GUIDE
PREPAREDNESS
HURRICANE
2018

• Tracking Map • Storm Shelters
• Helpful Weblinks • Checklists
• What To Do Before & During A Storm

KEEPING YOU & YOUR FAMILY SAFE DURING HURRICANE SEASON

EXCLUSIVELY ON Spectrum
THE MOST POWERFUL NAME THIS HURRICANE SEASON
Spectrum Bay News 9 is the only station in the Tampa Bay area bringing you news and weather 24-hours a day. It’s the only place to get your accurate forecast every ten minutes with Weather on the Nines. When weather is the big story, count on the Weather Experts at Spectrum Bay News 9 to provide around the clock coverage giving you the most up-to-date information happening where you live. Backed by the power of Klystron 9, the most powerful TV weather radar in the world, the Spectrum Bay News 9 Weather Experts can track the storm right down to your neighborhood pinpointing severe weather before anyone else. When a hurricane or tropical storm threatens the area, stay informed with Spectrum Bay News 9 and count on the Weather Experts to provide faster warnings and more accurate forecasts to give you and your family more time to prepare.

Stay connected to Spectrum Bay News 9 and your Weather Experts by downloading the Spectrum Bay News 9 app for Tampa Bay’s only LIVE radar. Plus, you can personalize your weather alerts with Safety Net.

This severe weather season, make Spectrum Bay News 9 your first choice for breaking news and weather information from where you live anytime, anywhere.

Spectrum Bay News 9, News Weather Now exclusively on Spectrum Networks.
HURRICANE PREPARATION

WHAT TO DO BEFORE A HURRICANE

• Plan ahead with an emergency kit.
  Build an emergency kit, including food, water, medical needs and important documents.

• Create a family communications plan.
  Make sure your family knows how to get in touch with each other if you are separated. Have a family discussion to determine who would be your out-of-state point of contact, and make sure everyone has a cell phone or a prepaid phone card so you can communicate with others and let them know you are safe.

• Be aware of your surroundings.
  Learn the elevation level of your property and whether you are in a flood zone. If there are levees, dams or rivers in your area, be aware of them and whether they pose a hazard for you and your home.

• Learn evacuation routes for your community.
  Determine where you would go and how to get there if you need to evacuate.

• Make plans to secure your property.
  Use permanent storm shutters or board up your windows with marine plywood that has already been cut to fit and be installed. Tape does not prevent windows from breaking.

• Keep the exterior of your home in good shape.
  Trim trees and shrubs so they are wind-resistant. Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts. Plan to bring in all outdoor furniture, decorations, and garbage cans.

WHAT TO DO DURING A HURRICANE

• Stay informed of the storm’s track.
  Watch Spectrum Bay News 9 on air or listen to our radio partners for the latest information.

• Secure your home.
  Close storm shutters, secure outdoor objects, and turn off propane tanks.

• Ensure you have a supply of water in case the water is shut off.
  Fill the bath tub and other large containers with water.

• Go to a wind-safe room.
  If you do not have one, then move away from windows and glass doors. Close all interior doors. Secure and brace external doors. Keep curtains and blinds closed. Avoid elevators. You can also take refuge in a small interior room, closet, or hallway on the lowest level of your home. Lie on the floor under a table or another sturdy object.
IMPORTANT CHECKLISTS

HURRICANE SUPPLY KIT
- Flashlights
- Battery-operated radio
- Battery-operated lanterns
- Batteries (in different sizes)
- Matches
- First aid kit
- Duct tape
- Rain gear
- Clock (wind-up or battery-powered)
- Plastic garbage bags
- Fire extinguisher
- Scissors
- Can opener
- Clean clothes
- Extra blankets & pillows
- Heavy gloves

FOOD AND WATER
- Bottled water (1 gallon/person/day)
- Bottled juice
- Two coolers (one for drinks, one for food)
- Canned foods
- Manual can opener
- Dry pet food

MEDICAL NEEDS
- Medic-alert tags
- Insect-repellent sprays
- Feminine hygiene items
- Sunscreen
- Soap
- First aid kit
- Prescription medication
- Over-the-counter medication
- Children’s medication
- Bandages
- Adhesive tape
- Antiseptic solution
- Thermometer
- Tweezers

HOUSE
- Remove outdoor items
- Trim dead branches from trees
- Board up windows
- Fill gas tanks and extra containers
- Get extra cash
- Move furniture away from windows
- Store important documents in waterproof containers

FILING INSURANCE CLAIMS
Although the first concern should be safety, it is important to be aware of the need to act promptly when filing claims for damages inflicted to your property by a hurricane.

- Have your policy number available.
- Contact your insurance company as soon as possible.
- Make a list of damages. If possible, document damage with photos.
- Fill out claim forms from insurance company and return them promptly.
- Be sure you understand the claim process. If you are unfamiliar with it or do not understand, ask for a full explanation.
- Contact your insurance company before an emergency to see if you are prepared if a disaster should occur.
KEEPING YOUR PETS SAFE

• **Plan ahead.**
  If you have to evacuate, you will need to find a shelter that can accommodate your pet. Many do not allow pets. In addition, many shelters that accept pets only take dogs and cats.

• **Have a "grab and go" bag for your pet.**
  The bag should include an identification collar and rabies tag, a leash or harness, a muzzle (if needed), a supply of food and treats, water and food bowls, medication, medical records, a photo of your pet, newspaper, and bags for clean-up. If you have a carrier, be ready to bring that as well.

• **Microchip your pets ahead of time.**
  Should your pet become lost during the storm, microchips can help authorities easily reunite you with your pets. Make sure your contact information is up to date.

• **Contain your pets.**
  Crate cats and small dogs and put large dogs on a leash. That way, if you have to evacuate quickly, you will not waste time trying to find pets that may be scared or hiding. NEVER leave your animals chained up outside.

• **Stay as calm as possible.**
  Your pet may be able to detect your panic. If you stay calm, you’ll be able to keep your pet calm as well.

• **Contact your local animal shelter ahead of time with any questions.**

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2018 HURRICANE NAMES

Alberto  
Beryl  
Chris  
Debby  
Ernesto  
Florence  
Gordon  
Helene  
Isaac  
Joyce  
Kirk  
Leslie  
Michael  
Nadine  
Oscar  
Patty  
Rafael  
Sara  
Tony  
Valerie  
William
A **HURRICANE WARNING** is:
an announcement that hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are expected somewhere within the specified area. Because hurricane preparedness activities become difficult once winds reach tropical storm force, the hurricane warning is issued 36 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical storm force winds.

A **HURRICANE WATCH** is:
an announcement that hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are possible within the specified area. Because hurricane preparedness activities become difficult once winds reach tropical storm force, the hurricane watch is issued 48 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical storm force winds.

The Atlantic hurricane season runs from **June 1 to November 30** with a peak around **September 14**. Storms can still form outside this time period.

**HURRICANE RANKING**
A tropical cyclone becomes a hurricane when sustained winds reach 74 mph.

**SAFFIR-SIMPSON SCALE**
- **Category 1** hurricane has winds of 74-95 mph.
- **Category 2** hurricane has winds of 96-110 mph.
- **Category 3** hurricane has winds of 111-130 mph.
- **Category 4** hurricane has winds of 131-155 mph.
- **Category 5** hurricane has winds of 156 mph and greater.
SEVERE WEATHER ON THE GO

When severe weather strikes, keep Spectrum Bay News 9 close!

We’ll keep you up to date on the latest watches and warnings for your neighborhood.

You can also take the Spectrum Bay News 9 Weather Experts with you wherever you go:

- Safety Net Alerts on Spectrum Bay News 9 App
- bn9weather on Facebook
- @bn9weather on Twitter
- Sign up for live weather updates: baynews9.com/alerts

Visit BayNews9.com/hurricane for the latest information on:

- Storm Shelters
- County By County Evacuation Maps
- Interactive Hurricane Tracker
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BE PREPARED FOR STORM SEASON

• LIVE Interactive Radar

• Customizable Safety Net Alerts
  ➤ Dangerous Storm Approaching
  ➤ Lightning in Area
  ➤ Flood Warning
  ➤ Thunderstorm Warning
  ➤ Tornado Warning

• Current Conditions and Forecast

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