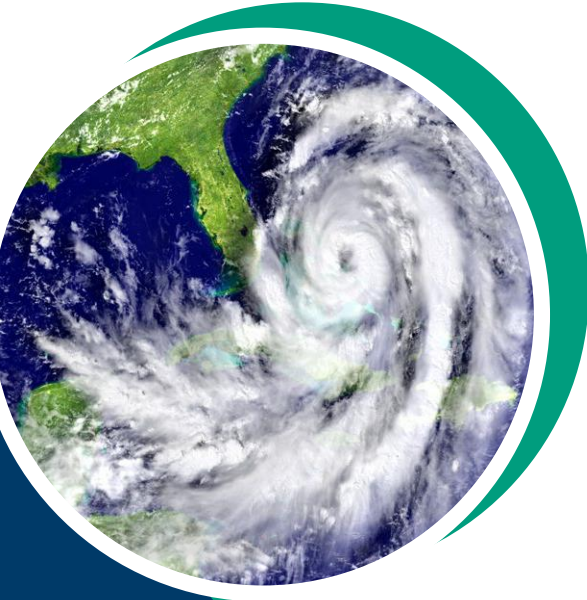


HURRICANE GUIDE

PREPARE FOR THE STORM SEASON



2024 FORECAST



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HURRICANE FORECAST

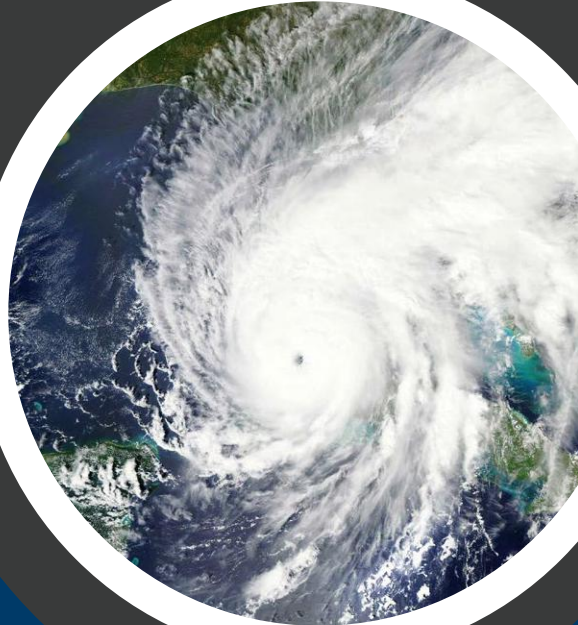
2024 HURRICANE SEASON FORECAST INCLUDES THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF HURRICANES EVER PREDICTED

In their most recent forecast released on April 4, Colorado State University (CSU) hurricane researchers are anticipating an exceptionally active Atlantic hurricane season. Their initial forecast for 2024 predicts the formation of 23 named storms, with 11 of them expected to develop into hurricanes, and five reaching major hurricane status with sustained winds of at least 111 miles per hour.

The official Atlantic hurricane season spans from June 1 to November 30. Of particular note, the report highlights that this is the highest number of hurricanes ever predicted by CSU in their April outlook. Previously, the highest April forecast was for nine hurricanes, a figure that has been forecasted multiple times since the university began issuing April forecasts in 1995.

The summary of the report attributes the forecast to record warm sea surface temperatures in the tropical and eastern subtropical Atlantic, identifying this as a primary factor for the prediction of 11 hurricanes this year.

While the April 4 forecast will be followed by subsequent updates, the summary concludes with a statement expressing high confidence in the forecast due to the combination of very warm Atlantic conditions and the potential development of La Niña. The team predicts that the 2024 Atlantic hurricane season will be very active, estimating it to be about 170% of the average season from 1991 to 2020. For comparison, the hurricane activity in 2023 was approximately 120% of the average season. CSU researchers plan to issue forecast updates on June 11, July 9, and August 6.



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- ✓ Leslie
- ✓ Milton
- ✓ Nadine
- ✓ Oscar
- ✓ Patty
- ✓ Rafael
- ✓ Sara
- ✓ Tony
- ✓ Valerie
- ✓ William



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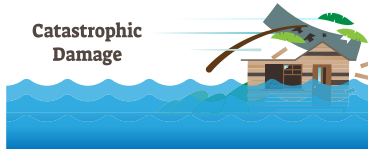
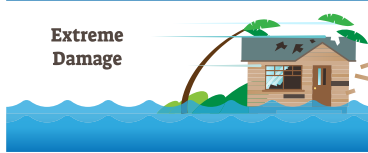
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HURRICANE SCALE

CATEGORY mph km/h Knots (kn)

1	79-95 mph	119-153 km/h	64-82 kn
2	96-110 mph	154-177 km/h	83-95 kn
3	111-129 mph	178-208 km/h	96-112 kn
4	130-156 mph	209-251 km/h	113-136 kn
5	≥157 mph	≥252 km/h	≥137 kn



The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale is helpful for understanding the potential impact of a hurricane, but it's important to remember that other factors, such as storm surge and rainfall, can also contribute to the overall impact and destruction caused by a hurricane. It's used to measure the intensity of hurricanes that occur in the Atlantic and Northeast Pacific Oceans. It's based on sustained wind speeds, and it categorizes hurricanes into five categories:

Category 1 (Weak): Wind speeds range from 74 to 95 mph (119 to 153 km/h). These storms can cause some damage to buildings, trees, and power lines, but typically result in minimal damage.

Category 2 (Moderate): Wind speeds range from 96 to 110 mph (154 to 177 km/h). These storms can cause extensive damage to buildings and trees, and power outages may last for days to weeks.

Category 3 (Strong): Wind speeds range from 111 to 129 mph (178 to 208 km/h). These storms are considered major hurricanes and can cause devastating damage. They can destroy well-built homes, uproot trees, and cause long-term power outages.

Category 4 (Very Strong): Wind speeds range from 130 to 156 mph (209 to 251 km/h). These storms can cause catastrophic damage. They can destroy most buildings, including well-built homes, and cause power outages that could last weeks to months.

Category 5 (Extremely Strong): Wind speeds are 157 mph (252 km/h) or higher. These storms cause catastrophic damage. They can destroy most buildings and cause power outages that could last weeks to months. Category 5 hurricanes are rare but incredibly dangerous.



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EVACUATION ZONES

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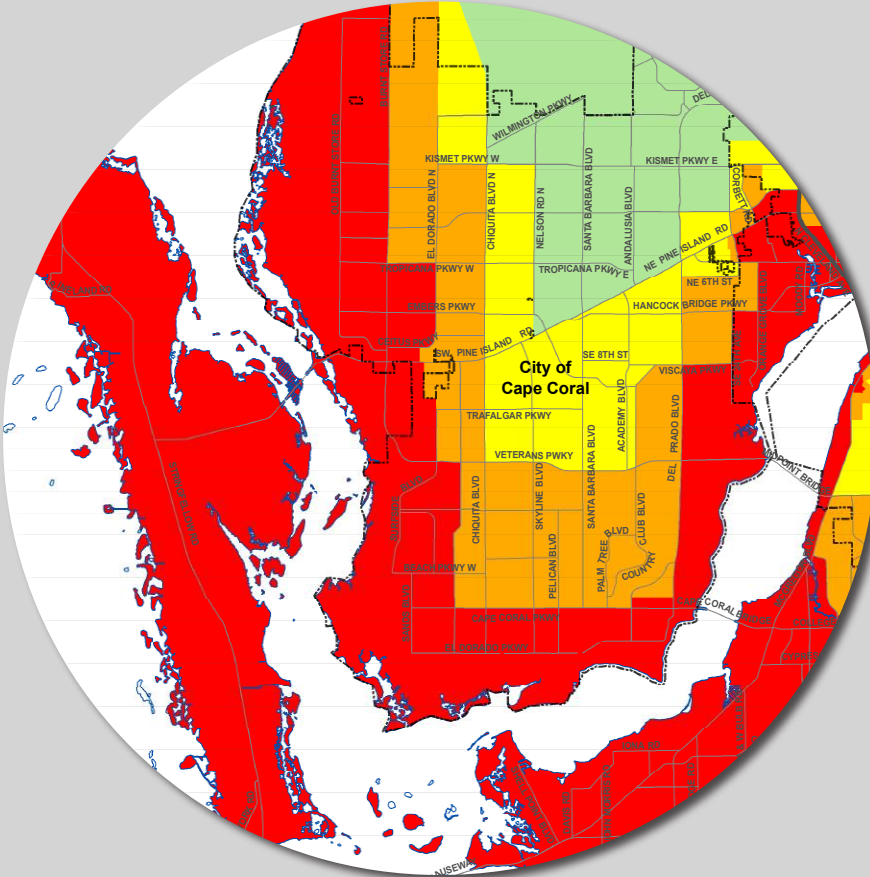
B

C

D

PUBLIC SHELTERS

1. Island Coast High School - 2125 DeNavarra Pkwy
2. Estero Recreation Center - 9200 Corkscrew Palm Blvd
3. Hertz Arena - 11000 Everblades Pkwy
4. Dunbar High School - 3800 Edison Ave
5. Gateway High School - 13820 Griffin Dr
6. South Fort Myers High School - 14020 Plantation Blvd
7. Treeline Elementary School - 10900 Treeline Ave
8. East Lee County High School - 715 Thomas-Sherwin Ave
9. Harns Marsh Elementary School - 1800 Unice Ave N
10. Harns Marsh Middle School - 1820 Unice Ave N
11. Mirror Lakes Elementary School - 525 Charwood Ave
12. Tortuga Preserve Elementary School - 1711 Gunnery Rd
13. Varsity Lakes Middle School - 801 Gunnery Rd
14. Veterans Park Recreation Center - 49 Homestead Rd
15. North Fort Myers Academy of the Arts - 1856 Arts Way
16. North Fort Myers Recreation Center - 2000 N Recreation Park Way
17. Alico Arena - 12181 FGCU Lake Pkwy
18. Manatee Elementary School - 5301 Tice St
19. Oak Hammock Middle School - 5321 Tice St





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10 STEPS TO PREPARE FOR A HURRICANE

When a major storm is coming, stay informed by following NOAA Weather radio or your local news channels for updates. In addition, make sure to obey all orders if requested to evacuate by the authorities. Follow these 10 hurricane and storm preparation steps to keep your home and loved ones safe before disaster strikes.

MAKE A PLAN

If evacuation is necessary, turn off all utilities and follow community disaster preparedness plans. Select a common meeting place or single point-of-contact for all family members. If you have pets, have a plan for their evacuation as well.

SECURE THE EXTERIOR

Trim large trees and shrubs and bring all outside patio furniture, potted plants, bikes and toys indoors. If necessary, secure outdoor sculptures with burlap or blankets tied with rope.

INSTALL STORM SHUTTERS



Protect windows, doors and skylights with appropriate shutters or impact-resistant glass. You can nail pieces of plywood to window frames as last-minute protection.

CHECK WALL HANGINGS AND ART

Make sure wall hangings are secure and take notes about your art collection and any existing damage. Make sure that art hung on outside walls are taken inside, and elevated off the floor.

MOVE YOUR CARS

Move cars to higher ground or park them in your garage against the garage doors. Do not park under trees, power lines or in low-lying areas.

POWER UP

Fill your car's gas tank, charge your cell phone, test your generator and have plenty of fuel ready in case of power outages.

UNPLUG APPLIANCES

Move appliances and household fixtures away from exterior doors and window openings. Store them in cabinets or interior closets.

STORE IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

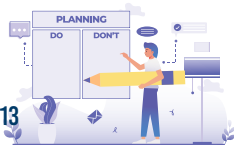
Keep important documents, such as legal papers, birth certificates, marriage license, financial papers and insurance policy information, as well as valuables such as jewelry, in a safety deposit box or in a bolted safe in an interior closet in your home.

PREP AN EMERGENCY KIT

Gather flashlights, a portable radio, extra batteries, non-perishable food, bottled water, cash, blankets, clothing and toiletries.

IDENTIFY A SHELTER ROOM

This enclosed area should be on the first floor, in the central part of the house with no windows. Avoid all unprotected windows and doors until the storm passes.



HURRICANE CHECKLIST

Provided by Shutters239



Hurricane Season is June 1st to November 30th.

Count on Shutters239 to help you with all of your hurricane shutter needs. Please call us at (239) 851-2511 or visit www.shutters239.com.

GROCERIES

- ✓ Water
- ✓ Canned food
- ✓ Precooked pasta or rice
- ✓ Snack foods
- ✓ Granola
- ✓ Protein bars
- ✓ Baby food/formula
- ✓ Dry Cereal
- ✓ Fruits
- ✓ Bread
- ✓ Peanut Butter

HOME PREPARATIONS

- ✓ Check your shutters/ get shutters
- ✓ Generator
- ✓ Grill
- ✓ Propane/charcoal for grill
- ✓ Fill bathtub with water
- ✓ Remove debris around house
- ✓ Don't empty pool
- ✓ Photograph property for insurance purposes
- ✓ Prepare ice
- ✓ Put coin in ice to determine if electricity has been out

SUPPLIES

- ✓ Batteries
- ✓ Flashlights
- ✓ First aid kits
- ✓ Medication
- ✓ Toilet Paper
- ✓ Paper towels
- ✓ Pet supplies
- ✓ Baby supplies
- ✓ Disinfectant wipes
- ✓ Resealable sandwich bags
- ✓ Hand sanitizer
- ✓ Garbage bags
- ✓ Insect repellent
- ✓ Tool kit
- ✓ Battery-operated lanterns
- ✓ Cordless USB charger
- ✓ Extra gasoline
- ✓ Ice packs
- ✓ Plastic utensils
- ✓ Jumper cables
- ✓ Blankets/jackets
- ✓ Rain gear
- ✓ Rain boots
- ✓ Rain jacket/poncho
- ✓ Wet wipes
- ✓ Paper plates
- ✓ Plastic cups
- ✓ Cooler

DON'T FORGET

- ✓ Make sure prescription medications are filled
- ✓ Make sure phones/ laptops are charged
- ✓ Put pet rabies/ vaccination documents in sealable bag
- ✓ Get an emergency bag ready in case of evacuation
- ✓ Gather personal documents in a plastic sealable bag
- ✓ Have cash on hand



REVIEW YOUR INSURANCE POLICY

By Assured Partners

GAIL SMITH, Personal Lines Insurance Advisor

Phone: 239-205-1556 | gail.smith@assuredpartners.com



As hurricane season approaches, understanding your insurance policy details is crucial. Here are key points to consider:

- ✔ Windstorm insurance often has a higher deductible compared to other coverage.
- ✔ Keep insurance documents handy if evacuating due to a storm; digitize them for easy access.
- ✔ New or increased coverage cannot be obtained during a tropical storm or hurricane watch or warning in Florida.
- ✔ Consider purchasing separate flood insurance, as it's usually not included in standard homeowners insurance.
- ✔ Ensure coverage aligns with your home's value and list protective measures taken, like storm shutters.
- ✔ Understand if your policy provides cash value or replacement for belongings.
- ✔ Know what's covered and what isn't.
- ✔ Flooding can happen anywhere in Southwest Florida, not just near water bodies.
- ✔ Homeowners insurance doesn't cover flood damage.
- ✔ Flood insurance can be purchased regardless of flood risk, with maximum coverage limits.
- ✔ Note the 30-day waiting period before flood insurance coverage begins.
- ✔ Content coverage is separate, with up to \$100,000 available.
- ✔ Federal disaster assistance is limited and contingent upon a presidential declaration.

Following a Natural Disaster

If your home or business sustained damage as a result of a natural disaster, it's important to safeguard your property from further damage quickly.

As you survey the damage, document as much as possible and include photographs.

- ✔ Take photographs of all damage.
- ✔ Protect your property from further damage.
- ✔ In case of theft, notify local police.
- ✔ Prepare an itemized list of damaged property including values of the damaged items. Gather receipts or other related documents if possible.
- ✔ Unless the damaged item presents a safety concern, do not dispose of damaged property until approved by a claims adjuster.
- ✔ Record interruptions to your business, loss of income and any extra expenses incurred due to the loss.
- ✔ Report all claims as quickly as possible.



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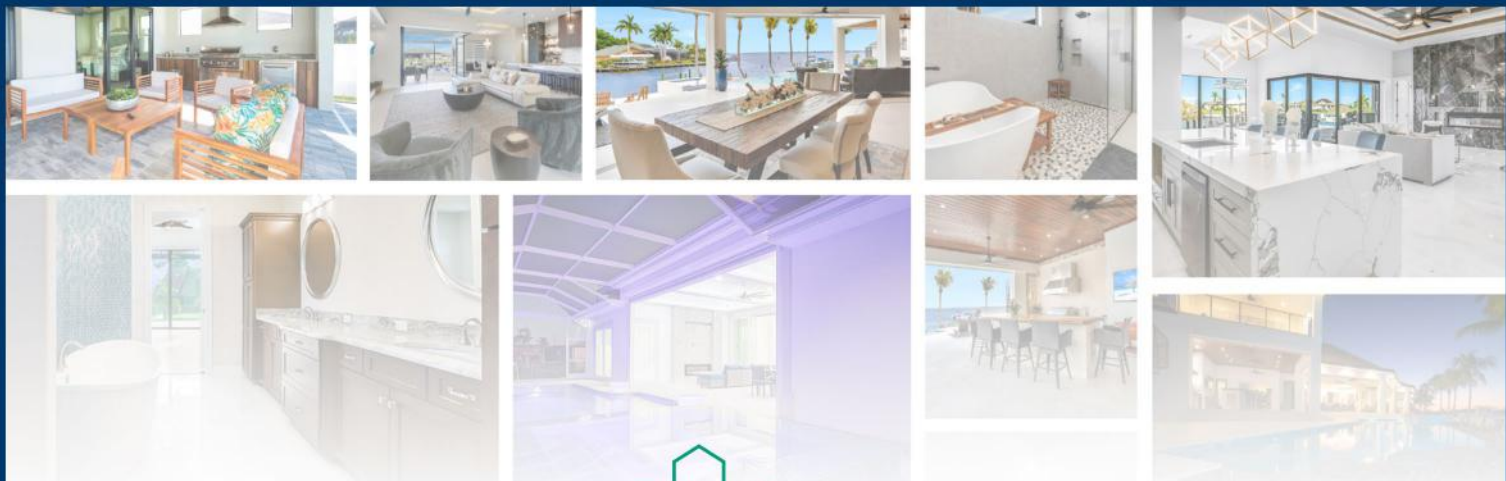
Hurricane Ian: Zero hurricane claims and minimal damage sustained by Coral Isle Builders homes.

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“Coral Isle builders build a solid Cat 5 home you can feel safe in...” D.B

“They build a very strong house that is above code in a hurricane zone which is impressive. You can't put a price on peace of mind during bad weather.” B.M



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TIPS FOR WORKING WITH CONTRACTORS AFTER A STORM

Severe storms can wreak havoc on your home, causing significant damage and leaving you in need of repairs. While your insurance policy may cover part of the expenses, they typically require you to hire a licensed and insured contractor for the job. It's imperative to select a contractor with the right qualifications and experience in storm-related repairs and restoration. However, navigating this process can be overwhelming, especially for first-timers.

1. Check Contractor's Credentials and References Finding the right contractor is crucial when dealing with storm damage. Seek recommendations from friends and family who have undergone similar repairs and research contractors online for reviews. Ensure any contractor you consider is properly licensed, insured, and bonded. Some states may have additional certification requirements, so be sure to inquire about those as well. License information is available through the Florida Department Business and Professional Regulation website.

2. Obtain Multiple Quotes Before making a decision, gather itemized quotes from different contractors outlining all necessary work and associated costs. Clarify any additional charges for labor or materials and inquire about warranties and insurance coverage. While preferred contractors recommended by your insurance company may offer financial benefits, prioritize qualifications and experience over affiliations.

3. Inspect Workmanship Once the work is complete, thoroughly inspect the finished job to ensure it meets your expectations in terms of quality and craftsmanship. Don't hesitate to ask questions, take photos for documentation, and address any concerns promptly. If you're dissatisfied with any aspect of the work, communicate your concerns to the contractor for resolution.

4. Keep Detailed Records Maintain comprehensive records of all transactions, including payments, work orders, receipts, and any relevant documents. These records are invaluable for insurance claims or dispute resolution in case of discrepancies. Organizing and preserving these documents will help you maximize any potential compensation from your insurance provider.

Navigating the process of hiring a contractor for storm damage repairs requires careful consideration and thorough research. By following these steps and staying organized, you can ensure a smoother and more successful restoration process for your home.



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ROLL DOWN SHUTTERS

- Shutters239 aluminum shutters are double-walled with reinforced aluminum slats for the strength and durability they need to protect your home from hurricane-force winds and debris.
- Roll Down Aluminum Shutters provide exceptional security, keeping intruders out with optional locks.
- Roll Down Shutter Motors includes a standard remote control and backup hand-crank for use if the power goes out or if the motor malfunctions.
- Our Roll Down Aluminum Shutters are permanently attached to your home for uninterrupted protection



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- Screens provide flying debris protection during a storm.
- These screens stop 95% of wind from going through.
- With our screens, you can see out, but any unwarranted guests won't get the privilege of seeing in.
- They also provide protection from driving rain, reducing it to a mist.
- Bugs can't get through the screens, so you can enjoy pest-free entertainment.
- Finally, Hurricane Screens protect you from the sun's rays.

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PREPARING YOUR BUSINESS

Hurricanes are among the most destructive natural disasters, causing significant damage to both lives and properties. For businesses, the impact of a hurricane can be particularly devastating, leading to disruptions in operations, financial losses, and even closure. However, with careful planning and preparation, businesses can mitigate risks and increase their chances of weathering the storm. Preparing your business for a hurricane involves a combination of planning, securing your premises, and ensuring the safety of your employees. Here's a comprehensive guide to help you prepare:

1. Create a Hurricane Preparedness Plan:

- ✔ Establish a comprehensive plan that outlines steps to be taken before, during, and after a hurricane.
- ✔ Assign specific roles and responsibilities to employees, including an emergency response team.
- ✔ Ensure all employees are familiar with the plan and conduct regular drills.

2. Secure Your Premises:

- ✔ Inspect the building for vulnerabilities and reinforce them (e.g., roofs, windows, doors).
- ✔ Install storm shutters or plywood to protect windows and glass doors.
- ✔ Anchor outdoor equipment or bring them indoors.
- ✔ Secure loose items that could become projectiles in high winds.

3. Backup Data and Documents:

- ✔ Regularly backup essential data and store it off-site or in the cloud.
- ✔ Protect physical documents by storing them in waterproof containers or digitizing them.

4. Review Insurance Coverage:

- ✔ Ensure your business insurance covers hurricane damage and business interruption.
- ✔ Review the policy to understand what is covered and what is not.

5. Create an Emergency Kit:

- ✔ Assemble an emergency kit with essential supplies such as water, non-perishable food, first aid supplies, flashlights, batteries, and a battery-powered radio.
- ✔ Stock up on essential items well in advance of hurricane season.

6. Communications Plan:

- ✔ Establish multiple communication channels to stay in touch with employees, customers, and suppliers during and after the hurricane.

Designate an out-of-town contact person for employees to check in with



PREPARING YOUR BUSINESS

By following these steps and staying proactive, you can better protect your business and minimize the impact of a hurricane on your operations.

6. Communications Plan:

- ✔ Establish multiple communication channels to stay in touch with employees, and suppliers.
- ✔ Designate an out-of-town contact person for employees to check in with.

7. Backup Power Supply:

- ✔ Consider installing a backup generator to ensure power supply during outages.
- ✔ Test the generator regularly to ensure it's in working condition.

8. Secure Important Documents:

- ✔ Store important documents (e.g., contracts, licenses, financial records) in a secure, waterproof location or in digital format.

9. Evacuation Plan:

- ✔ Develop an evacuation plan for employees if the situation requires it.
- ✔ Determine evacuation routes and assembly points.
- ✔ Encourage employees to have personal evacuation plans in place.

10. Stay Informed:

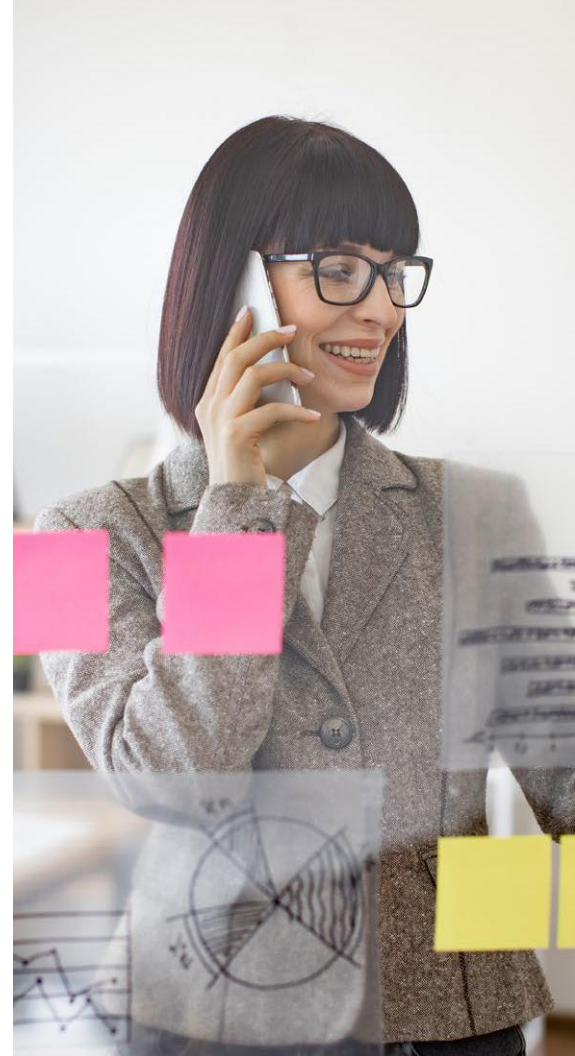
- ✔ Monitor weather forecasts and updates from local authorities.
- ✔ Sign up for emergency alerts and warnings.
- ✔ Stay informed about road closures, evacuation orders, and other relevant information.

11. Post-Hurricane Recovery:

- ✔ Assess damage to your premises and prioritize cleanup and repairs.
- ✔ Contact your insurance provider and document all damages.
- ✔ Communicate with employees, customers, and suppliers about business operations.

12. Review and Improve:

- ✔ Conduct a debriefing session to review your preparedness and response.
- ✔ Identify areas for improvement and update your hurricane preparedness plan accordingly.



THINGS TO DO BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE STORM

BEFORE

1. Stay Informed: Monitor weather forecasts and updates from reliable sources such as the National Hurricane Center. Stay aware of evacuation orders and emergency instructions issued by local authorities.

2. Prepare an Emergency Kit: Assemble an emergency kit containing essential supplies such as non-perishable food, water, medications, flashlights, batteries, first aid supplies, important documents, cash, and clothing. Ensure that your kit is easily accessible and sufficient to sustain you and your family for several days.

3. Secure Your Property: Reinforce windows and doors with storm shutters or plywood. Trim trees and remove debris that could become projectiles in high winds. Secure outdoor furniture, equipment, and objects that could be swept away or cause damage.

DURING THE HURRICANE

1. Stay Indoors: Seek shelter in a sturdy building, away from windows and doors. If necessary, retreat to an interior room on the lowest level of your home. Avoid using candles for lighting, as they pose a fire hazard.

2. Stay Connected: Keep a battery-powered radio or smartphone handy to receive updates and instructions from local authorities. Limit non-essential phone calls to conserve battery power.

3. Be Prepared for Power Outages: Unplug electrical appliances and turn off the main circuit breaker to prevent damage from power surges when electricity is restored. Use flashlights or battery-operated lanterns for illumination.

AFTER THE HURRICANE

1. Assess Damage Safely: Once the storm has passed and it is safe to do so, assess your property for damage. Be cautious of downed power lines, standing water, and unstable structures. Do not enter flooded areas unless it is necessary and you have been given the all-clear by authorities.

2. Check on Others: Reach out to neighbors, especially those who may be vulnerable such as the elderly or individuals with disabilities, to offer assistance and ensure their well-being.

3. Contact Your Insurance Provider: Document any damage to your property with photographs or videos and contact your insurance provider to initiate the claims process. Keep records of all communication and receipts for expenses related to repairs and temporary accommodations.

4. Exercise Caution During Cleanup: Use appropriate safety gear such as gloves, masks, and boots when cleaning up debris and handling potentially hazardous materials. Be mindful of the risk of injury from sharp objects, contaminated water, or unstable structures.

5. Stay Informed: Stay tuned to local news and updates from authorities regarding road closures, utility restoration, and other important information. Follow instructions from emergency management officials to ensure your safety and well-being.



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HURRICANE GUIDE | PAGE 25



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around the corner! Make
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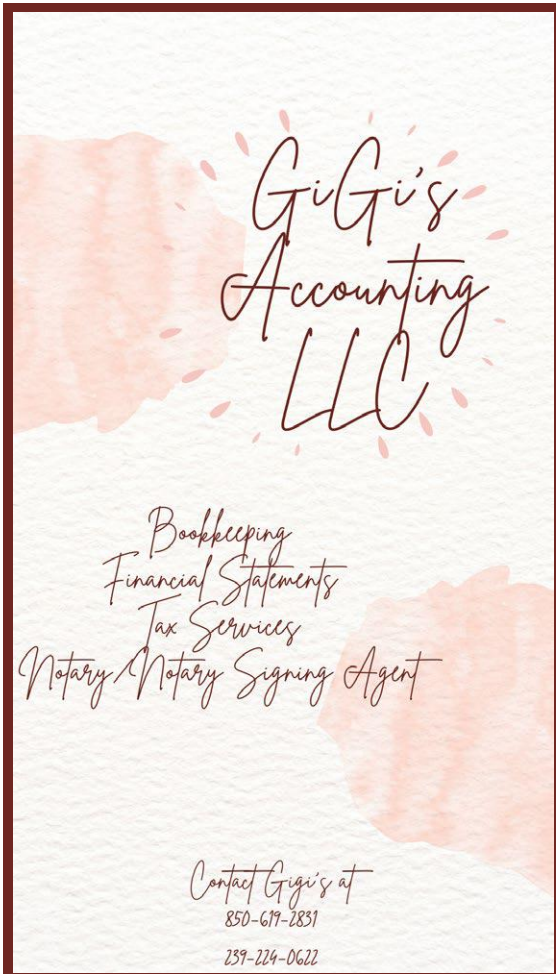


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Generator safety during hurricanes is of paramount importance to ensure the well-being of individuals and the protection of property.

When severe weather strikes and power outages occur, many people turn to generators as a source of backup electricity.

However, improper use of generators can lead to serious accidents, including carbon monoxide poisoning, electrical shocks, and fires.

Here are some important safety tips to keep in mind when using generators during hurricanes or any other emergency situation:



1. Outdoor Use Only: Generators should always be operated outdoors in well-ventilated areas. Never run a generator indoors, including in garages, basements, or sheds, as this can lead to a buildup of deadly carbon monoxide gas.

2. Proper Ventilation: Ensure that the generator is placed in a location where exhaust fumes will not enter nearby buildings or be drawn indoors through windows, doors, or vents.

3. Keep Away from Combustible Materials: Place the generator on a dry, level surface away from any flammable materials such as dry leaves, grass, or wood piles. The heat generated by the unit can ignite these materials and start a fire.

4. Follow Manufacturer's Instructions: Read and follow the manufacturer's instructions for safe operation, including guidelines for setup, fueling, and maintenance.

5. Grounding: Properly ground the generator to prevent electrical shocks. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for grounding procedures.

6. Use the Correct Extension Cords: Use heavy-duty extension cords specifically designed for outdoor use and rated for the wattage of the appliances you intend to power. Avoid overloading the generator by connecting too many devices.

7. Keep Children and Pets Away: Keep children and pets away from the generator and its power cords to prevent accidents.

8. Never Refuel While Running: Turn off the generator and allow it to cool down before refueling to prevent fuel spills and potential fires.

9. Regular Maintenance: Perform regular maintenance on the generator according to the manufacturer's recommendations to ensure it operates safely and efficiently.

10. Store Fuel Safely: Store fuel in approved containers in a cool, well-ventilated area away from living spaces. Keep fuel away from open flames or sources of ignition.

11. Monitor Carbon Monoxide Levels: Install battery-operated carbon monoxide detectors in your home, especially near sleeping areas, to alert you to dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.

By following these safety tips, you can minimize the risks associated with generator use during hurricanes and ensure the safety of yourself, your family, and your property. Contact Matthew Groot at Generators By Design, 239-744-7445, www.generatorsbydesign.com.

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- Check your insurance policy to make sure you have adequate coverage.



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DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOLLOWING A STORM

Following a disaster in the United States, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) may provide various types of assistance to affected individuals, households, businesses, and communities. Here are some common forms of FEMA assistance:

1. Individual Assistance (IA): This aid is provided to individuals and households affected by a disaster. It may include financial assistance for temporary housing, home repairs, replacement of essential belongings, and other disaster-related expenses.

2. Public Assistance (PA): PA is available to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as certain private non-profit organizations, to help them recover from the impacts of a disaster. This assistance can cover the costs of repairing or replacing damaged public infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, schools, and utilities.

3. Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA): HMA programs support efforts to reduce the risk and impact of future disasters. This assistance can fund projects such as building safer structures, improving drainage systems, and implementing other measures to mitigate the effects of natural hazards.

4. Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Loans: While not directly administered by FEMA, SBA disaster loans are often available to businesses, homeowners, and renters affected by disasters. These low-interest loans can help cover the costs of repairing or replacing damaged property, as well as other disaster-related expenses.

5. Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP): CCP provides funding to states and territories to offer crisis counseling services to individuals and communities affected by a disaster. These services aim to help people cope with the emotional and psychological impacts of the disaster.

6. Other Assistance Programs: Depending on the nature and severity of the disaster, FEMA may also provide additional forms of assistance, such as temporary sheltering for displaced individuals, debris removal support, and technical assistance to support disaster response and recovery efforts.

To access FEMA assistance, individuals and communities typically need to apply through the agency's website, by phone, or in person at Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) set up in affected areas. The application process may involve providing documentation of losses and demonstrating eligibility for assistance based on FEMA's criteria.



FEMA



HOUSING HELP

The City of Cape Coral may offer housing assistance, reach out to housing@capecoral.gov



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HOW TO PREPARE A BOAT FOR A HURRICANE

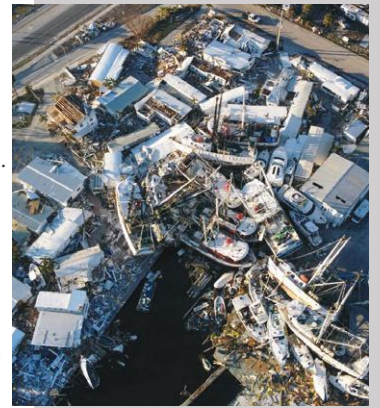
Prior to the upcoming hurricane season, ensure you have a comprehensive boat hurricane plan in place. Various types of docks—floating, fixed, and lift-based—each pose unique challenges during severe storms. Optimal hurricane boat storage entails keeping your vessel on dry land throughout any named storm. Here are several strategies to safeguard your boat during a hurricane, whether on land or water, this storm season:

DURING THE HURRICANE

- ✔ Remove the hull drain plug and ensure the boat's bow is positioned higher than the stern.
- ✔ Clear the interior cockpit and bilge of loose items.
- ✔ Take off any canvas, isinglass, or Bimini tops from the exterior.
- ✔ Secure or remove anything susceptible to wind.
- ✔ Eliminate loose personal items and electronics.
- ✔ Store ownership documents securely.
- ✔ Employ a snug-fitting mooring cover or custom storage cover to shield the boat's interior.
- ✔ Verify the functionality of the bilge pump, including its auto-float switch.
- ✔ Secure the boat/trailer to the ground using hurricane spikes.

IF STORING YOUR BOAT ON WATER

- ✔ Remove personal belongings, loose equipment, canvas, and isinglass windows.
- ✔ Keep the canvas installed if your boat lacks a self-bailing cockpit.
- ✔ Connect your vessel to shore power to charge batteries fully and keep the bilge pump operational.
- ✔ Ensure the bilge pump, along with its auto-float switch, is operational.
- ✔ Inspect all dock lines, replacing any undersized or worn ones.
- ✔ Consider using larger lines when replacing them.
- ✔ Install spring lines and bumpers to prevent dock damage from boat movement.
- ✔ Avoid securing boat lifts during hurricanes; instead, relocate them to ground storage.



Your boat hurricane plan extends beyond the storm's passage. After a hurricane, promptly visit the dock to inspect for any damage once roads are accessible. Even if your boat remains undamaged, promptly dry any wet interior areas, especially the bilge where water may have entered. Since the most critical boat components reside at the lowest point, have a professional inspect the engine, outdrive, or other mechanical systems immediately to mitigate potential damage. Should visible damage or mechanical system compromise occur, consider obtaining a boat survey to assess the extent of the issues.

Preparation for a hurricane involves more than relocating the boat. Your boat hurricane plan should include provisions for recovery in the event of storm-related incidents. Boat insurance may provide coverage for storm damage; familiarize yourself with the specifics of how boat insurance addresses such scenarios.

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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

City of Cape Coral - Call 311

Red Cross - 239-278-3401

SBA - 800-827-5722

FEMA - 800-621-3362

SBDC - 239-745-3700

Cape Coral Police Non-Emergency - 239-574-3223

CCCIA - 239-772-0027

Following the storm, it's advisable to contact Lee County, The City of Cape Coral, Cape Coral Chamber of Commerce, Small Business Administration, and the Small Business Development Center to explore potential resources such as loans and grants that may be accessible.



STAY INFORMED

Follow the City of Cape Coral on social media for real-time updates and information. Updates can always be found online at [CapeCoral.gov](https://www.CapeCoral.gov). In the event of power, cell and internet loss, informational flyers will be distributed daily by noon at all Cape Coral Fire Stations, the Cape Coral Police Department and City Hall.



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