the damage.

Be patient. Cases are expedited based on severity or hardship.

Your Boat: Before the Storm



Review your Insurance

Check insurance policies for adequate coverage, making sure you understand any exclusions, and your duties as a vessel owner.



Check your Belongings

Inventory all equipment on board. Remove or secure loose items.



Boat Trailer

If you use a boat trailer, check the tires, bearings & hitch. If you leave your boat on the trailer during the storm, try to store it in a garage or warehouse. Otherwise, park as close to the house as possible.



Protect your Hardware

Check deck hardware, electronics, and the bilge pump. Keep batteries charged.



Know your Route

If you plan on moving your boat on the water, know your route well. Rehearse and time your hurricane plan, then double that time to allow for traffic delays & weather.



Bridges may be Locked Down

When an evacuation order is issued, bridges may be locked in the down position to speed evacuation of the barrier islands. Set sail early to avoid blocked waterways.

Flooding

WHEN IT COMES TO HURRICANES, wind speeds do not tell the whole story. Hurricanes produce storm surges, tornadoes, and often the most deadly of all— inland flooding. While storm surge is always a potential threat, in the past 35

years, more people have died from inland flooding. Intense rainfall is not directly related to the wind speed of hurricanes. In fact, some of the greatest rainfall amounts occur from weaker storms that drift slowly or stall over an area.

- Inland flooding can be a major threat to areas hundreds of miles from the coast as intense rain falls from these huge tropical air masses.
- When you hear 'hurricane', think 'inland flooding'.
- Learn your vulnerability to flooding by determining the elevation of your property.
- Evaluate your insurance coverage; floodplains can change due to construction and development of surrounding areas.
- In highly flood-prone areas, keep materials on hand like sandbags, plywood, plastic sheeting, plastic garbage bags, lumber, shovels, work boots and gloves. Call your local emergency management agency to learn how to construct proper protective measures around your home.
- Be aware of streams, drainage channels and areas known to flood, so you or your evacuation routes are not cut off.
- Avoid driving into water of unknown depth. Moving water can quickly sweep your vehicle away.
- Restrict children from playing in flooded areas.
- Test drinking water for potability; wells should be pumped out and the water tested before drinking.
- Do not use fresh food that has come in contact with floodwaters. Wash canned goods that come in contact with floodwaters with soap and hot water.

DO YOU NEED FLOOD INSURANCE?

Flood insurance is available to any property owner located in a community participating in the National Flood Insurance Program. All areas are susceptible to some degree of flooding, although 25% of all flood claims occur in the low-to-moderate risk areas.

For more information, contact your insurance professional, your local emergency management office, or building department. You may also order a flood map from FEMA's Map service, for a fee, by calling 1-800-358-9616.



Strengthen your Lines

If you leave your boat in a marina, double all lines. Rig crossing spring lines fore and aft. Attach lines high on pilings to allow for storm surge. Protect all lines from chafing. Remove as much electronic gear as possible.



Avoid Boats During Storm

NEVER attempt to ride out any tropical storm or hurricane on your vessel.



Stay Anchored

With the manufacturer's approval, fill the hull with water, and put the anchor out. If the storm surge reaches your property the anchor may help the boat stay in your backyard.



Liability to Neighbors

A final note on liability: You are responsible for any damage to someone else's property caused by your boat so secure it well.

DURING AND AFTER THE STORM

During the Storm



Safety

- Stay inside until the hurricane passes. Make sure the storm has completely passed before going outside your house.
- Keep windows closed. It is a myth that opening a window on one side of the house will equalize pressure.
- If your house begins to sustain damage, cover yourself with a mattress and pillows. If your safe room is a bathroom with a bathtub, get in the tub under a mattress.
- As winds become more intense, go to your safe room and do not expose yourself to the hurricane's winds.
- If you're in a tall building, avoid the top floors as wind speeds are stronger the higher you go. Go to a safe room.



Communication

- Stay tuned to WPBF 25 News for updates.
- Use the phone for urgent calls only. Don't use the phone if you hear thunder.



Power/Light

- Turn off circuit breakers if the power goes out.
- Leave one circuit breaker on with a lamp so you will know when power is restored.
- Do not light candles or kerosene lamps during the storm.

DID YOU KNOW?

Hurricane Andrew (1992) ripped an 80-foot steel beam weighing several tons off a building and flung it more than a block away.

— Source: Oxlade, Chris. 2006. *Violent Skies: Hurricanes*. Chicago, IL: Raintree.

After the Storm



Safety

- Use extreme caution. There may be dangerous situations all around you!
- If your house is damaged, move carefully to get out. Do not return until inspected by officials.
- Always supervise children.
- Do not drink the tap water until officials have announced it's safe.



Driving/Transportation

- Avoid driving if possible because of debris and road blockage.
- If power is out, gasoline will be in short supply and filling stations will have long lines.
- At intersections with stop lights out, treat it as a 4-way stop and use extreme caution.



Power/Communication

- Phone lines and cell towers will be damaged or overloaded. Try making calls at "off peak" times.
- If power remains out for an extended period, FEMA will set up relief stations to provide free ice, water and other necessary items.





Restoring Electrical Service

Repair crews work to return power to the facilities that serve the largest number of affected customers first. Priorities are not established by location, your payment history or how often you call. Crews focus on facilities that provide essential services to your community, such as hospitals, police, fire stations and television or radio stations. Once major repairs have been made, work begins to restore smaller groups and individual customers.

Many areas may experience widespread power outages. For the safety of repair crews, power companies will not begin restoration efforts until wind speeds are below 35 miles per hour. Power outages can last several hours to several weeks. During the wait, a portable generator can help restore life to normal, but its safe use requires care and planning.

STATIONARY GENERATORS

- 5,000 - 20,000 watts
- Start automatically
- Professional installation
- \$5,000 - \$10,000

PORTABLE GENERATORS

- 3,000 to 8,500 watts
- Runs on gas/propane
- Outdoors only
- \$400 - \$1,000

Portable Generator Safety

- Always run portable generators outside the house.
- Never run generators inside, or in a garage.
- Be sure to turn the generators off and let it cool down before refueling. Gasoline spilled on hot engine parts can and does ignite, causing injury and death.
- Keep generators well away from open windows – including neighbors' – so deadly exhaust does not enter the home.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for grounding the generator.
- Never attempt to connect a generator directly to your home's wiring. Power from the generator will "back feed" into utility lines with the potential to severely injure or kill a neighbor or utility crew working to restore service. Instead, plug appliances directly into the generator's outlet.
- Use heavy-duty extension cords rated for outdoor use and place the generator safely outdoors.
- Observe noise ordinances and be considerate of your neighbors.

GET HURRICANE UPDATES ON THE GO

Download the WPBF 25 Hurricane Tracker app today.

You'll be prepared, up to date, and connected to what's going on when Hurricanes and Tropical Storms strike. Available on the App Store and Google Play.

