

# A HURRICANE IS COMING!

DON'T GET BLOWN

# AWAY!

TIPS ON  
HURRICANE  
PREPAREDNESS  
FOR TEENAGERS



Florida Department of Agriculture  
and Consumer Services

State Food and Nutrition Council  
Department of Education

**Hurricanes** are one of the most dangerous weather conditions occurring on earth. They are made up of deadly winds, heavy rains, thunderstorms, high seas and tornadoes.

**Every year** in the tropics, many storm systems develop into tropical waves, depressions, storms and finally into hurricanes. A weather system is classified as a hurricane if it has sustained winds of at least 74 miles per hour.

Hurricane winds may reach up to 200 miles per hour in powerful storms.

**The hurricane season** is June 1st to November 30, with the worst and those lasting the longest being in the last half of the season.

**The State of Florida** has a high-level-emergency management operation which strives to notify its citizens and visitors as far in advance as possible of a hurricane threat. It is after that notification that evacuations may begin in areas that may be affected, particularly the coastline and other low-lying areas.

**In many cases**, evacuations may start 72 hours prior to a hurricane's landfall.

Evacuation must start early in some areas because of the amount of time necessary to evacuate people in those areas. An area with more people will take more time than one with fewer people.

**A hurricane watch** is issued when hurricane conditions are a good possibility within the upcoming 36 hours. A Hurricane Warning is issued when hurricane conditions are expected within the next 24 hours. Hurricanes are hard to predict. It is impossible to know a definite storm track, so very often watches and warnings are issued for large portion of Florida's coastline.

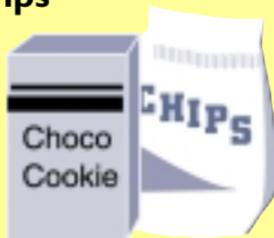


# BEFORE A STORM

Pack a bag - You may have to evacuate to another location if it appears you are in the area where a hurricane might hit.

## You should pack:

- a portable radio
- extra batteries for the radio
- a flashlight with extra batteries
- a change of clothing
- a toothbrush and other toiletries/ cosmetics, extra medical supplies and prescriptions
- extra eyeglasses or sunglasses
- mosquito repellent
- quiet games
- books, magazines
- playing cards
- stationery/postcards, stamps
- mini first-aid kit
- snack food
- identification
- sleeping bag/blanket, pillow
- rain gear



**Assist** your family in emergency preparations.

They have a lot to do in a short amount of time. They will, no doubt, have to go to the bank, buy gas for the car(s), buy canned goods and water, put away objects in your yard which could become airborne and dangerous in violent weather, gather important family papers and documents.

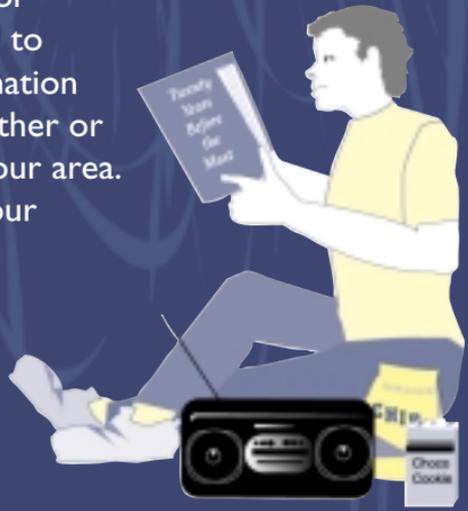


Your pet will not be permitted in a shelter. Every county has a Disaster Animal Coordinator that could advise you of what to do with your pet prior to a storm. Contact your county Manager for details.

## **AFTER THE HURRICANE**

If a hurricane hits land in your area during the school year, school might be cancelled. You will need to listen to your radio or get information from your shelter staff as to whether or not school will be in session in your area.

Remember, be patient with your shelter officials and emergency managers. Everyone will be working as hard as they can to get you and your family back to your homes quickly and safely.



# FOOD AT THE SHELTER

When the power is off, cold foods like sandwiches are served.

When the power is restored a variety of hot and cold foods are served.

You should bring your own snack foods.

Property in shelters belongs to others so please respect and return it.



---

## SAFFIR-SIMPSON HURRICANE SCALE

CATEGORY	WINDS	STORM SURGE	DAMAGE
1	74 - 95 MPH	4 - 5 FT.	MINIMAL
2	96 - 110 MPH	6 - 8 FT.	MODERATE
3	111 - 130 MPH	9-12 FT.	EXTENSIVE
4	131 - 155 MPH	13 - 18 FT.	EXTREME
5	155 PLUS	18 FT PLUS	CATASTROPHIC



# HURRICANE FACTS

## *Did You Know...*

- Most hurricanes occur in August, September and October.
- Nearly all deaths associated with hurricanes are caused by the storm surge which is the dome of water that forms near the eye just before the storm hits land. In 1969, Hurricane Camille generated a 25 foot storm surge.
- Many hurricanes produce tornadoes.
- Storms are given names when they become tropical storms.
- Hurricane Andrew which hit South Florida and Louisiana in 1992 was the most costly hurricane ever with an estimated damage of at least \$30 billion.

## **Important District Telephone Numbers**

