

HURRICANE SEASON SAFETY STRATEGY

*Hurricane Season begins June 1st
and runs through November 30th*

City of Weston Emergency Management
(954) 385-2000
Broward County Hurricane Hotline
(954) 831-4000

Hours: 8 am –5 pm until a hurricane warning is issued; then 24 hours operation.

**“Preparation through education is less costly
than learning through tragedy.”**

- Max Mayfield, Director, National Hurricane Center

HURRICANE SAFETY

The only real defense is **PREPAREDNESS**. Please review this checklist of important steps to take and items to have on hand in a Disaster Survival Kit. We would also like residents to ensure that they are registered with the City's **CodeRED** Emergency Notification System.



CodeRED –Weston’s Emergency Notification System

Register now at www.westonfl.org; click on Police, Fire or Hurricane Information. Click on CodeRED Sign Up.

Many people change cell phone numbers or move during the year and now is the time to ensure that our data system has your current contact information.

Special Needs Registry - If you are elderly, frail, or disabled and have no method of transportation to local shelters, assistance is available. However, only those individuals that have **pre-registered** will be eligible for transportation. Do not wait until the last minute. If you qualify or for more information, please call: Broward County Elderly & Veterans Services Division at (954) 537-2888.

HAVE A PLAN – well in advance of a hurricane

- **D**etermine escape routes from your home and places to meet and also an out of area person to call, so all family members have a point of contact.
- **M**ake a plan for what to do with your pets (they cannot be taken to shelters).
- **M**ake an emergency communication plan for family members. It is very possible that you become separated (due to work or other issues); have a plan for getting back together. Have an out-of-state relative or friend serve as the “family contact”, as it is often easier to reach someone long distance after a hurricane hits an area.
- **P**ost emergency telephone numbers by phones/Do children know when & how to call 911?
- **C**heck insurance policy now for hurricane and flood damage coverage. Once a Hurricane Watch is issued, insurance companies will not write any new policies or make adjustments to current policies.
- **D**ocument your valuables by photographing/videotaping them. Keep records secure in a safety deposit box or waterproof unit.

WATCHES & WARNINGS

A hurricane **watch** is issued when there is a threat of hurricane conditions within 24-36 hours. A hurricane **warning** is issued when hurricane conditions are expected in 24 hours or less. *Hurricane conditions equal winds of 74 miles per hour or greater.*

WHEN A STORM IS APPROACHING – Hurricane Watch is issued

- **Secure** all outside objects. Bring loose objects such as patio furniture, garden tools and planters, inside.
- **Remove** any debris from prior storms such as loose roof tiles – they will become projectiles.
- **Protect** your windows. Permanent shutters are the best protection. Plywood panels can be used: ½ inch plywood is best, cut to fit each window; mark which board fits which window; Pre-drill holes every 18 inches for screws.
- **Fill** vehicle fuel tanks and generators.
- **Turn** refrigerator & freezer to the coldest setting. Purchase or make additional ice.
- **Fill** bathtubs and any large containers with water for washing, cleaning and flushing toilets, since electric power may go out of service.

DISASTER SURVIVAL KIT

Emergency supplies should be adequate to last a minimum of 3 days. A 10-day supply of water, food and medicine is highly recommended.

Water 2 gallons per person/per day, 10 day supply

Food Canned or packaged, pre-cooked foods for 10 days / Non-electric can opener

Coolers At least 2 coolers for ice and food

Clothes/blankets Change of clothes/rain gear/shoes/blankets or sleeping bags in plastic bag

Medicines/First Aid Prescription medications, equipment, eyeglasses and first aid supplies

Cooking Grill, charcoal or propane, lighter

Toiletries paper towels & plates, feminine products

Baby Infant/baby food, supplies and medicines

Pet food and supplies

Phone Cell phone (fully charged), car charger, list of phone numbers, land line phone

Important Papers Personal identification, medical cards, property/vehicle insurance

Fire Extinguisher Dry chemical, type ABC

Radio/TV Battery operated with backup batteries. Reading materials, non-electric games.

Flashlights And extra batteries and bulbs. Glow sticks also work well.

Fuel Fill all vehicle and generator tanks with gasoline

Cash Banks and ATM's may not be open for a period of time

Safety/Tools/ Misc. Set of tools /trash bags/chlorine/soap/tarp/rope/ broom/pen & paper

Keys

PROTECT PETS

Do not leave pets unattended. Pets should be taken, in advance, to a veterinarian kennel, host home or pet friendly hotel. Ensure pets are wearing I.D. Have food, medication and sanitary supplies. Fish tank pumps should be equipped with an adaptor for battery power.

GENERATOR SAFETY

Portable generators are useful when temporary or remote electric power is needed, but they also can be hazardous. Carbon monoxide poisoning, electric shock and fire are primary causes of injury and death stemming from electrical generator use each year. This storm season, use generators safely by following these simple tips:

- Never use a generator in enclosed spaces; it emits deadly carbon monoxide fumes.
- Use only heavy-duty, outdoor extension cords to plug appliances directly into generator.
- Never plug a generator into a wall outlet; this can cause fatal electrocution to utility workers trying to repair lines.
- Keep generator dry by setting it on a covered, elevated surface (i.e., canopy-like structures).
- Never store fuel for your generator in your home; invisible vapors may catch fire.
- Read all operating instructions and manufacturer warnings before using the equipment.
- If connecting a generator to your home electrical system, a qualified electrician is required to install an emergency power transfer system.
- Before refueling the generator, turn it off and allow it to cool to avoid fire.
- If you feel sick, dizzy or weak while one is running, seek fresh air and call 9-1-1 immediately.

Install carbon monoxide alarms in your home to warn you of any harmful fumes which may have seeped in from outside.

FOR CITY INFORMATION AFTER A STORM:

We will call you

CodeRED Emergency Notification System: This high-speed telephone notification system will be employed by the City when necessary to notify residents of essential information.



Calls received from the CodeRED system come up on caller I.D. as **999-999-9999**. If you see this number, please do not disconnect. If you have “privacy blocker” you may not get these calls, so please disable during any emergency.

For City emergency information, boil water orders and other important notifications such as debris pickup, if operational go to:

- www.westonfl.org – see Latest News, on the Weston Home page
- **Tune your TV** to channel 25 (Advanced Cable) or channel 78 (Comcast), for up-to-date City information on boil water orders, debris pickup and other related information.
- **Tune your car radio to 1680AM** The **1680AM Emergency Information Radio will be operational even with a power outage for approximately four (4) days.** 1680 AM broadcasts within the City of Weston.

LINKS TO INFORMATION

- Broward County Emergency Management, www.broward.org/disaster
- National Hurricane Center, www.noaa.gov
- Florida Division of Emergency Management, www.floridadisaster.org
- Federal Emergency Management Agency, www.fema.gov
- National Flood Insurance Program, www.fema.gov/nfip
- Local American Red Cross, www.arc.bcc.org

