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PRODUCTION

Public Media Relations Division

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A MESSAGE TO ALL PALM BEACH GARDENS RESIDENTS



Dear Residents,

With hurricane season upon us, it's time to revisit our preparations. We're pleased to share the latest edition of the Official City of Palm Beach Gardens Hurricane Guide with you. Running from June 1 through November, the Atlantic hurricane season demands our attention, and readiness is paramount.

Each of us plays a crucial role in safeguarding our community. While our city staff is primed and ready to respond to any significant impact, we urge you not to underestimate your own importance in our emergency preparedness efforts.

Within this guide, you'll discover recommendations for assembling your emergency supply kit, along with comprehensive information to guide you through the stages before, during, and after a storm. Additionally, you'll find essential contact details and emergency plans for both the City and our partner agencies.

As part of your family's action plan, we advise maintaining a full tank of gas in your vehicles, as lines can quickly grow long when a storm looms. Take steps to secure your home, boats, pets, and property. Review your insurance coverage and conduct a thorough inventory of your belongings, including capturing photos and videos of valuable items. Ensure your important documents are safeguarded against water and the elements.

Moreover, this guide outlines various technological resources available to you, including emergency alerts and status updates, along with instructions on how to access them. We strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with these resources and utilize the preparation tips to help you and your loved ones weather any storm.

Stay safe and prepared,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald M. Ferris".

Ronald M. Ferris, City Manager

WHAT IS A HURRICANE?

WIND SPEEDS

Hurricane-force winds can effortlessly destroy homes, mobile homes and buildings in Palm Beach Gardens. With various construction projects occurring throughout the City, signs, metal roofing materials, siding and small items left outside during a hurricane can become small flying missiles. Although Palm Beach Gardens does not have a direct coastline, winds can stay above hurricane strength well inland.

According to the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale, Atlantic and Eastern Pacific hurricanes are classified into five categories. The scale estimates potential property damage to the hurricane's sustained wind speed.



C1

74-95mph
(119-153 km/h)

C2

96-110mph
(154-177 km/h)

C3

111-129mph
(178-208 km/h)

C4

130-156mph
(209-251 km/h)

C5

157mph or higher
(252 km/h or higher)

THE SAFFIR-SIMPSON HURRICANE SCALE



Category 1
74-95 mph

Very dangerous winds will produce some damage: Well-constructed frame homes could have damage to roof, vinyl siding and gutters. Large branches of trees will snap and shallowly rooted trees may be toppled. Extensive damage to power lines and poles likely will result in power outages that could last a few to several days.



Category 2
96-110 mph

Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage: Well-constructed frame homes could sustain major roof and siding damage. Many shallowly rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted and block numerous roads. Near-total power loss is expected with outages that could last from several days to weeks.



Category 3
111-129 mph

Devastating damage will occur: Well-built framed homes may incur major damages or removal of roof decking and gable ends. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water will be unavailable for several days to weeks after the storm passes.



Category 4
130-156 mph

(Major) Catastrophic damage will occur: Well-built framed homes can sustain severe damage with loss of most of the roof structure and/or some exterior walls. Most trees will be snapped, and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for months.



Category 5
157 mph or higher

(Major) Catastrophic damage will occur: A high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable – for weeks or months.



HURRICANE WATCH VS. HURRICANE WARNING

HURRICANE WATCH means hurricane-force conditions (sustained winds of at least 74 mph) are possible in the area within **48 hours**.

HURRICANE WARNING means hurricane-force conditions (sustained winds of at least 74 mph) are expected in the area in **36 hours or less**.



HEAVY RAINS

Rainfall amounts relate mostly to the speed, size and the geography of the area. Tropical cyclones can produce widespread, torrential rains in excess of 6 inches, that may result in deadly and destructive floods. This type of flooding can persist for several days after a storm has dissipated.

It is important for residents to be safe when approaching water on a roadway. The phrase Turn Around Don't Drown reminds drivers to assume flooded roadways are hazardous and uncrossable. It is better to be safe and turn around than to attempt crossing the flooded roadway and risk your own life and/or vehicle from drowning in the flood water.

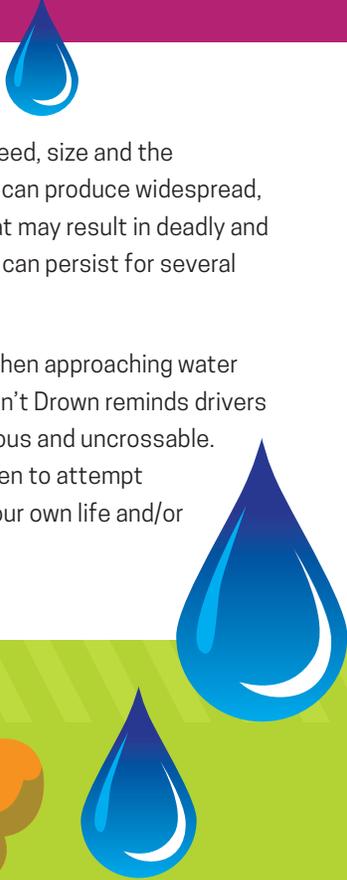
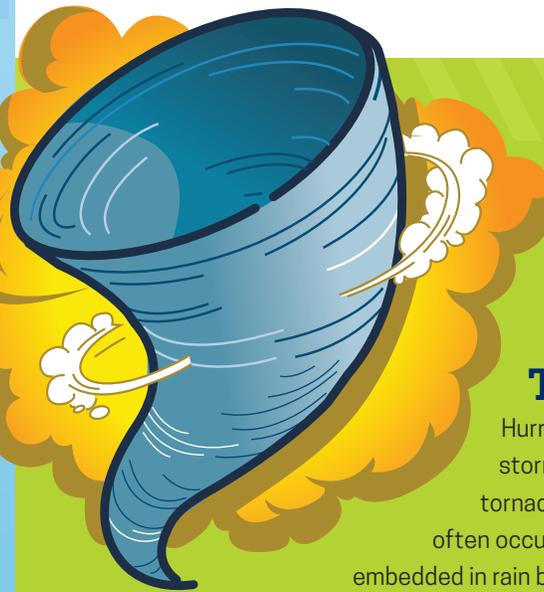


STORM SURGE

Storm surge is an abnormal rise of water generated by a storm, over and above the predicted astronomical tides. The rise in water level can cause extreme flooding in coastal areas, particularly when storm surge coincides with normal high tide, resulting in storm tides reaching up to 20 feet in some cases.

Storm surge is produced by water being pushed towards the shore by the force of winds moving cyclonically around the storm. The maximum potential storm surge for a certain location depends on a variety of different factors due to its sensitivity to the slightest changes in:

- Storm intensity
- Forward speed
- Size
- Angle of approach to the coast
- Central pressure
- The shape and characteristics of coastal features (ex: bays and estuaries)

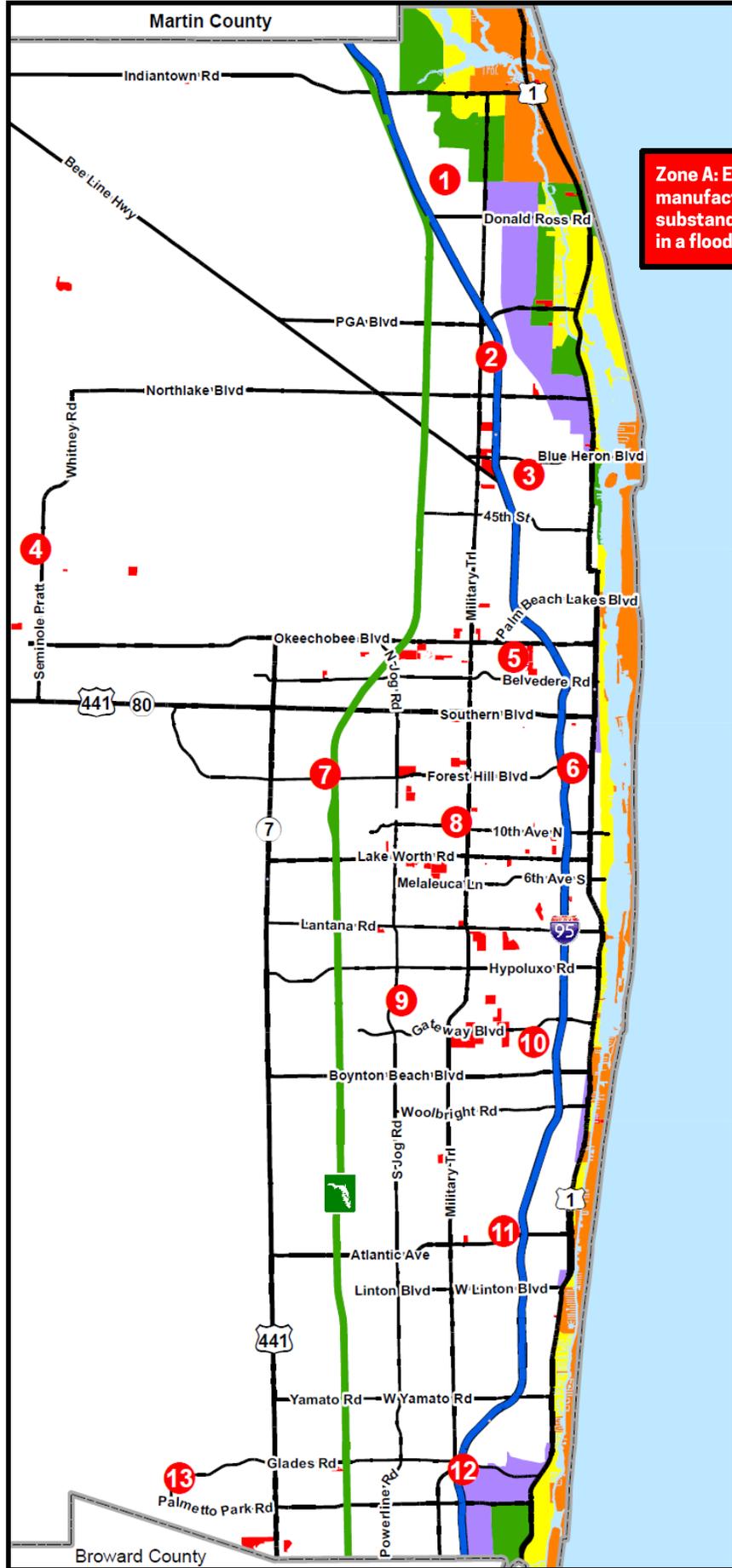


TORNADOS

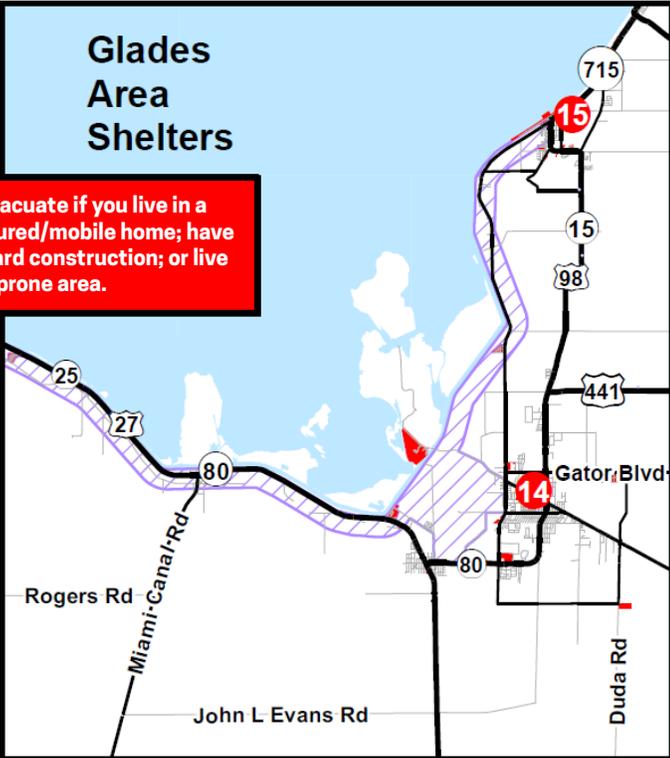
Hurricanes and tropical storms can also produce tornados. Tornados most often occur in thunderstorms embedded in rain bands, but they can also occur near the eyewall. Typically, the tornados produced by tropical cyclones are relatively weak and short-lived, but they still pose a significant threat.

If a Tornado Watch is issued in Palm Beach Gardens, it means tornados are possible. Remain alert for approaching storms and listen to your local radio/television outlets for updated reports.

If a Tornado Warning is issued in Palm Beach Gardens, it means a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Take shelter immediately.



Zone A: Evacuate if you live in a manufactured/mobile home; have substandard construction; or live in a flood-prone area.



IMPORTANT: Not all shelters will be opened at the same time. Stay tuned to local TV and radio for shelter opening announcements.

1. Independence Middle School
4001 Greenway Dr, Jupiter 33458
2. Palm Beach Gardens High School
4245 Holly Dr, Palm Beach Gardens 33410
3. Dr Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School
1501 Avenue U, Riviera Beach 33404
4. Seminole Ridge High School
4601 Seminole Pratt Whitney Rd, Loxahatchee 33470
5. West Gate Elementary School
1545 Loxahatchee Dr, West Palm Beach 33409
6. Forest Hill High School
6901 Parker Ave, West Palm Beach 33405
7. Palm Beach Central High School
8499 Forest Hill Blvd, Wellington 33411
8. John I Leonard High School
4701 10th Ave N, Greenacres 33463
9. Park Vista High School
7900 Jog Rd, Lake Worth 33467
10. Boynton Beach High School
4975 Park Ridge Blvd, Boynton Beach 33426
11. Atlantic Community High School
2455 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach 33445
12. Boca Raton High School
1501 NW 15th Ct, Boca Raton 33486
13. West Boca Raton High School
12811 Glades Rd, Boca Raton 33498
14. Lake Shore Middle School
425 W Canal St N, Belle Glade 33430
15. Pahokee Middle School
850 Larrimore Rd, Pahokee 33476

Risk Shelters With Evacuation Zones

	Shelter		Zone A - See Text Box Above		Zone C		Zone E
			Zone B		Zone D		Zone L

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Palm Beach County
GIS Service Bureau May 04, 2022

MAKE A PLAN!

Get a Head Start & Be Prepared!

Every great plan starts with a to-do list. This emergency supply checklist and shopping list will get your family's hurricane plan off to a great start.

FOOD

- Water & food for at least 5-7 days
- Sandwich bread (freeze until needed)
- Quick energy snacks (i.e. granola bars or raisins)
- Cans of ready-to-eat soup
- Box of crackers
- Dry cereal
- Peanut butter
- Containers of fruit
- Containers of meat
- Containers of vegetables
- Jelly or jam
- Containers of juice
- Instant coffee/tea/powdered drinks



STORAGE

- Boxes of large plastic zip bags
- Plastic wrap
- Rolls of aluminum foil
- Assorted plastic containers with lids
- Heavy-duty garbage bags
- Waterproof portable plastic container with lid
- Cooler/ice chest

HEALTH AND FIRST AID

- Shampoo
- Sanitary hand wipes/liquid
- Large tube of toothpaste
- Antiseptic
- Deodorant
- Tweezers
- Adhesive bandages, assorted sizes
- Rolls of gauze or bandages
- Hydrogen peroxide
- First Aid book
- First Aid tape
- Petroleum jelly
- Rubbing alcohol
- Soap
- First Aid Kit
- Feminine hygiene products



CLEANING & SUPPLIES

- Packages of eating utensils, paper cups, paper plates
- Facial tissues (i.e. Kleenex)
- Rolls of paper towels
- Rolls of toilet paper
- Liquid dish soap
- Mosquito repellent
- Matches
- Latex gloves
- Broom, mop, and bucket
- Bleach
- Manual can opener
- Sponges



MEDICATIONS

- Extra supply prescription medication(s)
- Aspirin and/or acetaminophen
- Anti-diarrhea medicine
- Adult vitamins
- Thermometer
- Sunblock

COMMON TOOLS

- Battery-operated radio
- Flashlights
- Flashlight batteries
- Assorted safety pins
- Scissors
- Screwdrivers
- Pliers
- Vise grips
- Hammer(s)
- Heavy-work gloves
- Stove fuel/charcoal, lighter fluid
- Camping or utility knife
- 1 Box disposable dust mask
- Plastic safety goggles



HEAVY TOOLS

- Plywood & fasteners to cover windows
- Tarpaulin, canvas for temporary roof repair
- Handsaw and/or chain saw & fuel
- Assorted nails
- Wood screws
- Hatchet
- Crowbar
- Shovel
- Rake



SPECIALTY ITEMS

- Special foods for special diets
- Extra hearing aid batteries
- Items for denture care
- Spare eyeglasses or contact lens supplies
- Gallon of water per pet
- Leash or pet carrier
- Pet food
- Baby food
- Diapers
- Baby wipes
- TV antenna
- Rope/bungy cord



SMART SUPPLIES

- Battery-powered camping lantern
- Batteries for camping lantern
- Portable camp stove or grill with fuel
- Video or disposable camera
- Sandbags



HELPFUL SUPPLIES

- Games/activities for kids/family
- Local and state road maps
- Gas cans
- Generator with fuel
- Fan (battery-operated or plug-in)
- Extra batteries
- Hat

EVERYDAY SAFETY SUPPLIES

- ABC certified fire extinguisher
- Smoke detector with battery
- Carbon monoxide detector

KEEP IN A WATERPROOF CONTAINER:

- Will, insurance policies, contracts, deeds, stocks, and bonds
- Passports, social security cards, immunization records
- Bank account numbers
- Credit card account numbers and companies
- Inventory of valuable household goods, important telephone numbers
- Family records (birth, marriage, death certificates)





EVACUATE?

OR



STAY?

IF YOU MUST EVACUATE

Make the decision to leave early. Do not wait too late when hotels and fuel along routes may be scarce. Move at a steady pace and ensure you leave enough time to get to where you will weather the storm. **DO NOT** take chances with your life by staying at home or waiting until it's too late!

- Notify your host home and family members that you are evacuating.
- Coordinate an out-of-state point of contact with which all family members can check in.
- Bring along your pre-assembled evacuation kit (water, snacks, cash, medications and important items/documents such as your driver license, photo ID, proof of address, insurance policies, family photos, and a list of important contacts).
- Fill up your vehicle and bring extra gas, if possible (gas stations run out of fuel along evacuation routes).
- Secure patio/yard furniture.
- Secure all doors and windows.
- Have a plan for your pets if you are not taking them with you.
- Allow at least twice the usual travel time. Avoid flooded roads and beware of washed out bridges and canals.
- Go to your predetermined host home or Risk/Special Needs Shelter, if applicable.
- Notify your prearranged family contact when you arrive at your storm-safe location.

Before you leave, take time to do the following:

- Install hurricane shutters or pre-cut plywood on all windows.
- Store awnings, folding furniture, trash cans and other loose outdoor objects.
- Anchor the mobile/manufactured home with over-the-top or frame ties.
- Inspect tie-downs and anchors annually.

IF YOU CAN STAY, SHELTER-IN-PLACE

Self-evacuating is stressful and can cause more harm than good. It is also expensive. If you live in a structurally sound home and are not located in a mandatory evacuation zone, **Shelter-In-Place** in your pre-identified, stocked safe room and take the following precautions:

- Finish putting up shutters.
- Offer your home as shelter to friends or relatives who live in vulnerable areas or mobile homes.
- Leave radio or TV on an emergency information station.
- Do laundry.
- Move vehicles into a garage or next to a building; avoid trees and utility poles. Freeze water jugs and fill ice chest. Turn refrigerator to coldest setting and lower A/C (turn circuit breakers off after power goes out).
- Fully charge cell and rechargeable batteries.
- Place flashlights and batteries throughout the house and keep one with you. After the storm, use candles safely.
- Secure all doors and windows. Double-check safe room and Disaster Supply Kit.

Palm Beach County will make the official determination on evacuations during a hurricane threat. The City of Palm Beach Gardens follows the countywide order when informing residents about whether they are required to evacuate.



MANDATORY EVACUATION HOMES

- All residents living in a manufactured/mobile home
- Your home is located in an area that is prone to severe flooding

Even tropical storm-force winds can topple these types of homes. When a storm threatens, do what you can to secure your home, then take refuge with friends, relatives, or at an applicable shelter.



EVACUATING TO A SHELTER

Palm Beach County provides Hurricane Evacuation Risk Shelters countywide for the general population. In addition, there are two Special Needs Shelters, and one Pet-Friendly Shelter. All shelter locations meet design standards to withstand hurricane force winds, including window strength and protection, wind and debris exposure, and storm surge inundation.

These shelters are a refuge of last resort; a place to go if you can't stay at home or with a relative, friend, co-worker or other safe location. While shelters are set up in schools, the timing of their opening and locations will be chosen based on the circumstances of the storm. Not all shelters are opened for every storm. Monitor local media for current shelter openings and locations.

Shelters may provide simple meals and beverages; if you have special dietary needs or want snacks, you must bring your own. Shelters provide basic first aid only; cots and medical care are not provided.

NO smoking, alcohol, firearms, or pets are allowed in Risk Shelters. Each person is given 20 square feet of room.



IF YOU GO TO A SHELTER, PALM BEACH COUNTY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU BRING THE FOLLOWING:

- Three-day supply of water per person (i.e., three gallons per person).
- Prescription and emergency medications; you must be able to take all medications by yourself. Special-diet foods (e.g., snacks and juices for those with dietary restrictions or allergies). Basic snacks.
- Bedding materials (e.g., pillows, blankets, sleeping bags, cots, air mattresses, etc.).
- Comfortable clothing (at least two changes).
- Collapsible/folding beach chair or camp chair.
- Baby food, formula, bottles, diapers, blankets, & clothes.
- Flashlight, extra batteries.
- Cellphone, with a battery-operated charger.
- Radio with extra batteries and headphones.
- Important documents (identification, medical records, insurance information, deeds or leases, birth certificates and utility bills showing your home address).
- Photocopies of valuable documents.
- Eyeglasses, hearing aids, dentures.
- Toiletries and personal hygiene items.
- Quiet games, books, playing cards, favorite toys, or other items for entertainment. Special items for family members who are elderly or disabled.
- Chargers/cables for any electronic devices you bring with you –electrical outlets are limited.



RESOURCES
Your Evacuation Zone Map is located on page 6 of this guide.
READYPBC.COM



PRE-STORM: *What Residents Should Do...*

REVIEW YOUR FAMILY'S HURRICANE PLAN & CHECKLIST

(Available on page 7 of this guide.)

YARD PREPARATION

- Pre-Hurricane Season Maintenance (December through April)
- Do all major cutting/tree removal before June 1, from December through April.
- Cut back all trees and weak branches that could contact buildings.
- Thin your foliage so wind can flow freely through branches.
- Place tree trimmings at the curb on your regular scheduled collection day and follow the 6/50 rule (six feet in length and each piece cannot exceed 50 lbs. in weight). Containerize small pieces of vegetation such as pine needles, leaves, twigs, etc.
- Clean your yard of any items that could become missiles in a storm.
- Secure outdoor furniture so that items do not become projectiles in high winds.



ONCE A STORM HAS BEEN NAMED

- Do not cut down trees or do major yard work.
- Do not begin construction projects that produce debris.
- Do not trim vegetation of any kind, once a watch or warning has been issued.
- Mass cutting places a tremendous burden on the normal collection process and there is not enough equipment or manpower to collect the additional materials before the storm makes landfall. You could put not only yourself at risk, but your neighbors as well.
- Do not take materials to the curb, transfer stations or landfill during a watch or warning period. Services will be suspended, and facilities closed early to prepare for the storm.

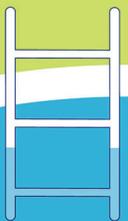
DURING A WATCH

- Monitor the storm on television or radio and stay current on updates.
- Review your evacuation plan.
- Check evacuation kit and/or family disaster supplies kit and gather any missing items. Contact family members to coordinate storm preparations.
- Notify your out-of-area host that you may be evacuating.
- Place important documents and photos in waterproof plastic bags.
- Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest setting; open only when necessary and close quickly.
- Freeze plastic jugs or cartons of water.
- Fill up drinking water containers.
- Scrub bathtub and fill with water; keep bucket handy for flushing toilet.
- Fuel up vehicles and propane tanks; obtain fuel for generators.
- Prep and test generator if you have one (do not operate during storm, see page 22). Stow or cover irreplaceable items; move breakables away from windows.
- Put up shutters, if you have them.
- Remove turbine and cap vent hole when storm is approaching.
- Bring in outdoor furniture, wind chimes, flags, trash cans, grills, antennas, etc.
- Tie down or stabilize boat.
- Secure outdoor gates.
- Reinforce garage door.



POOL MAINTENANCE

- 1 **DO NOT** drain your pool! Water in the pool provides weight to keep the pool in the ground. An empty pool can float or pop out of the ground due to pressure from excessive ground water caused by heavy rains.
- 2 **DO** lower the water level of your pool slightly.
- 3 **DO** add extra chemicals to the pool to prevent contamination from debris and excessive storm water.
- 4 **DO NOT** cover the pool. Storms can cause falling branches and other debris that may damage pool covers. Prevent unwanted damage and avoid dealing with a difficult removal if the cover is full of heavy water and debris.
- 5 **DO** remove loose items such as chairs, tables, pool toys, and other items that can become dangerous projectiles in high winds. It's best to store them inside, away from the storm. Never put objects IN the pool to protect them from a storm. This may damage the objects and cause metal staining problems in your pool water.



INFORMATION FOR RENTERS

If you are renting a home, there are certain things that will not be covered by a landlord. One of these items is insurance coverage in the event of damaged personal property.

Renters insurance covers you and your personal belongings in the case of natural disaster or theft. As a renter, you need to protect your own property of value, so you won't have to pay to replace them.

WHAT IS RENTER'S INSURANCE?

Renters Insurance provides coverage for yourself and your personal belongings for incidents such as:

- Fire
- Smoke damage
- Vandalism
- Theft
- Windstorm
- Water damage
- Visitor injuries



WHAT IS COVERED BY RENTER'S INSURANCE?

The most commonly covered items include:

- Electronics and appliances
- Furniture and clothing
- Extra expenses if property is uninhabitable due to a covered loss
- Accidental damage to someone else's property
- Medical expenses and/or legal fees if someone is injured on your property
- Jewelry insurance usually requires a separate policy.

STAY INFORMED

Don't let a hurricane sneak up on you! During the Hurricane Season (June 1 – November 30), everyone is encouraged to monitor local media outlets for the latest hurricane information.

Listed below are the local television stations and their radio partners:

WPTV Channel 5: 1450 WSTU, 1590 WPSL, ESPN 106.3

WPEC Channel 12: 95.5 WILD, 98.7 GATER, 105.5 KOOL, 92.1 MIA, 94.3 REAL RADIO, 103.7 WQOL, 92.7 WAVE, 1290 AM WJNO, 1230 THE ZONE, 1370 WAXE, 93.3 WAVE, 88.1 WAY FM, 100.3 FM, 97.9 WRMF, 107.9 WEAT, 103.1 WIRK, 102.3 WMBX, 96.3 Beatz, 850 AM WFTL, 640 AM WMEN, 89.3 FM, 90.3 FM, 980 AM WHSR, 740 AM WSBR, 1470 AM WWNN

WPBF Channel 25: 101.3 WHLG COAST FM, 95.9/106.9 TRUE OLDIES

STAY CONNECTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

The City of Palm Beach Gardens will also share news and updates directly with the public via the following social media outlets:

 City Hall Facebook: @CityofPalmBeachGardensCityHall

 City Hall Twitter: @CityofPBG

 City Hall Instagram: @CityofPBG, @PBGFire

 Gardens Police Twitter: @PBGPD

 Gardens Fire Rescue Twitter: @PBGFire

VIA EMAIL

The City regularly sends out emails to subscribers with important information on City business and initiatives. Hurricane Season is a great time to get on this email list, as information is distributed real time; often at the same time the local media is also being notified.

To sign up for NewsFlash emails from City Hall visit www.pbgfl.com/NotifyMe to register. You can opt out at any time.



WHAT THE CITY IS DOING ...

The City of Palm Beach Gardens begins its disaster preparedness prior to March of each year. The pre-season preparations the City perform every year include:

- ✓ Reviewing all policies and procedures
- ✓ Reviewing Emergency Management Plan
- ✓ Scheduling Training/Hurricane Drill
- ✓ Testing and inspecting all critical equipment
- ✓ Meeting with HOAs as requested to discuss EM procedures
- ✓ Securing heavy equipment for initial push
- ✓ Securing additional pumps & generators
- ✓ Preparing Facilities, Streets & Stormwater Systems, and Parks & Grounds
- ✓ Clearing catch basins & canals for proper drainage

In anticipation of a Hurricane approaching, the City initiates Hurricane Preparedness and Response Procedures. This includes but not limited to:

- ✓ State of Local Emergency Declaration (Resolution)
- ✓ Communication with Palm Beach County Emergency Management and the State of Florida's Emergency Management
- ✓ Establishing communication with other agencies (Seacoast, Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District, FPL, and others)
- ✓ Acquiring additional Emergency response equipment
- ✓ Activating all pre-established Emergency Management response contacts
- ✓ Scheduling fuel deliveries
- ✓ Securing City facilities and removing outdoor storage
- ✓ Checking City equipment and testing systems
- ✓ Visiting active construction sites and neighborhoods to communicate with contractors on securing their operations

Pet Safety

RULE # 1: If it isn't safe for you, it isn't safe for your pet.

If you evacuate, take your pet!



IF YOU MUST EVACUATE TO A SHELTER:

- 🐾 Have a plan for your pet to stay with friends or relatives who are not evacuating
- 🐾 Consider a kennel or veterinarian's office
- 🐾 Check with your local animal shelters

Storm shelters cannot accept pets due to health and safety regulations.

*Registered service animals for people with disabilities are an exception.

Pet-Friendly Shelter Information

and Requirements for Palm Beach Gardens Residents:

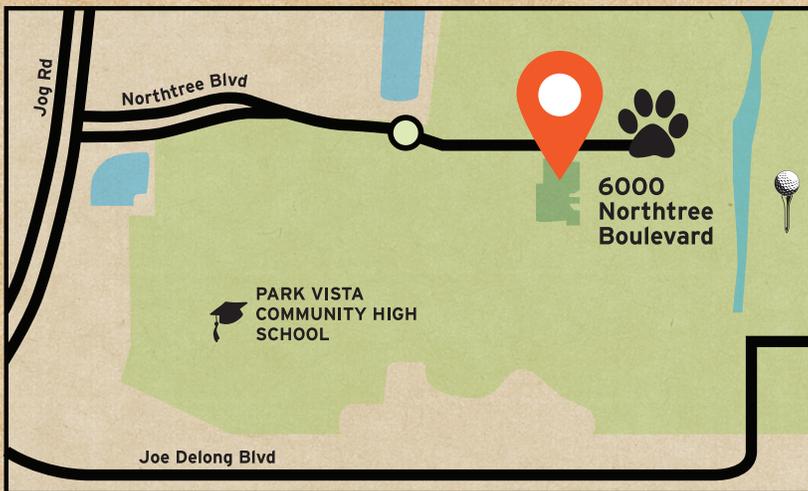
There are no pet-friendly shelters located in Palm Beach Gardens. The closest Pet-Friendly Shelter is: **West Boynton Recreational Center, 6000 Northtree Blvd., Lake Worth, FL 33463**

This Pet-Friendly Shelter is only available to Palm Beach County residents who reside in a mandatory evacuation zone, in a mobile home, or in sub-standard housing: **Proof of residency will be required.**

Pets must be accompanied by one owner who will be staying at the Pet-Friendly Shelter. All other family members must stay at the adjacent human shelter: **Park Vista High School, 7900 Jog Rd, Lake Worth, FL 33467.**

Space is limited and all food will be provided, so limit personal belongings to only essential items that will be needed during your stay. Livestock and reptiles will not be accepted.

For more information on pet-friendly shelters in Palm Beach County, visit www.pbcgov.com/animals. Pre-registration with Animal Care and Control is required.



Pet Disaster Preparedness Kit

Pets need to be ready for a disaster too! Below are items to have readily available in your pet emergency kit:

- 🐾 Food & Water (3-day supply) with food bowls and manual can opener.
- 🐾 Medications & Medical Records stored in a waterproof container and first-aid kit.
- 🐾 Collar, Leash & ID Tag that is up to date with contact name and phone number.
- 🐾 Crate or Pet Carrier large enough to allow your pet to stand comfortably, turn & lie down.
- 🐾 A picture of you and your pet together to help identify and prove ownership of them in case of separation.
- 🐾 Registration & Vaccinations or any other important documents regarding your pet's overall health and behavior.
- 🐾 Favorite Toys, Treats & Bedding or anything familiar to your dog to keep them calm and occupied.
- 🐾 Plastic Bags & Litter for cleaning up after your pet.



Tips for Keeping Livestock Safe in a Storm

- If you evacuate, do so at least 72 hours before the storm arrives. Traffic will be unpredictable and livestock trailers are unstable in high winds that will hit eight to 10 hours before the storm.
- If you are unable to evacuate, be sure to close stall and barn doors and open all interior fencing on your pasture, then turn the animals loose. Injuries from flying debris are often easier to manage than injuries from being inside a structure that collapses.
- Have a two-week supply of food and medication in your house, in waterproof containers, for animals.
- Put halters on all animals before turning them out into the pasture, and put waterproof identification tags on the halters.
- Fill all troughs and other possible containers outside with water. This will help keep them from blowing away and provide a possible source of water after the storm.

DURING THE STORM...



HURRICANE WARNING | LANDFALL

- ✓ Go to your safe room if conditions warrant.
- ✓ Keep battery-operated radio or TV on an emergency information station. Keep flashlight with you.
- ✓ Do not open doors or windows, not even “just to take a look”.
- ✓ Stay away from windows.
- ✓ Do not operate gas grill or portable generator until after storm.
- ✓ Stay off the phone unless absolutely necessary to conserve battery life.
- ✓ Turn off utilities if told to do so by authorities.
- ✓ Unplug small appliances.
- ✓ Do not go outdoors until the storm has passed; winds can calm and begin again at any time.
- ✓ Be alert for tornadoes that are often spawned by hurricanes.

If your home becomes damaged during the storm:

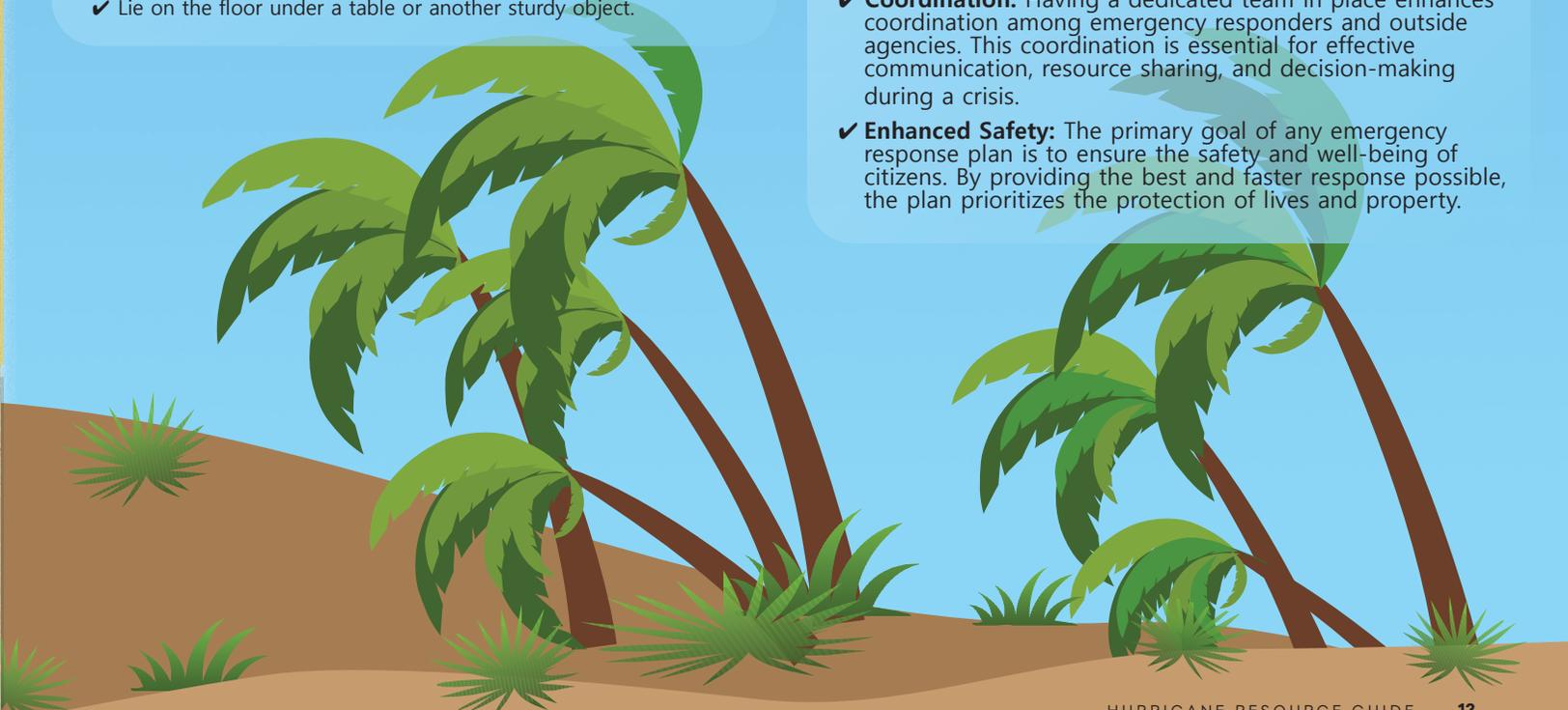
- ✓ Stay away from windows and doors even if they are covered.
- ✓ Take refuge in a small interior room, closet or hallway.
- ✓ Close all interior doors.
- ✓ Secure and brace external doors.
- ✓ If you are in a two-story house, go to an interior first-floor room, such as a bathroom or closet. If you are in a multiple-story building and away from the water, go to the first or second floors and take refuge in interior rooms away from windows.
- ✓ Lie on the floor under a table or another sturdy object.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE CITY

During the storm, the City activates the Emergency Management Team, which includes staff from Fire, EMS, Law Enforcement, Purchasing, GIS, Building, Information Technology, Administration and the City’s designated debris contractor. The Emergency Management Team will be stationed.

THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER:

- ✓ **Timely Response:** By activating the Emergency Management Team during the storm, the city ensures that resources are mobilized promptly. This is crucial for addressing any immediate threats or challenges posed by the storm.
- ✓ **Strategic Deployment:** Stationing the teams in various strategic location throughout the city ensures a thoughtful approach to resource allocation. This allows for a more efficient and fast response to different the needs of different areas based on the severity of the storm and specific vulnerabilities.
- ✓ **Coordination:** Having a dedicated team in place enhances coordination among emergency responders and outside agencies. This coordination is essential for effective communication, resource sharing, and decision-making during a crisis.
- ✓ **Enhanced Safety:** The primary goal of any emergency response plan is to ensure the safety and well-being of citizens. By providing the best and faster response possible, the plan prioritizes the protection of lives and property.



POST-STORM



DO NOT venture out in the hours immediately following a hurricane. More injuries and fatalities occur after a major storm event than as a result of the weather. Sightseeing hampers emergency operations.

THE PALM BEACH GARDENS POLICE DEPARTMENT recommends staying inside your home after a hurricane as roadways may be impassible due to downed trees, electrical wires, and other hazards. Businesses and other establishments will most likely be closed leading up to and immediately after a storm. Police and firefighters will be busy responding to emergencies and completing damage assessments after the storm has passed, and the additional people driving on roadways delays emergency response times.

IT'S TIME TO REMOVE YOUR SHUTTERS

In the event of a fire, shutters and window coverings can limit access and egress to you, your family, and pets, as well as obstruct firefighting operations. These valuable moments can be the difference between life and death.

City Ordinance (Sec. 86-29: Hurricane Shutters) states that shutters should be removed no more than five days following storm passage.

Beginning December 1 of each year through June 1 of the following year, the use or closure of hurricane shutters, of any type whatsoever, to cover building/structure openings shall be strictly prohibited. However, in the event that any portion of Palm Beach County falls within the National Hurricane Center's five-day cone of probability for a named tropical storm event, hurricane shutters may be used to protect building/structure openings up to five days prior to storm landfall and may remain in place for no more than five days following storm passage. Nothing in this section shall preclude the issuance of building permits for the installation of various hurricane shutter systems.

DEBRIS & VEGETATION

After the storm has passed, Disaster Debris Management Sites (DDMS) are used. Only certified debris collection vehicles, per the City's disaster debris contractor, are

permitted to dump debris in the DDMS sites. Our coordinated debris collection efforts must be conducted and documented in a specific way in order for the City to receive reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

VEGETATION DOs & DON'Ts

- ✓ **DO** Place vegetative debris in the right-of-way.
- ✓ **DO** Place vegetative debris in separate piles from the garbage, construction and demolition debris.
- ✓ **DO NOT** Place vegetative debris in the roadways, sidewalks, or stormwater catch basins.
- ✓ **DO NOT** Place debris under trees or powerlines as this may impede equipment from picking up the debris.
- ✓ **DO NOT** Mix vegetative debris with any other debris as it will not be picked up if done so.

DEALING WITH DEBRIS

After the storm has passed, there are often tons and tons of vegetative debris that need to be cleaned up and disposed of. This creates an increased workload and special operations to effectively deal with demand. Only certified debris collection vehicles, per the City's disaster debris contractor, are permitted to dump debris in the Disaster Debris Management Sites.

The 5 Fire Rescue Stations, Operations Center, and Golf Course Clubhouse are used as individual emergency response

locations with teams equipped with heavy equipment who stay on site until the storm has passed.

REPAIRING YOUR DAMAGED HOME

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers implements the blue roof program on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Operation Blue Roof provides homeowners with free temporary emergency blue plastic roof coverings for eligible homes damaged by a hurricane.

Individual tarps will not be available for distribution at the registration sites. Once approved, the Corps will employ contractors to install plastic sheeting on homes. The sheeting is for free-standing homes, not apartments or commercial establishments.

**TOLL FREE NUMBER 1-888-ROOF-BLU
(1-888-766-3258)**

SECURE EXPOSED POOLS

Private swimming pools, hot tubs and spas, containing water more than 24 inches (610 mm) in depth must be completely surrounded by a fence or barrier at least 48 inches (1219 mm) in height above the finished ground level measured on the side of the barrier away from the pool. Gates and doors must be self-closing and self-latching. Where the self-latching device is less than 54 inches (1372 mm) above the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism must be located on the pool side of the gate. Until the pool's prior securing mechanisms are repaired, a temporary barrier must be in its place (ex: orange mesh fencing) to secure the pool.

EXCEPTION: Spas or hot tubs with a safety cover that complies with ASTM F 1346 shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.



WHAT THE CITY IS DOING...

Emergencies are handled by a “task force” comprised of a fire engine, ambulance, law enforcement, and heavy machinery for public works. These teams respond together in order to address any situation. For example, in the event of a structure fire, the entire task force responds simultaneously to mitigate the emergency. During and after the storm, teams work in designated emergency zones and work together to address issues within their assigned area.

Immediately after the storm, crews conduct an initial push to clear roadways for safe passage. During this time, they assess damage citywide. Public Works clears debris that would otherwise inhibit emergency vehicles from responding.

A MAP OF THE CITY’S DEBRIS CLEARING EMERGENCY RESPONSE ZONES IS LOCATED ON PAGE 16.

IN THE EVENT OF A CATASTROPHIC STORM RE-ENTRY

If Palm Beach County experiences a catastrophic storm, you won’t be able to return to your home or business until search and rescue operations are complete and safety hazards, such as downed power lines, are cleared. It may take time for emergency crews to reach your neighborhood.

- ▶ **RESIDENTS:** Have valid ID with your current address, or proof of residence (lease/deed).
- ▶ **BUSINESSES:** Have a valid picture ID, documents showing proof of ownership/ rental, county business tax license, names of authorized individuals on business letterhead.

Once you arrive, survey for damage outside, then enter with caution.

POINT OF DISTRIBUTION FOR CRITICAL SUPPLIES (PODS)

A Point of Distribution is a mass dispensing location where the public goes to pick up emergency commodities or supplies following a disaster. The need for a POD is based on lack of infrastructure to support normal distribution of food, water, tarps or other supplies. PODs can also be activated to provide certain medications, pills, tablets, capsules or vaccinations to protect the general population from biological threats or epidemics. The Point of Distribution Unity Leader locates, sets up, maintains, and demobilizes all POD sites open throughout Palm Beach County from activation until

demobilization for all disasters.

A POD is not a shelter, and does not have the capacity to feed or provide medical care to the public.

Palm Beach State College, Gardens Campus, is scheduled to be this area’s POD should it be needed. Per Palm Beach County’s Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, the Recreation Department is the City’s point of contact with Palm Beach County, which is part of the Food and Water Unit.

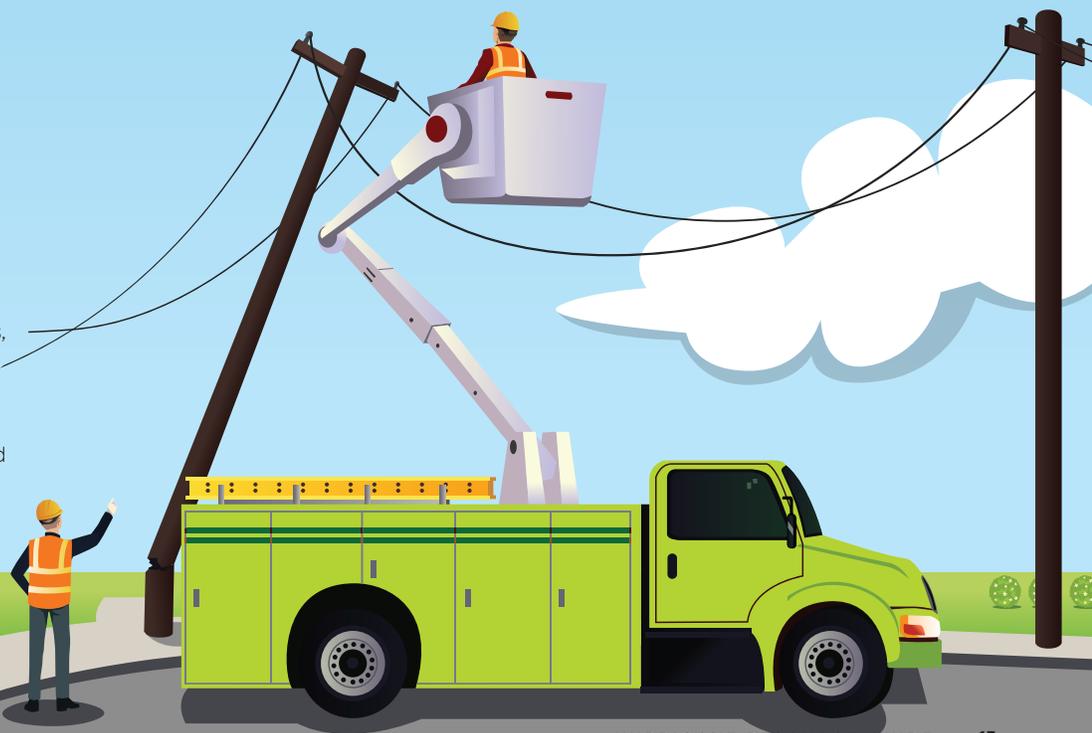
CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLAN (COOP):

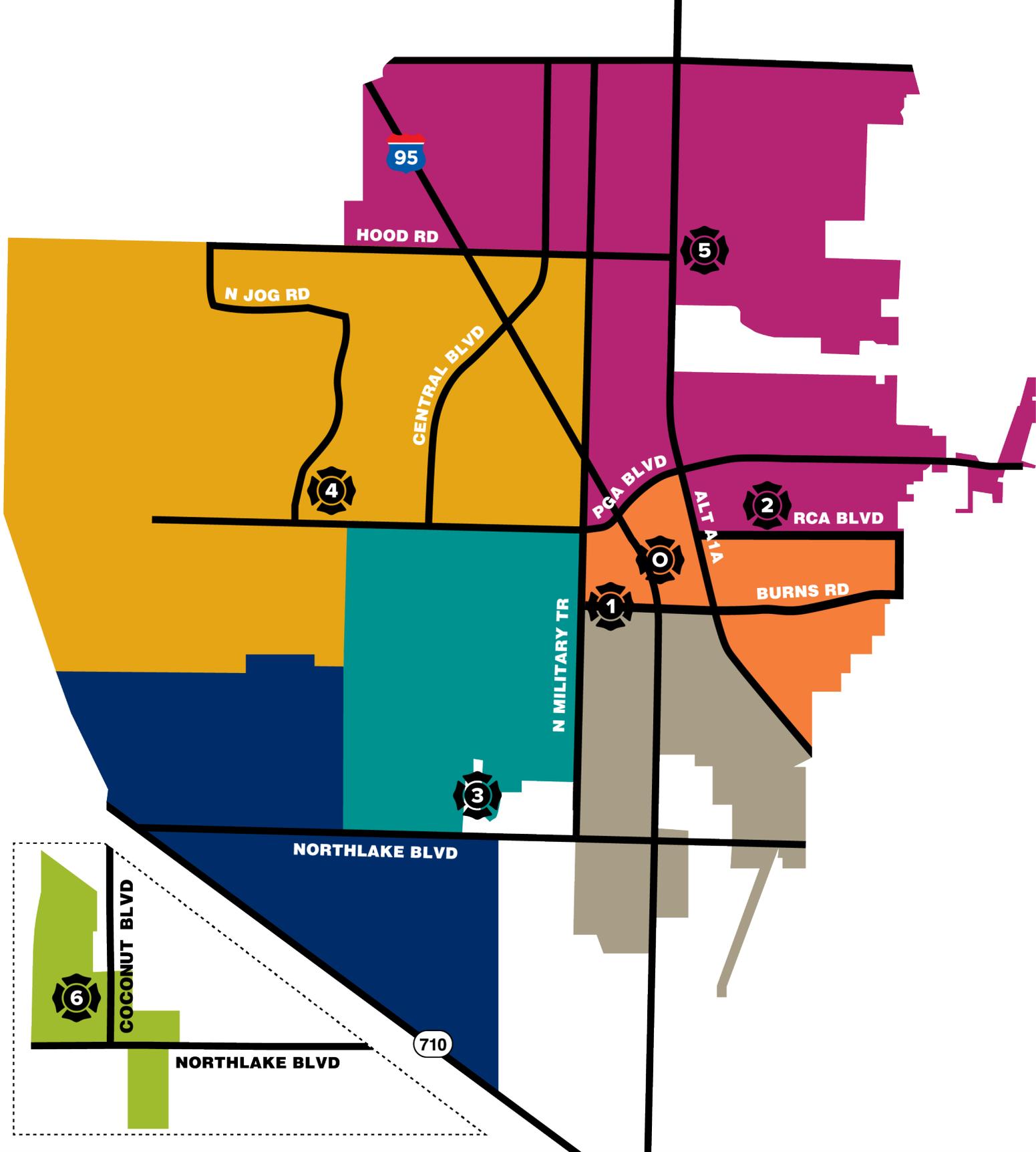
A “COOP” is defined as a Continuity of Operations Plan. The purpose is to ensure that City government remains



functional if it loses all or part of its infrastructure. The Plan establishes policy and guidance to ensure the execution of the mission-essential functions for the City of Palm Beach Gardens. This includes buildings, power, communications, information technology, equipment and other essential infrastructure. Essentially, this is a Plan B, C, and D to maintain or reconstitute City government and operations to serve our community.

The plan may be used for any natural or man-made disaster; or, any failure of an infrastructure component. Examples include hurricanes, tornados, floods, fires, unsafe buildings, pandemic outbreaks, terrorist events or serious failures of the City’s infrastructure. Each City department has formulated and periodically updates its plan, which is then integrated with the overall City of Palm Beach Gardens COOP.





DEBRIS CLEARING EMERGENCY RESPONSE ZONES



FIRE STATION #1



FIRE STATION #2



FIRE STATION #3



FIRE STATION #4



FIRE STATION #5



FIRE STATION #6



OPERATIONS CENTER





1-800-468-8243

www.FPL.com/storm

Download the MyFPL App by texting "App" to MyFPL (69375)



Safety is always FPL's first priority. We urge customers to make it their top priority, too.

BEFORE A STORM

- Heed the **warnings and evacuation orders** by local, state and federal officials.
- If someone in your home is dependent on electric-powered, life-sustaining medical equipment, review your family emergency plan for backup power or make arrangements to relocate now.
- Most counties suspend trash and debris pickup before a storm. Please do not trim trees now, as high winds can turn cut branches into dangerous, flying debris. However, if you already have trimmed trees, **please help to prevent outages by tying down or securing loose branches or other debris.**
- If you see a downed power line, call 911 or FPL at 1-800-4OUTAGE (1-800-468-8243). Stay away from all power lines.



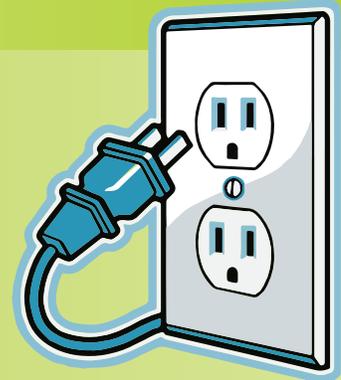
- Adjust refrigerators and freezers to their coldest settings ahead of time to keep food fresher longer in the event of a power outage.
- Don't venture out in the dark, because you might not see a downed power line that could be energized and dangerous; avoid standing water and debris.
- Keep a battery-operated radio on hand with a two-week supply of fresh batteries, along with other essentials.
- If you plan to use a ladder while preparing your home for the storm, note the location of power lines before you begin. Be sure that ladders or scaffolds are far enough away so that you – and the ends of the tools you're using – don't come within 10 feet of power lines.



- Before lowering a TV antenna or satellite dish, make sure to turn off and unplug the TV.

AFTER A STORM PASSES

- Ensure that all electric appliances, especially ovens and stoves, are turned off to prevent fires. Use caution when unplugging. Don't stand in water when operating switches, plugging in or unplugging electrical cords
 - When resetting circuit breakers, wear dry, rubber-soled shoes and stand on something dry and non-conductive, such as a dry piece of wood or wooden furniture.
- Use caution while driving. Power interruptions may cause traffic signals to stop working without warning.
- In a flooded home, battery-powered lighting is the safest lighting source. Use flashlights when inspecting a home for possible damage.
- Stay far away from downed power lines, flooding and debris; lines could be energized and dangerous.



Also, have our phone number (1-800-4OUTAGE or 1-800-468-8243) handy in the event you need to call to obtain information through our automated system.



RESOURCES

FPL Power Tracker: View Outage & Restoration Information
<https://www.fplmaps.com/>

@fplconnect

@insideFPL

youtube.com/FPL



359 Hiatt Drive, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418
 (561) 624-7830
 www.npbcid.org | E-mail: office@npbcid.org



The staff at Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District works throughout the year to prepare for hurricane season by conducting year-round aquatic weed control, canal bank mowing, restoration and cleaning to provide drainage capability when needed.

The storm water management system levels in Northern's 128 square mile service area are monitored continuously by radio telemetry. The Administration Building and Emergency Operations Center is designed to handle a category five storm with redundant systems for power, fuel supplies, communication, septic and water systems for use by the Operations staff before, during and following the emergency event.



BEFORE THE STORM

- Lowering water levels to prepare for the anticipated rainfall, if the water is above its normal control level.
- Monitoring water levels and discharge excess water, in accordance with South Florida Water Management (SFWMD) procedures.
- Staff sends out notices advising contractors and permittees with ongoing construction projects to secure all constructions sites.
- Maintaining contact with SFWMD, the City of Palm Beach Gardens and the Palm Beach County Emergency Operations Center.

DURING THE STORM

- Staying connected to the Palm Beach County Emergency Operations Center through the County's WebEOC program.
- Monitoring water levels at all locations through the remote telemetry system, either by staff located at Northern's Emergency Operations Center or at their homes.
- Continuously monitoring water that may pool in the streets, as they are critical components of the water management plan in an area.

AFTER THE STORM

- Inspect drainage facilities for damage and necessary debris removal.
- Beginning necessary work as soon as possible, including coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Association,

National Resource Conservation Service and other local governments.

- Using several debris clearing contractors to clear debris from roadways and canals as quickly as possible.
- Coordinating with other governments to facilitate roadway clearing as well as other debris clearing.

Palm Beach Gardens neighborhoods served by Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District:

- Steeplechase
- Horseshoe Acres
- Discovery Village
- Gables at Northlake
- Cypress Hollow
- Garden's Hunt Club
- Green Meadows
- Highland Pines
- King Arthur Estates
- Villa Palma
- Gardenia Isles
- BallenIsles
- PGA National
- Mirasol
- Frenchman's Creek
- The Regional Center
- Alton

All the neighborhoods bounded by the FL Turnpike, PGA Blvd, Alternate A1A, and Donald Ross Road





4200 Hood Road, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
 (561) 627-2900
 www.sua.com



EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION TO CUSTOMERS

Seacoast Utilities Authority's website keeps customers informed on the status of precautionary boil water advisories. Visit <https://www.sua.com/boil-water-alerts/> for the status of active alerts.

NOTE: If you do not have access to the internet, the Authority is available 24/7 for emergency-related services. Please do not hesitate to call 561-627-2900 when the need arises.

BOIL WATER

Why do we have to boil water?

Seacoast generally provides water pressure in the range of 50 to 60 pounds per square inch (psi) at the customer's meter. Whenever an incident occurs that reduces pressure to below 20 psi for an extended period, the potential for backflow or back siphoning of undesirable material into the drinking water system increases.

To assure that this has not occurred, regulations require public drinking water suppliers to issue a precautionary "boil water" order to their customers. These orders are generally in effect for 48 to 72 hours, long enough for the water utility to collect and analyze samples from the affected portion of its system.



How will we know if we must boil the water?

Depending upon the number of customers affected, Seacoast issues boil water order either through the media or by delivering notices to the door of each affected customer. The two simplest ways that you can keep current on the status of a "boil water" advisory, provided that you have phone & electric, is to check our website, www.sua.com, or call 561-656-2244 to listen for the latest updates. During a declared disaster, listen for broadcast updates from the City of Palm Beach Gardens Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Seacoast is in constant contact with the EOC to update any information regarding your water and sewer service.

What can I do if I don't have any electricity to boil the water?

Remember that you are instructed each and every hurricane season to have 14 gallons of water per person on hand for this reason. If you lose water pressure or a water break completely shuts down your water supply, you should have clean water on standby available for drinking, brushing your teeth, and cooking. HOWEVER, do not waste your bottled water on washing dishes or clothes, etc.

It is important to remember that before the storm, you should fill your bathtub to be used to flush your toilet, wash dishes, clean, etc.

How to Report a Line Break or Sewer Backup
 Call 561-627-2900

AFTER THE HURRICANE

Check for sewer and water line damage. If you suspect lines not on your property are damaged, contact Seacoast. For damaged lines on your property, contact a plumber.

After the storm has passed, please limit water usage by not running the dishwasher & washing machine. Using these appliances right after a storm passes can cause sewer backups.



(561) 547-4000
www.wm.com
www.WMFloridaStorm.com



Before and after a major storm or hurricane, WM will provide regular service updates through its website at www.WMFloridaStorm.com.

Please also check the City's website for additional information. To keep you safe during hurricane season and enable our drivers to restart essential services as soon as a storm passes, WM offers the following tips to all residents and businesses:

BEFORE THE STORM

Pre-Hurricane Season Maintenance (December through May)

- Trim trees, hedges, and all vegetation at the start of hurricane season in June and maintain your property throughout the season.
- Stop all yard maintenance and tree trimming activities and **DO NOT** place vegetative waste curbside within three (3) days of a hurricane watch.
- Secure garbage and recycling containers. Place empty containers in a secure location away from open spaces.
- Secure, bundle, and tie down all loose trash such as tree limbs, wood planks, or building and roof tiles on your property. Place these materials in a location where debris cannot become hazardous to homes, cars, and property in high winds.
- WM will continue to collect household garbage and recycling materials in the neighborhoods it serves, according to designated schedules, until it is unsafe for our team members to do so and to allow them time to prepare their homes to keep their families safe.



STORM DEBRIS

Separate piles of debris using the categories below. After a significant storm, the City will hire a debris contractor who will collect certain items for reimbursement by FEMA.

Storm debris should be placed at the curb without blocking the roadway or storm drains. Be sure not to place debris near trees, poles, fire hydrants or other structures.

Vegetative Waste

Leaves (do not place in bags), logs, plants, bushes, brush, and tree branches

Construction and Demolition Debris

Building materials, carpet, drywall, furniture, lumber, mattresses, and plumbing

Appliances and White Goods

Refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, heat pumps, stoves, washers, dryers, and water heaters.

Household Garbage and Recycling

WM will collect your regular household garbage and recycling, containerized yard waste, and non-storm-related bulk items

AFTER THE STORM

- After the storm passes, separate normal household garbage such as food waste, diapers, and regular disposable items from storm debris caused by high winds, hail, and rain. Separating normal household garbage from storm debris will allow WM team members to collect your household garbage more quickly and safely and help prevent odors and safety hazards.
- WM is responsible for collecting regular household garbage **ONLY** while other independent third-party companies are under contract with your local municipality to collect all storm debris.
- Storm debris including tree limbs, carpet, roof tiles, aluminum and wood fencing, and household appliances should be placed curbside in a separate pile or piles. Storm debris should not be placed within three (3) feet of fire hydrants, mailboxes, parked vehicles, or any sign or utility equipment.
- WM will restart curbside collection of normal household garbage as soon as it is safe to do so and on the streets that are passable. The company will expand its routes to additional areas as more streets become clear of debris and other safety hazards.
- WM will prioritize services post-storm and could temporarily suspend recycling, yard waste, and normal household bulk collection in order to remove household garbage as quickly as possible.





4425 Burns Road, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
 (561) 799-4300
 Follow us on Twitter- @PBGardensFire



GENERATOR SAFETY

Many people will use portable generators as a temporary solution to provide power to their home in the event of a power outage. However, if not used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, portable generators can cause serious injury and even death. The most common dangers associated with portable generators are carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning, electrical shock or electrocution, and fire hazards.

To help protect you and your family, follow these safety recommendations:

- Generators should be operated in well ventilated locations outdoors away from all doors, windows and vent openings.
- Never use a generator in an attached garage, even with the garage door open.
- Place generators so that exhaust fumes can't enter the home through windows, doors or other openings in the building.
- Make sure to install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home. Follow manufacturer's instructions for correct placement and mounting height.
- Turn off generators and let them cool down before refueling. Never refuel a generator while it is running.
- Store fuel for the generator in a container that is intended for the purpose and is correctly labeled as such. Store the containers outside of living areas.

SHUTTER SAFETY

When a storm has passed and it's safe to venture outside, remove the shutters or plywood from at least one window or door in every room, particularly sleeping rooms. A fully shuttered house may be safe in a hurricane but presents a significant life safety hazard by blocking escape routes should a fire occur. Establish an emergency escape plan and make sure everyone in the house is aware of how they should exit in the event of fire.

If you have metal panel shutters, handle

them only with heavy work gloves. The panels are heavy, and the edges can be sharp. When you use a ladder, make sure you work with a helper who holds and stabilizes the ladder. Emergency rooms in South Florida report a number of injuries every hurricane season due to falls from ladders.

Remember, while hurricane shutters are designed to protect you from the hurricanes, they can also trap you and your family inside during a deadly fire, or other type of emergency.

CHAINSAW SAFETY

Chain saws are considered the most dangerous hand tool available. The risk of injury increases during hurricane cleanup when chain saws are widely used to remove trees and branches.

- Keep both hands on the handles.
- Follow manual instructions carefully.
- Take the time to do the job right. Most injuries affect the legs and feet and are the result of aggressive or careless cutting.
- Wear the appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Cut at waist level or below.
- Take extra care when cutting limbs.
- Shut off equipment when fueling or carrying it.
- Be sure the chain saw operator is aware of your presence before you approach.

SPECIAL NEEDS SHELTERS



Special Needs Sheltering

Palm Beach County has established a Special Needs Program to provide for citizens with certain medical problems during a major emergency. The Special Needs Shelter is a facility with physicians and nurses on staff. It has auxiliary electrical power, is wind resistant, and not flood-prone. The shelter is not a medical facility and provides limited services. The shelter does not provide medication, dialysis, oxygen or oxygen concentrators.

Emergency Management is responsible for maintaining the client rosters, operational logistics, and coordination of the Special Needs Shelters. Space at these shelters is limited. Prioritization is based on need.

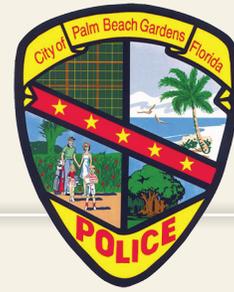
Special Needs Shelter Criteria

- Persons who cannot be without electricity because they depend upon their own electrically energized life support equipment within the home (i.e. oxygen, nebulizers, c-pap, bi-pap, etc).
- Persons that are too immobile and/or have a chronic stable illness, but are not suitable for regular shelter placement, or do not require hospitalization.
- People with minor health/medical conditions that require professional observation, assessment, and maintenance.
- People with the need for medications and/or vital sign monitoring, and are unable to do so without professional assistance.
- Persons who are bedridden and require custodial care. Caregivers must accompany their patients.

Link to online Special Needs Shelter Application: <https://discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/dem/pages/special-needs.aspx>



10500 N. Military Trail
 Non-emergency Line: (561) 799-4445
 Follow us on Twitter: @PBGPD



As hurricane season approaches the time for preparation is now. Having an emergency plan and sufficient supplies for you, your family, and pets is critical. At the peak of the storm, first responders may not be able to address your emergency due to high winds and dangerous conditions. The Police Department will promptly resume emergency response as soon as weather conditions allow.

ROAD SAFETY

Typically, after a hurricane electrical service will be interrupted, and traffic signals may be damaged or not working. If you must drive on the roadways, Florida law requires drivers to treat all intersections where the traffic signals are not working as four-way stops. If the traffic signals are flashing yellow, a driver must proceed through the intersection with caution. If the traffic signals are flashing red, drivers must stop and yield the right of way. Drivers should avoid driving through standing water or over downed utility wires. After a storm passes through our area, all drivers need to keep their speeds low and their courtesy levels high. This will be a stressful event that we will all get through, and a little patience goes a long way.



- Driving is extremely hazardous with storm debris on the roads, traffic signals that aren't working, signs that are down, flooding and downed power lines.
- Do not drive unless absolutely necessary. Drive slowly and approach all intersections with extreme caution. Treat intersections with missing/non-working traffic signals or missing stop signs as a four-way stop.
- Never drive through flooded roadways. The depth of the water is not always obvious. Also, the roadbed may not be intact under flood waters.
- If there is danger of flooding and your vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground. Rapidly rising water may engulf the vehicle and its occupants, sweeping them away.
- Do not visit disaster areas. Your presence may slow down emergency operations.
- When a traffic signal regains power, it may flash red or yellow. Drivers should stop at the flashing red light and proceed cautiously through a flashing yellow light.

- If the power is out and the signal is dark, the intersection should be treated as a four-way stop.

GOING OUT IN YOUR VEHICLE

Going out in your vehicle to sightsee hampers emergency responders. Instead, check on your home and immediate neighbors. If you must go out in your vehicle immediately after a storm, expect delays, dangerous conditions and blocked areas. If traffic signals are not functioning, the intersection becomes a 4-way stop. One vehicle at a time; no piggybacking with other vehicles. This is not the time to immediately go out for gas, food or ice. Plan and prepare in advance.

CURFEW

A State of Emergency may be issued by the Governor during a hurricane or other natural disaster. A State of Emergency allows for resources to be more easily directed to places of need as well as ensure the safety and law and order of our community. A local curfew may be enacted if conditions appear unsafe for residents to be outside of their homes during a State of Emergency. Authorities will announce the curfew in advance through all major news outlets as well as the City's website and social media outlets. Law enforcement will be on patrol during curfews to protect life and property. Officers may



To prepare your family, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has directions and lists available. You may visit www.ready.gov/kit for detailed instructions and emergency plan outlines.



HURRICANE MYTHBUSTERS

1 It will never happen here! That's probably what people in Panama City, Homestead, and the Keys have said. Every storm season and storm is different. The entire coast from Texas to Maine is vulnerable to hurricanes!

2 Taping windows is the best method to keep them from breaking. Taping windows not only does not work, it is dangerous. Window coverings made of plywood or hurricane shutters is the best way to prepare your windows and protect you from debris that can become a projectile in strong winds.

3 Opening the windows on the side opposite the wind will reduce air pressure so my house doesn't explode. This doesn't accomplish anything, except getting a house full of water and debris. Many people think they need to open a window to allow pressure to equalize. No house is airtight, so you don't have to worry about equalizing pressure and eliminating every air gap.

4 The dishwasher is a safe place to keep valuables you don't want to get wet. This myth was heavily circulated on Facebook prior to Hurricane

Irma in 2017. Don't rely on "tricks" to get around thorough preparation. If your property is destroyed, you may find your valuables elsewhere in the neighborhood! The best thing to do is to digitize your important documents and put them on remote storage. That way, you'll have a backup if anything should happen.

5 The most dangerous element of the storm is wind. For all the focus on wind speeds and hurricane categories, the real killer is water. Storm surge, the temporary rise in sea level caused by the storm's winds, causes more fatalities than any other part of the storm.

6 I don't need to prepare. When the big one comes, my house is going to be destroyed anyway. While a hurricane's winds can destroy even the most solid structures, taking some basic precautions can significantly reduce damage from a storm. Pictures of areas devastated by hurricanes will often show one house standing while a neighbor's lies in ruins. The difference? The owners of the house in good shape took some basic precautions to safeguard their property. Shuttering windows,

bracing garage and entry doors and bringing in yard items can mean the difference between destruction and minor damage.

7 I live on an upper floor and don't have to worry about storm surge. Vertical evacuation or escaping the rising storm surge by going to the upper stories of a building, is an option. However, wind speeds increase the higher you go, so you may be evacuating into a more dangerous place. If so, the high winds and water could make getting help to you nearly impossible after the storm passes.

8 When I get the evacuation order, I'm leaving. There is no high ground here, and it will be much safer inland. Even with Palm Beach County's long coastline, not all near-coastal areas are subject to evacuation. In fact, in some locations, beach residents need travel no more than one mile to get to safe areas. Traveling a great distance to escape the effects of the storm may actually lead you into danger if you become stranded in evacuating traffic when the storm nears. Also, the further you go to evacuate, the longer it will take you to get there and to your home after the storm.



HURRICANE GUIDE

City of Palm Beach Gardens
10500 N Military Trail
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

ARE YOU **STORM READY?**

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency 9-1-1

City of Palm Beach Gardens
Police Non-Emergency (561) 799-4445

American Red Cross (561) 833-7711

Palm Beach County Emergency Management
(561) 712-6400

Florida Power & Light (800) 468-8243

Seacoast Utility Authority (561) 627-2900

South Florida Water Management District
(Flooding) (800) 544-2323

State of Florida Emergency Information Line
(800) 342-3557

**Palm Beach County Special Needs Shelter
Registration** (561) 712-6400

NORTH AREA SHELTERS

NOTE: Risk shelters should be a **last resort** if your home is unsafe and if you do not have a safe place to evacuate. These shelters may not be open during a hurricane. Please stay tuned to local media prior to a storm to get information on which of these shelters are open.

Independence Middle School
4001 Greenway Drive
Jupiter, 33458

Palm Beach Gardens High School
4245 Holly Drive
Palm Beach Gardens, 33410

Dr. Mary M. Bethune Elementary School
1501 Avenue U
Riviera Beach, 33404

Visit pbgfl.com/stormready for more information



Palm Beach County's
Emergency Notification System

REGISTER FOR ALERTPBC!

Palm Beach County's Emergency Notification System allows officials to alert you of public safety issues in your community such as hazardous weather conditions and municipal alerts. When a notification is issued about a potential safety hazard or concern, you will receive a message on the voice or text communication methods that you have registered. Please note: The information you provide is protected and will not be used for any other purpose.



Scan the QR code
to register!