



HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE !

Major hurricanes are relatively rare events at any location. Residents of the Gulf Coast have a good chance of living many years without experiencing one. But none of our homes are immune. "Not here! We haven't had a hurricane in years," could be the most dangerous words you'll ever hear. It's best to be prepared. This could be the year.

Tropical cyclone is the general term that describes a low pressure system that originates over the tropical oceans. By international agreement, tropical cyclones are classified according to their intensity.

DEFINITIONS

Tropical Depression:

An area of developing counterclockwise (in the northern hemisphere, clockwise in the southern hemisphere) wind circulation that may include localized rain and thunderstorms. Maximum sustained winds up to 38 MPH (33 Knots). It is assigned a number by the National Weather Service.

Tropical Storm:

A well defined area of counterclockwise rotating wind of 39-73 MPH (34-63 Knots). Usually includes rain and thunderstorms. It is assigned a name.

Hurricane:

A severe tropical cyclone with sustained winds of 74 MPH (64 Knots) or greater. They can move rapidly and in an erratic manner. The major hazards include high winds, heavy rainfall, flooding, storm surge and high surf. If the hurricane has developed from a tropical storm, it keeps the same name.

Hurricanes are tropical cyclones in which winds reach sustained speeds of 74 miles per hour or more, and blow around a relatively calm center--the eye of the hurricane. Every year, these violent storms bring destruction to coastlines and islands in their erratic path.



Categories

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The Categories Are Description of Damage Wind Speeds (MPH)

Examples

- | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Minimal 74 - 95 |
| 2 | Moderate 96 - 110 |
| 3 | Extensive 111 - 130 |
| 4 | Extreme 131 - 155 |
| 5 | Catastrophic > - 155 |

**THIS ROOF DID NOT
HAVE HURRICANE CLIPS,
DOES YOURS?**



FAMILY DISASTER PLAN

Discuss the type of hazards that could affect your family. Know your home's vulnerability to storm surge, flooding and wind.

Locate a safe room or the safest areas in your home for each hurricane hazard. In certain circumstances the safest areas may not be your home but within your community.

Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet. These should be measured in tens of miles rather than hundreds of miles.

Have an out-of-state friend as a family contact, so all your family members have a single point of contact.

Make a plan now for what to do with your [pets](#) if you need to evacuate.

Post emergency telephone numbers by your phones and make sure your children know how and when to call 911.

Check your insurance coverage - flood damage is not usually covered by homeowners insurance.

Stock non-perishable emergency supplies and a [Disaster Supply Kit](#).

Use a [NOAA weather radio](#). Remember to replace its battery every 6 months, as you do with your smoke detectors.

Take First Aid, CPR and disaster preparedness classes.

Hurricane season begins in **June** and lasts through **November**

Hurricanes begin as relatively small tropical cyclones, generally off the coast of Africa, imbedded in the westward-blowing tradewinds of the tropics. Under certain conditions these disturbances increase in size, speed, and intensity until they become full-fledged hurricanes.

ARE YOUR BELONGINGS INSURED?



PETS

Because our home is subject to dangerous year-round hazards such as flash floods, hurricanes, and Tornados, pet owners need to be prepared.

Because pets are not permitted in public shelters, owners must make advance preparations. It is important to have a plan so you don't leave your pets in jeopardy during an emergency

**For more information go on line to
Humane Society. <http://www.humane.org/>**

PETS

BEFORE THE DISASTER

- Determine the safest place in your home for you and your pet during a disaster
- Keep a collar with identification on your pet and have a leash on hand to control your pet.
- Have a properly-sized pet carrier for each animal - carriers should be large enough for the animal to stand and turn around.
- Plan your evacuation strategy and don't forget your pet! veterinary clinics, friends and relatives out of harm's way are ALL potential refuges for your pet during a disaster.
- If you live in low-lying or coastal areas that is likely to be evacuated in an emergency, make advance arrangements for your pets to stay with a friend or relative.

If you plan to shelter your pet - work it into your evacuation route planning.

AFTER THE DISASTER

- Walk pets on a leash until they become re-oriented to their home - often familiar scents and landmarks may be altered and pets could easily be confused and become lost. Also, downed power lines, reptiles brought in with high water and debris can all pose a threat for animals after a disaster.
- If pets cannot be found after a disaster, contact the local animal control office to find out where lost animals can be recovered. Bring along a picture of your pet if possible.
- After a disaster animals can become aggressive or defensive - monitor their behavior.

Don't forget your pet when preparing a family disaster plan.

SURVIVAL KIT

- **Water - at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 7 days**
- **Food - at least enough for 3 to 7 days**
 - **non-perishable packaged or canned food / juices**
 - **foods for infants or the elderly**
 - **snack foods**
 - **non-electric can opener**
 - **cooking tools / fuel**
 - **paper plates / plastic utensils**
- **Blankets / Pillows, etc.**
- **Clothing - seasonal / rain gear/ sturdy shoes**
- **First Aid Kit / Medicines / Prescription Drugs**
- **Special Items - for babies and the elderly**
- **Toiletries / Hygiene items / Moisture wipes**
- **Flashlight / Batteries**
- **Radio - Battery operated and NOAA weather radio**
- **Cash - Banks and ATMs may not be open or available for extended periods.**
- **Keys**
- **Toys, Books and Games**
- **Important documents - in a waterproof container**
 - **insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.**
- **Tools - keep a set with you during the storm**
- **Vehicle fuel tanks filled**

THE END

Thank you for your attention

GET READY ITS COMING OUR WAY!



Construction Pre-Planning

- n Have supplies on hand to protect your materials: Tarps, rope, and anchors
- n Monitor weather reports and warnings.
- n Get information on returning after the storm