



St. Pete Beach Fire Rescue Department News

Hurricane Season is from June 1 through November 30

Please take some time **NOW** to prepare yourself and your family for the possibility of a storm here in Pinellas County. Know your zone. Is your disaster supply kit ready? Do you know where your local shelter facilities are?



BEFORE a storm approaches:

Plan an evacuation route. Stop by any St. Pete Beach Fire Rescue station, St. Pete Beach Library, St. Pete Beach Community Center or City Hall to pick up the Pinellas County All Hazards Preparedness Guide, or you may access this information on the web at

<http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/default.htm>



Have disaster supplies on hand

- ✓ Flashlight and extra batteries
- ✓ Portable, battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- ✓ First aid kit and manual
- ✓ Emergency food and water (3-5 day supply)
- ✓ *Non-electric* can opener
- ✓ Essential medicines
- ✓ Cash and credit cards
- ✓ Sturdy shoes
- ✓ ****Make arrangements for pets.**



DURING A HURRICANE WATCH: A hurricane watch is issued when there is a threat of hurricane conditions within 48 hours. Pay close attention to evacuation requirements. **This is the time to decide whether to evacuate or stay! Remember that shelters should be considered a last resort. Make arrangements to stay with friends or family further inland, or travel to a hotel inland until the storm passes.**

- Listen to weather updates and stay informed
- Check emergency supplies
- Fuel car
- Bring in outdoor objects such as lawn furniture, toys, and garden tools and anchor objects that cannot be brought inside
- Secure buildings by closing and boarding up windows. Remove outside antennas
- Store drinking water in clean containers and bathtub
- Check Disaster Supply Kit
- Review evacuation plan
- Moor boat securely or move it to a designated safe place
- ****Make arrangements for pets**



DURING A HURRICANE WARNING: A hurricane warning is issued when hurricane conditions (winds of 74 miles per hour or greater or dangerously high water and rough seas) are expected in 36 hours or less.

- Listen constantly to a battery-operated radio or television for official instructions
- Store valuables and personal papers in a waterproof container on the highest level of your home
- Stay inside, away from windows, skylights, and glass doors
- Keep a supply of flashlights and extra batteries handy. Avoid open flames, such as candles and kerosene lamps, as a source of light
- If power is lost, turn off major appliances to reduce power "surge" when electricity is restored

If you go to an evacuation shelter, you should plan to take pillows, blankets, personal hygiene items, books, toys for the kids, and important papers such as insurance policies, driver's license, and medical information. Please keep in mind that shelters should be considered a last resort.



Animals are not permitted at most shelters. Pet owners have new options when it comes to pet-friendly emergency shelters. The Pinellas County School Board and Pinellas County government provide these three pet-friendly shelter locations. The facilities are substantially-built, have large indoor gyms, and separate air handlers to ensure the comfort and safety of allergic citizens who shelter there.

To access the Pet Friendly Shelter Enrollment Form, please visit <http://www.pinellascounty.org/animalservices/pdf/ASHurPrep.pdf>

Palm Harbor University High School
1900 Omaha St., Palm Harbor

Largo High School
410 Missouri Ave. N., Largo

Gibbs High School
850 34th St. S., St. Petersburg

If you have special needs that require assistance and you do not have a friend or relative that can help you, please call St. Pete Beach Fire Rescue at 363-9206 to register for the Special Needs Evacuation list.