Town of Brookhaven Official Hurricane Survival Guide

- Preparations
- Storm Information
- Post-Storm Information

A Convenient Guide Provided to Ensure the Safety of Every Brookhaven Town Resident During a Hurricane

Supervisor Edward P. Romaine

Valerie M. Cartright, District 1
Jane Bonner, District 2
Kevin LaValle, District 3
Michael Loguercio, District 4
Neil Foley, District 5
Daniel J. Panico, District 6

Donna Lent, Town Clerk
Lou Marcoccia, Receiver of Taxes
Daniel Losquadro, Superintendent of Highways

A Message From

The Brookhaven Town Board

Dear Resident,

As residents of a coastal community, many of us have experienced weather events that caused millions of dollars worth of damage. The unfortunate reality is that Brookhaven Town, by its coast line geography, is vulnerable every hurricane season. That's why residents need to be informed about how to deal with severe weather, especially after Hurricane Irene in 2011 and Super Storm Sandy in 2012. What we have learned is that hurricanes are not only extremely dangerous and life threatening, they are also unpredictable, which is why every Brookhaven resident must be prepared in the event of an emergency.

This guide is designed to help residents prepare for a hurricane. It covers preparations and procedures for virtually every hurricane scenario. The guide also contains hurricane surge maps which are useful in understanding how different areas might be impacted by hurricanes of varying intensities. Also within this guide are important phone numbers, lists, tips, and tear sheets for use at home and at work.

Please take some time to understand the importance of individual hurricane preparedness. Together, we can help to ensure a safe future for all Town of Brookhaven residents. If you have questions, please contact the Brookhaven Town Office of Emergency Management at 631-451-6172. We are here to help you.

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How To Use This Guide

The Town of Brookhaven Hurricane Survival Guide contains four sections: Preparations, Storm, Post-Storm, and Additional Information.

A table of contents is provided below.

While the Town has created this guide for the use of its residents, nothing contained within this guide shall give rise to any liability on behalf of Brookhaven Town or its agencies.

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General Hurricane Preparations

Please use the information below to develop your own Hurricane Survival Plan.

3 Months Before Hurricane Season

- ❑ Begin gradually purchasing supplies for your Family Disaster Supplies Kit. (see page 9)
- ❑ Inspect your walls, windows, garage door, and roof for conditions that may allow wind damage.
- ❑ Find out if you are in an evacuation area. If you are, plan for relocation out of the flood zone to a higher elevation. (see pages 28-29)
- ❑ Choose a family member or friend who lives out of the area to serve as a telephone contact for members of your household.

1 Month Before Hurricane Season

- ❑ Check your utility bills to see who provides your water, gas, and electric service. (note the names and numbers on page 9)
- ❑ Complete your Family Disaster Supplies Kit. Purchase non-perishable foods and medicines last.
- ❑ Check with your doctor and/or pharmacy to determine how to store your prescriptions through a storm.
- ❑ Assess your landscaping to determine if trees need to be trimmed.
- ❑ Establish a contact phone number with your employer.
- ❑ Make arrangements in advance for your pets, especially if you live in an evacuation area.

June 1st Through November 30th

- ❑ Stay alert to radio and television broadcasts to receive up to date announcements on any tropical systems.
- ❑ Check your Family Disaster Supplies Kit periodically to ensure that you have the proper items.

As Soon As Possible:

Confirm your out-of-area contact. If you are in an evacuation area, make plans with a relative or friend in a storm-safe location outside of the evacuation area. Shelters are a last resort and will not accommodate everyone.

Information Sources

The Town of Brookhaven uses several media outlets to provide residents with the most relevant and up-to-date news about pending hurricanes. The information included generally details evacuation plans, closings, local shelters, and news briefings on the current status of the hurricane. The following is a directory of outlets used by the Town to disseminate this information.

Radio Coverage

The Town utilizes the following radio stations in order to provide residents with up to the minute information :

WALK 97.5 FM

WBAB 102.3 FM

WBLI 106.1 FM

LI News Radio 103.9 FM

Television Coverage

In addition to radio coverage, the Town also utilizes several television channels to provide residents with hurricane information.

News 12 Long Island

Channel 18: Brookhaven Government Access Channel

TV 55: WLNY (Channel 10 on Brookhaven Cable)

Channel 61: Long Island Traffic and Weather

Channel 62: The Weather Channel

It is important to have information about these media outlets at your fingertips during a storm. They provide essential information for the safety of every town resident. Each household should be equipped with a battery operated radio, as there is a good chance that radio stations will have backup generators and will be broadcasting during a storm.

During a Watch

Definition: A Hurricane Watch indicates hurricane conditions (with sustained winds of at least 74 MPH) are possible in the area within 36 hours. A hurricane's forward speed accelerates as it heads north of Cape Hatteras giving us much less planning time.

General Preparations

- ❑ Turn on TV or radio and listen for continuing updates.
- ❑ Review your evacuation plans if you live in an evacuation area. Remember, not everyone needs to evacuate or relocate.
- ❑ Check evacuation kit and/or family disaster supplies kit and gather missing items.
- ❑ Contact family members to coordinate storm preparations.
- ❑ Notify out-of-area contact if planning to evacuate and relocate to a site out of the flood zone.
- ❑ Place important documents and photos in waterproof plastic bags.
- ❑ Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest settings; open only when necessary, and close quickly.
- ❑ Thoroughly clean plastic jugs or cartons and freeze water in them.
- ❑ Fill up water bottles and other drinking water containers.
- ❑ Scrub bathtub and fill with water; keep bucket handy for flushing toilet.
- ❑ Prepare and test generator, if available. (Do not operate during storm, see page 22)
- ❑ Fuel up vehicles and propane tanks; obtain fuel for generators.
- ❑ Stow or cover irreplaceable items; move breakables away from windows.
- ❑ Put up shutters if you have them. If not, place plywood over windows to protect them from wind and debris.
- ❑ Bring in outdoor furniture, landscape ornaments, lawn equipment, wind chimes, flags, trash cans, anchor grills, antennas, and other items that may be easily carried away by hurricane winds.
- ❑ Tie down or stabilize boat (check with US Coast Guard for best methods of mooring). Bring light weight boats such as zodiacs, canoes, kyacks, and their equipment indoors.
- ❑ Secure outdoor gates.
- ❑ Reinforce garage door.
- ❑ Charge cell phone batteries (have a fully charged backup cell battery in Go Bag).
- ❑ Check all battery operated smoke detectors and install new fully charged batteries.

Brookhaven Town Recommends

a 5-7 Day Supply of Food and Water

During a Warning

Definition: A Hurricane Warning means hurricane-force conditions (with sustained winds of at least 74 MPH) are expected in your area in 24 hours.

Evacuation Is Mandatory in Evac Areas or in Mobile Manufactured Homes.

If evacuation orders are not issued, consider leaving anyway -- even tropical storm-force winds can topple a manufactured home. Roads can be closed by fallen trees, limbs, and flooding water because of heavy rainstorms and because of the pre-storm surge in advance of a land bound hurricane.

If you decide to leave

- ❑ Notify your family that you are evacuating to a storm-safe location if you are going to the home of a friend or co-worker. Provide them with address and contact information.
- ❑ Make sure to take your pet with you. Do not leave pets unattended. If you are not taking your pet with you, make arrangements for their care in advance.
- ❑ Go to the predetermined home of a family member, friend, co-worker, or to an emergency shelter, if necessary.
- ❑ Bring along your pre-assembled evacuation kit including water, snacks, cash (including change), and medications.
- ❑ Bring driver's license, proof of address, proof of insurance, loan papers, deeds and important documents, family photos, an address book, and a list of important phone numbers including family contacts and medical contacts. Remember, it is your responsibility to keep track of these items while lodging elsewhere. Use your best discretion when deciding what you will bring.
- ❑ Have a pre-prepared list of allergies and medications for each family member.
- ❑ Fuel up your vehicle.
- ❑ Store patio/yard furniture inside your home in a safe place.
- ❑ Secure all doors and windows. Put up storm shutters if you have them. If not, place plywood over windows to protect them from wind and debris.
- ❑ Lock up your home and allow more time than usual for travel.
- ❑ Notify your pre-arranged family contact when you arrive at your storm-safe location.

If you decide to stay

- ❑ Secure all doors and windows. Make sure that you leave two means of exit/escape from the home.
- ❑ Have a battery operated TV or radio available, along with an adequate supply of batteries.
- ❑ Leave radio or TV on an emergency information station.
- ❑ Do laundry.
- ❑ Move vehicle(s) into a garage or next to a building; avoid parking near trees and utility poles.
- ❑ Keep your emergency supply kit handy.
- ❑ Fill drinking water containers, bathtubs, and sinks.
- ❑ Freeze water jugs and fill ice chest.
- ❑ Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest setting and lower A/C (After power goes out unplug appliances).
- ❑ Ensure that all batteries have been fully charged and are readily available.
- ❑ Place flashlights and batteries throughout the house. Keep one of each with you at all times.

Safe Area

If you don't live in an evacuation zone or a mobile or manufactured home, you should probably stay home if your house is secure and can withstand a hurricane. Make sure family members or a neighbor know that you will be there. Gather all supplies you will need in advance. As part of your family plan, determine a "safe room" in your residence where you can ride out the storm. Rooms without windows such as a bathroom, pantry, laundry room, stairwell, hallway, or large interior closet are good choices. Stay away from exposed glass areas.

Stock the safe area with:

- ❑ Non-perishable food and a manual can-opener
- ❑ Water
- ❑ Flashlights
- ❑ Battery-operated radio or TV (plus extra batteries)
- ❑ Medication: prescription and over the counter
- ❑ Personal and baby supplies, if warranted
- ❑ Pet food
- ❑ Clothing
- ❑ Mattress, blankets and pillows
- ❑ Cell phone (precharged)
- ❑ Games or Books
- ❑ Important papers and photo ID
- ❑ Medical and Physician Information

Go Bag

Every household should consider assembling a Go Bag. This is a collection of items you may need in the event of an evacuation. Each household member's Go Bag should be packed in a sturdy, easy-to-carry container, such as a backpack or suitcase on wheels. A Go-Bag should be easily accessible should you have to leave your home in a hurry.

What to have in your bag:

- ❑ Copies of important documents in a water tight plastic bag (i.e. photo ID, emergency directory, etc.)
- ❑ Extra set of car and house keys.
- ❑ Adequate cash (including change) for your emergency needs.
- ❑ Bottled water and non-perishable food such as energy or granola bars.
- ❑ Flashlight, battery operated AM/FM radio, and extra batteries.
- ❑ Medication for at least one week and other essential personal items. Keep a list of the medications each member of your household takes, their dosages or copies of all prescription slips, and your doctor's name and telephone number.
- ❑ Sturdy, comfortable, waterproof shoes, and lightweight rain gear.
- ❑ Contact and meeting place information for your household.
- ❑ Child care supplies or other special items.
- ❑ Paper plates, plastic drinking cups, and plastic eating utensils.
- ❑ First-Aid Kit (fully stocked).
- ❑ Two days' worth clothing.
- ❑ Pet care supplies (food, medications, and feeding bowls).

Brookhaven Town Tear-Out Guide

Hurricane Information Sources

- WALK 97.5
- WBAB 102.3
- WBLI 106.1
- LI News Radio 103.9
- News Channel 12
- Brookhaven Government Channel 18
- WLNY 55/10
- Channel 61: LI Traffic and Weather
- Channel 62: The Weather Channel

(631) 451-TOWN
www.brookhaven.org

Important Phone Numbers

Emergency	911
Public Safety Dispatch	451-6161
Senior Jitney	451-6122
Senior Services	451-9191

Non-Emergency Numbers

Animal Shelter	631-451-6950
American Red Cross (24 hrs)	631-924-6911
Cablevision	631-267-6900
FEMA	800-621-3362
Highway	631-451-9200
PSEGLI Power Outages	800-490-0075
Long Island Railroad	516-931-9213
NYS Consumer Protection	518-474-8583
NYS Dept. of Insurance	800-342-3736
NYS Dept. of Transportation	518-457-6195
5th Precinct SCPD	631-854-8500
6th Precinct SCPD	631-854-8600
7th Precinct SCPD	631-852-8700
Public Safety/Administration	631-451-6291
Salvation Army	631-654-9380
State Emergency Managment Office	518-292-2200
Suffolk County Public Works	631-852-4010
Suffolk County Health Dept.	631-853-3036
Suffolk County Transit	631-852-5200
Suffolk County Water Authority	631-698-9500
24 Hour Repairs	631-665-0663
Traffic Signal Repair	631-451-6161
Waste Management	631-451-6222
Public Safety - Incorporated Villages	
Belle Terre	631-928-5785
Bellport	631-286-0327
Lake Grove	631-473-4724
Old Field	631-941-9412
Patchogue	631-475-1225
Poquott	631-476-4043
Port Jefferson	631-473-1449

Place This Directory in an Easily Accessible Spot

Family Disaster Supplies Kit

Essentials:

- ❑ Battery operated radio
- ❑ Battery operated TV
- ❑ Flashlight
- ❑ Extra batteries

Water:

- ❑ At least 5 gallons of drinking water per person, in a food- grade plastic container or carton
- ❑ Additional water for sanitary purposes (clean and fill bathtubs)

Food:

- ❑ At least 5 to 7 days supply of non-perishable food with no preparation
- ❑Dry cereal
- ❑Peanut butter
- ❑Canned or prepackaged fruits
- ❑Canned vegetables
- ❑Canned juice
- ❑Canned tuna
- ❑Quick energy snacks

First-Aid Kit:

- ❑Scissors
- ❑Sunscreen
- ❑Thermometer
- ❑Needle
- ❑Soap
- ❑Eyedrops
- ❑Antihistamine
- ❑Travel size tissues
- ❑Turniquet
- ❑Thread
- ❑Latex gloves (2 pairs)
- ❑Moistened towelettes
- ❑Assorted safety pins
- ❑Two-inch sterile gauze pads (4-6)
- ❑Two-inch sterile roller bandages (3 rolls)
- ❑Triangular bandages (3)
- ❑Tube of petroleum jelly
- ❑Sterile bandaids
- ❑Laxative
- ❑Anti-diarrhea medication
- ❑Aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever
- ❑Antacid
- ❑Antibiotic ointment (Benadryl or Neosporin)

Sanitation:

- ❑Disinfectant
- ❑Household chlorine bleach
- ❑Soap, liquid detergent
- ❑Personal hygiene items
- ❑Feminine supplies
- ❑Plastic bucket with tight lid
- ❑Toilet paper, towelettes, paper towels
- ❑Plastic garbage bags, ties

Tools and Supplies:

- ❑Whistle
- ❑Aluminum foil
- ❑Crowbar

Tools and Supplies Continued:

- ❑Compass
- ❑Paper, pencil
- ❑Plastic sheeting
- ❑Medicine dropper
- ❑Signal flare
- ❑Matches in a waterproof container
- ❑Corded Telephone
- ❑Assorted nails, wood screws
- ❑Pliers, screwdriver, hammer
- ❑Plastic water tight storage containers
- ❑Heavy cotton or hemp rope
- ❑Cash or traveler's checks, change
- ❑Map of the area (for locating shelters)
- ❑Non-electric can opener, utility knife
- ❑Paper plates, plastic cups, and plastic utensils
- ❑Masking tape, duct and plumber's tape
- ❑Patch kit and can of seal-in-air for tires
- ❑Wrench to turn off gas and water
- ❑Axe

Clothing and Bedding:

- ❑Sunglasses
- ❑Rain gear
- ❑Socks
- ❑Hat and gloves
- ❑Sturdy shoes or work boots (waterproof)
- ❑Blankets, pillows, or sleeping bags

For Infants:

- ❑Formula
- ❑Diapers
- ❑Bottles
- ❑Medication
- ❑Baby food
- ❑Baby wipes
- ❑Baby ointment
- ❑Powdered milk

For Pets:

- ❑Food, water, and treats
- ❑Leash, harness and carrier/crate
- ❑Records of vaccinations and licenses
- ❑Non-tippable food and water bowls

Family Medical Needs:

- ❑Insulin (have cooler pack available)
- ❑Prescription drugs (1 week supply)
- ❑Dentures and denture needs
- ❑Extra eye glasses and hearing-aid batteries
- ❑Contact lenses and supplies
- ❑Physician, pharmacy, and dental contacts

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

- ❑My water provider is_____ telephone#_____(check water bill)
- ❑My electric provider is PSEG at 1-800-490-0075
- ❑My gas provider is_____ telephone#_____(check gas bill)

Hurricane Damage Profiles

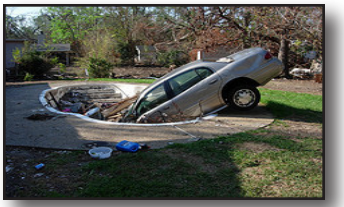
The following is a classifcation of each of the five categories of a hurricane. They are classified in ascending order (1-5) with a category 1 hurricane causing the least damage and a category 5 hurricane causing the most damage. Alongside each of the categories is a damage profile, as well as a specific example of a hurricane of corresponding intensity.

Hurricane Belle (1976)

Category 1 (74-95 mph winds)
No real damage to building structures. Damage will be primarily focused on unanchored mobile homes, shrubbery, trees, and signage. There may also be some coastal flooding and minor pier damage. The storm surge (onshore rush of water associated with a low pressure weather system) is generally 4 to 5 feet with a central pressure of 28.94 inHg (inches of mercury).

Hurricane Bob (1991)

Category 2 (96-110 mph winds)
Some roofing material, door, and window damage. Damage will be primarily focused on unanchored mobile homes, shrubbery, trees, vegetation, and signage. There may also be some coastal flooding and pier damage. The hurricane may also break the moorings on small craft in unprotected anchorages. The storm surge is generally 6 to 8 feet with a central pressure of 28.50-28.91 inHg.



Hurricane Gloria (1985)

Category 3 (111-130 mph winds)
Some structural damage to small residences and utility buildings, with a minor amount of curtainwall failures. Mobile homes will be destroyed with flooding near the coast that will destroy smaller structures while larger structures could be damaged by floating debris. The terrain may be flooded well inland as well. The storm surge is generally 9 to 12 feet with a central pressure of 27.91-28.47 inHg.

Hurricane Hugo (1989)

Category 4 (131-155 mph winds)
Extensive curtainwall failures with some complete roof structure failure on small residences. Major erosion of beach areas. The terrain may be flooded well inland as well. The storm surge is generally 13 to 18 feet with a central pressure of 27.17-27.88 inHg.

Hurricane Camille (1976)

Category 5 (>155 mph winds)
Complete roof failure on many residences and industrial buildings. Some complete building failures with small utility buildings blown over or away. Flooding causes major damage to lower floors of all structures near the shoreline. Mass evacuations may be required. The storm surge is generally larger than 19 feet with a central pressure of less than 27.17 inHg.

Reinforcing Your Home

HURRICANE SHUTTERS

Shutters should be attached to the structural framing of the house and not the window or door frames. Install second-story and difficult shutters first. Make sure all exposed metal fittings (including screws, embedded anchors, etc.) are weather (corrosion) resistant. For additional information, please refer to the International Hurricane Research Center website: www.ihrc.fiu.ed

Storm Panel Shutters:

These steel or aluminum shutters attach to the walls around windows and doors on bolts or tracks. Storm panels are corrugated, and each piece overlaps the next for maximum strength. These are the least expensive of the permanent shutter systems, but time consuming to install.

Accordion Shutters:

These one or two-piece hurricane shutters are housed beside the windows or doors when not in use. They unfold accordion-style to cover and protect during a storm. Accordion shutters are very easy to close in the event of a storm, but much more expensive than panel shutters.

Colonial Shutters:

These are two-piece louvered shutters that attach to the wall beside each window. They fold together to protect the window and can easily be made storm ready by one person, but are expensive.

Roll-down Shutters:

These shutters attach above the window. They roll up and store in an enclosed box when not in use. They are lowered either manually by a hand crank, or automatically by push button. These shutters lock in place for storm protection. Roll-downs offer some of the best protection and can easily be made storm ready by one person, but are the most expensive shutter system.

Accordion Shutters

Colonial Shutters

Roll-down Shutters

Storm Panel Shutters

PLYWOOD

- Buy plywood in advance, prior to the rush. A minimum thickness of 7/16-inch is suggested.
- Buy 2½ -inch (minimum size) wood/screws or lagbolts, enough for one bolt to be used for a minimum of every 9 to12 inches of plywood.
- Don't nail down the plywood, as frantic homeowners are often shown doing during televised news broadcasts of approaching storms. Fasten plywood panels with screws or lag bolts long enough to penetrate the wall studs around the window, not just the siding or wall covering.
- Ensure a safe exit route in the event of a fire during or after the storm.

Advice For Older Adults

People who are elderly, frail, or disabled (either mentally or physically) may need special assistance from family members, friends, or social service agencies. Older adults who are also caregivers may require outside assistance. If you are alone, consider weathering the storm with friends or relatives. Excessive stress and anxiety can contribute to increased episodes of illness, particularly for persons with heart disease and other conditions. Remember, not everyone needs to evacuate or relocate. If you live in an evacuation area, flood zone, or mobile or manufactured home, you must evacuate.

If an older adult lives in a nursing home, assisted living facility, or adult home, the administrator should be contacted to learn about the evacuation plan for that facility. Such an evacuation plan is required in New York State.

Home Health Care and Home-Bound Patients:

- ❑ Notify your health agency of where you will be during a hurricane and when care can be reestablished.
- ❑ Contact your physician if you are home-bound and under the care of a physician, but not a home health agency.
- ❑ Check with your oxygen supplier about emergency plans should you require oxygen.
- ❑ Ensure that your physician makes proper arrangements if you require skilled nursing or hospitalization. This can be done through letter to the hospital.
- ❑ Remember to take all of your medications, written instructions regarding your care, your bedding and walker, wheelchair, cane or any other special equipment with you if you evacuate. Also, take all your physician, pharmacy, and dental contact numbers with you.
- ❑ Determine if and when you would have to evacuate. REMEMBER: All mobile and manufactured home residents must evacuate, regardless of location.
- ❑ Decide NOW where you would go if ordered to evacuate (a friend or relative, a hotel out of the region or, as a last resort, to a shelter). If you are going to leave the region or go to a hotel, you must leave early. Determine your route and leave enough time for travel.
- ❑ Make arrangements for your pets.
- ❑ Keep your home in good repair. Obtain assistance to tack down loose roofing and siding and to trim dead or broken branches from trees.
- ❑ Post emergency telephone numbers near telephones. Be certain that aides or children know how and when to call for help.
- ❑ Arrange for a friend or relative to check on you in an emergency.
- ❑ Listen to a battery operated radio or TV for emergency information.

Oxygen Tanks

Medication

Wheelchair

Mobile Homes

Mobile homes are particularly vulnerable to hurricane-force winds. The two main reasons that mobile homes are damaged is because of attached awnings, overhangs, etc., and tree fall. Anchor the mobile home with over-the-top or frame ties. When a storm threatens, do what you can to secure your home, then take refuge with friends, relatives or at a public shelter in a safe location.
Before you leave, take the following precautions:

- ❑ Pack breakables in boxes and put them on the floor or in a bath tub.
- ❑ Remove mirrors and tape them. Wrap mirrors and lamps in blankets and place them in the bathtub, shower, or under a bed or sofa.
- ❑ Install hurricane shutters or pre-cut plywood on all windows.
- ❑ Shut off utilities and disconnect electricity, sewer and water lines. Shut off propane tanks and leave them outside after anchoring them securely.
- ❑ Store awnings, folding furniture, trash cans and other loose outdoor objects.

Inspect tie-downs annually

First, you'll need to know the basics of the three parts of the anchoring system:

- ❑ First are the anchors, steel rods several feet long that screw into the ground. Only a few inches of the anchors should be above ground level; otherwise, they won't have the holding power they're designed for.
- ❑ Second are the steel straps. They fasten around the frame of the mobile home and are attached to the anchors with adjustable bolts. Almost all homes should have at least eight, and sometimes more than 24 steel straps, depending on the size of the home and when it was built and installed. The straps themselves shouldn't be loose. They should have some tension to keep the home from rocking and working loose in high winds. If you can reach the straps, give them a tug to make sure they're tight. Otherwise, poke at them with a long stick or board to make sure they're not loose.
- ❑ Last are the piers that the home sits on. They're usually made of concrete blocks stacked on a concrete pad, although a few homes may be on solid concrete piers, especially if they're elevated several feet above the ground. Make sure the piers are straight and stable and that the blocks aren't crooked or broken. If there are wooden shims or spacers between the piers and the home, make sure they're set firmly and not rotted or damaged.

Mobile Home

Concrete footings for Mobile Homes

Preparing Your Yard

The following is an inventory of helpful tips and suggestions about preparing your yard for hurricane winds. The information is in chronological order starting with pre-hurricane season maintenance and ending with post-storm procedures.

Pre-Hurricane season maintenance (Fall and Spring)

- ❑ All major cutting of vegetation (i.e., tree removal) should be completed long before June 1, the beginning of hurricane season. Do all major cutting/tree removal in late fall or in spring. Disposal is the responsibility of the homeowner/resident.
- ❑ Cut back all trees and weak branches that could contact buildings. Notify LIPA if there are branches overhanging electrical lines.
- ❑ Thin your foliage so wind can flow freely through branches, decreasing the chance that trees/plants will be uprooted.
- ❑ Clean your yard of any items that could become projectiles in a storm such as old lumber, broken lawn furniture, outdoor toys, gas grills, lawn ornaments, above ground pool ladders, etc.
- ❑ If your house has a weather vane, satellite dish or antennae, check its mountings to ensure they are safely secured.

Once a storm has been named

- ❑ Do not cut down trees or do major yard work.
- ❑ If construction projects are scheduled or under way, carefully monitor the storm track.
- ❑ Once a watch or warning has been issued, do not trim vegetation of any kind.
- ❑ Do not take materials to the curb, transfer stations or landfill during a watch or warning period. Services may be suspended and facilities may be closed early to prepare for the storm. Lawn furniture, grills, garbage cans, decorative items, and other outside items that may become airborne should be moved to an indoor location.
- ❑ Secure indoors any lightweight watercraft such as canoes, kyacks, and zodiacs along with other equipment.

After the storm has passed

- ❑ Please be patient. Emergency needs will be addressed on a priority basis. Do not expect a complete return to normalcy immediately.
- ❑ Keep household garbage, recycling items, construction debris, and yard debris separated.
- ❑ Don’t place any debris near or on fences, mailboxes, power line equipment, poles, transformers, downed electrical wiring, water meters, storm drains, or fire hydrants.

We ask all residents of the Town to be our partners in restoring the area to its pre-storm state. Your cooperation and support enables us to complete the entire process in the quickest, safest, and most efficient manner possible. We will provide regular updates on the progress of debris collection.

There is no reimbursement provided to any individual resident or homeowner’s association who hires a private contractor to remove and dispose of storm-related debris.

Hurricane Shelters

For residents living in evacuation areas or mobile/manufactured homes, identify alternative sheltering, possibly with family, friends or co-workers outside of evacuation areas. A limited number of shelters, managed by The American Red Cross, will be opened in the Town of Brookhaven. Shelters should be used only as a last resort. Remember, the primary purpose of a public shelter is to provide emergency refuge. If a public shelter is your only option, you should choose one near your residence. Be sure you know the route, and do not go until you hear from officials that the shelter has been opened. The public will be notified by the media and on the Town website. Also, please be sure to advise family members or friends that you have evacuated and where you will be. Shelters have a limited capacity and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Prepare a personal evacuation plan:

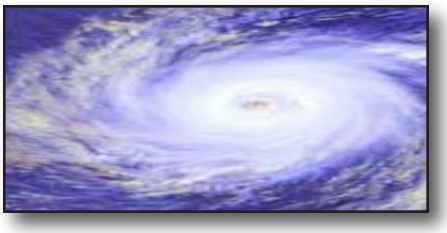
- ❑ Identify ahead of time where you could go if you are told to evacuate/relocate.
- ❑ Choose several places - a friend's home in another town (of a higher elevation), a motel or a shelter.
- ❑ Keep the telephone numbers of these places handy, as well as a road map of your locality.
- ❑ You may need to take alternative or unfamiliar routes if major roads are closed or clogged.
- ❑ Listen to local Radio or TV stations for evacuation instructions.

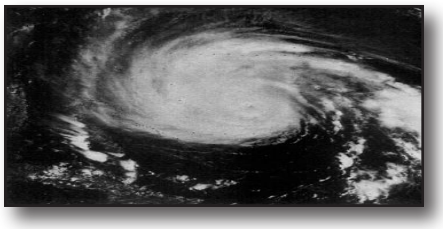
If you go to a shelter, you should be prepared for an extended stay.

What to bring:

- ❑ Prescription medications, medical supplies, contact numbers for physicians, pharmacy and dentist.
- ❑ Bottled water, battery-operated radio, TV, extra batteries, first-aid kit, and flashlight.
- ❑ Bedding, including sleeping bags and pillows.
- ❑ Infant necessities.
- ❑ Clothing (five days worth).
- ❑ Car keys and maps.
- ❑ Documents, including drivers license, Social Security card, proof of residence.
- ❑ Insurance policies, wills, deeds, birth and marriage certificates, tax records, etc.
- ❑ Personal hygiene products.
- ❑ Light-weight folding chair/cot.
- ❑ Personal items (books, toys, etc.).
- ❑ Non-perishable food and supplies.

Note: No smoking, alcohol, or firearms are allowed in shelters.





Pet Safety

The Brookhaven Animal Shelter has prepared the following list of preparations that each household bearing a pet must take before the storm. The animal shelter may be able to accept a limited number of dogs, cats, and other small animals in an emergency situation. However, prepare an alternative plan that will accommodate your pet in the event of a hurricane.

Please follow these guidelines when preparing for the hurricane:

- ❑ Prepare an evacuation kit that includes a 3-5 day supply of food in an airtight container along with a three day supply of water.
- ❑ Prepare a supply of medication and copies of medical records. Have a prepared list of all medications and time of dispensing.
- ❑ Have a list of all your pet's allergies ready.
- ❑ Prepare a pet carrier/crate for each pet to transport or to confine your pet(s).
- ❑ Keep a collar and updated identification tags (one tag should have a cell phone number in case you are not able to get phone calls to your home phone number) on your pet at all times. Have a leash for every dog in your home. Consider micro chipping, it's permanent.
- ❑ Plan in advance; make a list of pet friendly places (hotels, motels, boarding kennels, grooming facilities, and veterinary clinics).
- ❑ Know where the local animal shelters and humane societies are. You may need to visit them after a disaster to look for a missing pet.
- ❑ Carry several pictures of you and your pet. The need for identification may arise.
- ❑ Leave early. If you wait until you are under a mandatory evacuation, you run the risk of not being able to take your pets.
- ❑ Never leave pets at home during a storm, especially if you live in an evacuation area. If they survive the storm, they may flee and be lost.
- ❑ Plan ahead for horses and livestock. They should be housed in a secure structure with a 2 week supply of feed and water.
- ❑ Acquire a pet carrier for each of your pets, including cats and birds. The carrier should be large enough for your pet to stand up and turn around inside. Take the time for your pet to become familiar with the carrier beforehand.
- ❑ Make sure vaccinations are up-to-date. Proof of up-to-date rabies and distemper vaccinations are required to shelter a pet with a veterinarian, boarding facility, or kennel.

Lost pets

- ❑ Check Brookhaven Animal Shelter at 631-451-6950
- ❑ Check local newspapers under the "Lost and Found" listings
- ❑ Check Bide-A-Wee home at 631-325-0200
- ❑ Check Kent Animal Shelter at 631-727-5731
- ❑ Check WLNG, 92.1FM, Radio, for their "Pet Patrol" program at 631-725-2300

Protecting Your Boat

Take action early - don't wait until a hurricane warning is declared. The storm's fringe activity will make preparations difficult. If your boat will remain in berth, before hurricane season check the strength of primary cleats, winches and chocks. They should have substantial back plates and adequate stainless steel bolts. Double all lines, with rig crossing spring lines fore and aft. Attach lines high on pilings to allow for tidal fall and rise or surge.

Boaters can take the following steps in preparation of severe weather:

- ❑ Be aware of sea conditions and current weather advisories before leaving port.
- ❑ Charge batteries for automatic bilge pumps.
- ❑ For a boat stored on a trailer, lash the boat and trailer down in a protected area. Let the air out of tires before tying the trailer down. Place blocks between the frame members and the axle inside each wheel. Secure with heavy lines to fixed objects from four directions. Or remove the boat from the trailer and lash down each separately.
- ❑ Locate hurricane moorings in advance.
- ❑ A practice run should be made to these moorings to check accessibility, depth of water, bridges and to locate aids and/or obstructions to navigation and objects to secure lines to or drop anchors. (Drawbridges will not open for boats when an evacuation has been ordered.)
- ❑ Record and keep with you the vessel registration number, insurance carrier, description, and location where it is secured.
- ❑ Check your lease or ownership contract with your marina. Know your responsibilities.
- ❑ Make plans for securing your boat in advance if you may be out of town.

Securing vessel:

- ❑ Seal all openings with duct tape to make the boat as watertight as possible.
- ❑ Remove loose gear from the deck. Store it securely inside or at home.
- ❑ Reduce dock or piling crash damage by securing old tires along the sides of the boat.
- ❑ Tides can reach heights of 10 to 20 feet above normal, particularly when water backs up into waterways. When securing lines, remember that a boat could be pulled under or be damaged as the tide rises.
- ❑ Secure the boat for all wind directions.
- ❑ Open the boat drains before securing if the boat is left on a davit.
- ❑ Be sure not to block the passage of other boats which have moorings farther inshore. Cooperate with other skippers in securing their boats, and assist them as long as it is safe and prudent to do so. There may not be room for your boat at the last minute.
- ❑ Leave early for safe harbor when a hurricane warning is issued and you choose to relocate your boat.
- ❑ Remove any portable gas tanks and take and stow in a secure indoor location.
- ❑ Unstep the mast in sailboats when securing your boat. Remove boat documents, radios and other valuables prior to the storm.

Hurricane Landfall

Officially, “landfall” is when a storm’s center (the center of the eye, not its edge) reaches land. Naturally, storm conditions may be experienced on the coast and inland well before landfall. In fact, for a storm moving inland, the landfall area experiences half the storm before the actual landfall. For emergency preparedness, actions should be timed from when a certain wind speed will reach land (approximately 12-10 hours before landfall), not from when landfall will occur.

The following is a list of protocols to follow when dealing with an active hurricane:

- ❑ Do NOT, under any circumstances, travel to the beach or shoreline.
- ❑ Stay inside a well constructed building or home only if you have NOT been ordered to leave.
- ❑ Go to your safe area if conditions warrant.
- ❑ Keep your battery-operated radio or TV on an emergency information station.
- ❑ Keep a flashlight with you at all times.
- ❑ Do not open doors or windows, not even “just to take a look”.
- ❑ Stay away form windows.
- ❑ Do not operate gas grill or portable generator.
- ❑ Stay off the phone unless absolutely necessary.
- ❑ Turn off utilities if told to do so by authorities.
- ❑ Turn off propane tanks.
- ❑ Unplug all small appliances.
- ❑ Do not go outdoors until the storm has passed; winds can die down and begin again at anytime.
- ❑ Be alert for tornadoes, which 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.

When dealing with a storm moving inland, the landfall area experiences half the storm before the actual landfall.

Road Safety

Emergency orders may restrict travel in the hours or days immediately following a hurricane. Brookhaven Town officials urge residents to stay at home and not venture out needlessly. More injuries and fatalities occur after a major storm event than as a result of the weather itself. Immediately after the storm, the first mission of the Town will be the clearing of downed trees and debris from Town owned roads for emergency vehicle use. This will be done before any cleanup operation will commence.

Obey emergency orders including curfews. They are mandatory and will be re-evaluated daily. Anyone out during curfew could be subject to arrest.

Under a declared State-of-Emergency, no one except authorized emergency personnel and highway crews are permitted on the roads. The less traffic the Highway Dept. has to deal with, the quicker the cleanup process will be.

Do not visit disaster areas. Your presence may slow down emergency operations.

Avoid weakened bridges and washed out roads. Do not drive into flooded areas. Never drive through flooded roadways. The depth of the water is not always obvious. Also, the road bed 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 you away.

Roads may be closed for your protection. Signs, barrels or other barriers across the road mean that the road is closed and that obvious hazardous conditions exist. If you come upon a barricade or flooded road, do not enter. Downed trees and power lines may force you to use unfamiliar roads. Prepare by placing a map in your car.

Obey all flagmen when entering a work zone. Proceed slowly and with extreme caution. Be prepared to stop at all times.

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. If you must drive, please drive slowly and approach all intersections with caution.

Approach all LIRR crossings with caution and stop before crossing tracks. Treat intersections with missing/non-working traffic signals or missing stop signs as a four-way stop.

The following four-way stop procedure should be used at intersections where traffic signals are not functioning or stop signs are missing:

1. All vehicles must stop.

2. The driver of the first vehicle to stop at the intersection shall be the first to proceed.

3. If two or more drivers reach the intersection at the same time, the driver on the left shall yield to the vehicle on the right.

4. When 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.

General Post-Storm Safety

Recovery from a major event may take a long time. Re-entry into severely impacted locations may be delayed for an extended period. Loss of lives and serious injuries may result from electrocution by downed power lines and standing water. Use of chainsaws in unsafe conditions or by inexperienced operators may also result in serious injury or loss of life.

- ❑ Keep listening to local radio and TV stations for instructions.
- ❑ Return home from evacuation only when local officials tell you it is safe to do so.
- ❑ Avoid loose or dangling power lines. Assume all downed wires are energized. Report them to LIPA or to the police department.
- ❑ Use caution near standing water. Standing water may be electrically charged from under ground or downed power lines.
- ❑ Enter your home or any building with caution. Recognize that there may be damage to structural integrity.
- ❑ Wear sturdy shoes and do not enter if there is water around the building.
- ❑ Look for fire hazards such as flooded electrical circuits or submerged furnaces and appliances.
- ❑ Look for electrical system damage. If you see sparks or frayed wires and can safely reach the circuit breaker or main fuse box, turn off the electricity. Do not step in water to get to the fuse box or circuit breaker. Call a licensed electrician to evaluate.
- ❑ Before turning electric power back on make sure that there is no water intrusion in the system.
- ❑ Check for gas leaks. If you smell gas or hear a hissing noise, leave immediately and call the fire department from a neighbor's home. When possible turn off the gas at the outside main valve.
- ❑ Check for sewage and water line damage. If you think sewage lines are damaged, don't use toilets. If water pipes are damaged, don't use tap water. Call a licensed plumber to evaluate.
- ❑ Watch out for animals such as raccoons, squirrels or birds, which may have entered the building with flood waters.
- ❑ Use flashlights to examine walls, floors, doors, staircases, and windows. Inspect foundations for cracks and make sure the building is not in danger of collapsing.
- ❑ Use flashlights in the dark. If you use candles, follow established safety procedures and never leave lit candles unattended.
- ❑ Do not drink or prepare food with tap water until you are certain it is not contaminated. Use the telephone to report life-threatening emergencies only.
- ❑ Be especially cautious if using a chainsaw to cut fallen trees.
- ❑ Verify proper contractor licensing and insurance with the Town of Brookhaven for all post-storm contractors.
- ❑ Remember that Town employees may be redeployed to assist you in the recovery stages and may not be immediately available by telephone.
- ❑ Open windows and doors to ventilate and dry your home.
- ❑ Contact your homeowner insurance carrier immediately, if mold is present, to prevent serious health problems. They will provide you contact information. If you suspect mold, contact a reputable service or contractor to remove.

Secure Your Home

Blue roof program

The 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 blue plastic roof coverings for eligible homes damaged by a hurricane. This program allows victims back into their homes so that they can return to their routines as quickly as possible. It also greatly reduces the need for more expensive temporary housing. After a hurricane, registration sites may be established in the Town. Registrants must fill out an application and sign a right-of-entry form. The Corps will employ contractors to install plastic sheeting on homes of pre-qualified applicants. The sheeting is for free-standing homes, not apartments or commercial establishments. The sheeting cannot be installed on tile or flat roofs. No individual tarps will be available for distribution at the registration sites.

TOLL FREE NUMBER: 1-888-ROOF-BLU (1-888-766-3258) or FEMA at 1-800-621-3362

Secure exposed pools

After the storm, the enclosure for a swimming pool should be inspected to ensure safety. If the fence or enclosure has been damaged, property owners can use orange plastic construction fencing supported by stakes or steel rods (rebar) driven into the ground. Rope or plastic tape is not adequate. Temporary barriers must be at least four feet high off the ground with no holes or gaps wider than four inches. Town Code requires barriers around all swimming pools. For more information, contact 631-451-6333.

Repair windows

Repair broken windows and doors as soon as possible after a hurricane. Maintaining the house in a weather tight condition prevents additional damage and is required by Town Code.

General purpose tarps

Heavy gauge and extra-heavy gauge polyethylene waterproof tarps are available from hardware stores. They have sewn-in edges for extra strength and rust-proof aluminum grommet. These blue tarps can be used temporarily on a damaged roof but cannot be relied upon to provide protection during a hurricane.

Hurricane Tips

1. Get a coffee maker that doesn't need electricity.
2. Consider buying a gas grill with a side burner. It proves invaluable for heating water for coffee, soups and warming baby bottles. Caution: Use only in a well ventilated area outdoors.
3. Use your dishwasher to store important papers. Dishwashers have a watertight seal, so if there's water damage to your house your documents will stay dry. Make sure to remove your documents before using the dishwasher.

The American Red Cross

Using a Generator When Disaster Strikes

The following information, developed by the Red Cross with technical advice from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Fire Protection Association (publisher of the National Electric Code®) and the U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, is provided to address questions about using a generator when disaster strikes:

Purchasing a Generator

If you choose to buy a generator, make sure you get one that is rated for the amount of power that you think you will need. Look at the labels on lighting, appliances, and equipment you plan to connect to the generator to determine the amount of power that will be needed to operate the equipment.

For lighting, the wattage of the light bulb indicates the power needed. Appliances and equipment usually have labels indicating power requirements on them. Choose a generator that produces more power than will be drawn by the combination of lighting, appliances, and equipment you plan to connect to the generator including the initial surge when it is turned on. If your generator does not produce adequate power for all your needs, plan to stagger the operating times for various equipment.

If you cannot determine the amount of power that will be needed, ask a licensed electrician to determine that for you.(If your equipment draws more power than the generator can produce, then you may blow a fuse on the generator or damage the connected equipment.)

Using a Generator

The primary hazards to avoid when using a generator are carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning from the toxic engine exhaust, electric shock or electrocution, and fire. Follow the directions supplied with the generator. Every year, people die in incidents related to portable generator use.

Under no circumstances should portable generators be used indoors, including inside a garage, carport, basement, crawlspace, or other enclosed or partially-enclosed area, even with ventilation. Opening doors and windows or using fans will not prevent CO buildup in the home. The CO from generators can rapidly lead to full incapacitation and death, but CO can't be seen or smelled. Even if you cannot smell exhaust fumes, you may still be exposed to CO. If you start to feel sick, dizzy, or weak while using a generator, get to fresh air RIGHT AWAY-DO NOT DELAY.

Because you may have windows open to get fresh air while the power is out, be sure to place the generator away from windows, doors, and vents that could allow CO to come indoors. To avoid electrocution, keep the generator dry and do not use in rain or wet conditions. To protect the generator from moisture, operate it on a dry surface under an open canopy-like structure, such as under a tarp held up on poles. Dry your hands, if wet, before touching the generator.

It is a good idea to install battery-operated CO alarms or plug-in CO alarms with battery back-up in your home, according to the manufacturer's installation instructions. If CO gas from the generator enters your home and poses a health risk, the alarm will sound to warn you. Test the battery frequently and replace when needed. Be sure to turn the generator off and let it cool down before refueling. Gasoline spilled on hot engine parts could ignite.

The American Red Cross

Using a Generator When Disaster Strikes (Continued)

Store fuel for the generator in an approved safety can. Use the type of fuel recommended in the instructions or on the label on the generator. Local laws may restrict the amount of fuel you may store, or the storage location. Ask your local fire department for additional information about local regulations. Store the fuel outside of living areas in a locked shed or other protected area. Do not store it near a fuel-burning appliance, such as a natural gas water heater in a garage. If the fuel is spilled or the container is not sealed properly, invisible vapors from the fuel can travel along the ground and can be ignited by the appliance's pilot light or by arcs from electric switches in the appliance.

Plug appliances directly into the generator. Or, use a heavy duty, outdoor-rated extension cord that is rated (in watts or amps) at least equal to the sum of the connected appliance loads. Check that the entire cord is free of cuts or tears and that the plug has all three prongs, especially a grounding pin. Never try to power the house wiring by plugging the generator into a wall outlet, a practice known as "back feeding." This is an extremely dangerous practice that presents an electrocution risk to utility workers and neighbors served by the same utility transformer. It also bypasses some of the built-in household protection devices.

Future Considerations

The only recommended method to connect a generator to house wiring is by having a qualified licensed electrician install a power transfer switch. This switch must be installed in accordance with the National Electrical Code® (NEC), which is published by the National Fire Protection Association, and all applicable state and local electrical codes. Call a qualified licensed electrician or check with your utility company to see if they can install the appropriate equipment.
For power outages, permanently installed stationary generators are better suited for providing backup power to the home. Even a properly connected portable generator can become overloaded. This may result in overheating or stressing the generator components, possibly leading to a generator failure. Be sure to read instructions that come with the generator to make sure you operate it within its limitations for power output.

This information was developed by the American Red Cross with technical advice from the National Fire Protection Association (publisher of the National Electric Code®) and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Revised and updated September 2004.

Before Installing Your Generator
Remember to Consult a Licensed Electrician

Hurricane Myths

It will never happen here!
That's probably what people in New Orleans, Homestead, and the Keys have said. But the entire coast from Texas to Maine is vulnerable to hurricanes. Hurricanes are forces of nature, and nature is not always predictable.

My windows are ready. I have them taped.
Taping windows to prevent breakage or limit the amount of shattering is not an effective form of window protection and can create airborne shards of glass should the windows break. Correctly fastened window coverings made of 7/16-inch plywood or metal can improve the chances of having your home survive the impact of a storm.

I'm going to open the windows on the side opposite the wind so the air pressure doesn't destroy my house.
The best way to keep your home safe is to keep the wind OUT! Studies have shown that opening a window can increase the amount of damage done by wind. When a hurricane threatens, keep your home sealed up tight.

Why should I prepare my house? When the big one comes, it's 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.

The storm surge is only going to be 15 or 20 feet and my house has a third floor, so I'm riding the storm out.
Vertical evacuation, or escaping the rising storm surge by going to the upper stories of a building, is a very bad idea. Wind speeds increase the higher your elevation, so you will be evacuating into a more dangerous place. Plus, the high winds and water will make getting help to you nearly impossible after the storm passes.

We get high winds in our summer thunderstorms. A hurricane can't be much worse.
While summer thunderstorms can produce wind gusts in excess of 60 miles per hour, the winds of a major hurricane increase exponentially. These winds will be sustained for hours, much longer than a brief thunderstorm. Remember, each time the wind speed doubles, the force it exerts is four times as strong. A Category 2 hurricane, with winds of 96 to 110 miles per hour, can do considerable damage to roof structures and trees.

I've got my mobile home tied down and braced. It will be a safe place to ride out the storm.
A mobile home is NEVER a safe place to weather a hurricane. In fact, once a mandatory evacuation is ordered, all mobile and manufactured home residents are required to leave their dwellings, no matter how well secured they are.

When I get the evacuation order, I'm leaving.
Not all areas are subject to evacuation. In fact, in most locations, residents living in evacuation areas generally need to travel no more than three miles 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 traffic during the storm.

Why do I need an evacuation plan? When the order comes down, I'm going to go to an emergency shelter.
Emergency shelters are safe places to ride out a hurricane, but they are not the most comfortable. They will be crowded and noisy, and, most likely, you will be sleeping on the floor. Also, most shelters do not accept pets. Your first and best option is to evacuate to the home of a friend, co-worker or associate living in a non-evacuation area.

The weather looks great, I'm going to wait until the weather gets bad before I evacuate.
This can be one of the most dangerous decisions you can make. Storm paths are extremely unpredictable, and waiting until the last minute can leave you with no place to go to escape a storm's fury. Evacuation orders are given based on the best information available and are issued early enough to allow sufficient time for people to get to shelters. Don't take chances with your life. Gather your important papers such as your homeowner's insurance policy, deeds to property and birth certificates, your hurricane survival kit, prescriptions, and cash, as you may not be able to use credit cards after the storm. Secure your home and leave as quickly and safely as possible.

Frequently Asked Questions

Important Questions:

When should I evacuate?
Mandatory evacuations are issued for people living in evacuation areas and for people in mobile and manufactured homes, regardless of location. Evacuation is not required or recommended for persons living away from the flood zone or for persons living in structurally sound homes. Stay home and stay off the roads. That's why we encourage people to have a hurricane kit that has sufficient food and water for at least seven days. However, if you plan to leave, you must leave early, several days before a storm's projected landfall. In the Town of Brookhaven, the area of possible surge inundation is not limited to immediately along the coast and may go miles inland.

Are there sufficient shelters?
Studies have shown that less than 10 percent of the people in evacuation areas go to local shelters. If people do not live in the evacuation area or in mobile or manufactured homes, they do not need to evacuate. Shelters have a limited capacity and are to be used as a last resort. Make sure that you, your family, and your pets are prepared to lodge in a location outside of the storm surge zone.

Will the roads be jammed with traffic?
Many people may try to leave the South Shore if threatened by a hurricane. However, if people do not leave several days in advance, traffic tie-ups are likely. We do not want people stranded on the roads when hurricane force winds are likely. Remember that a total evacuation of Long Island is neither possible, practical, or necessary.

What if I can't drive and need transportation out of the evacuation zone?
If you live in an evacuation area or mobile or manufactured home and do not have transportation, you need to register with Brookhaven Senior Services Department at 451-9191. You will be placed on a list and when evacuation orders are issued, you will be contacted and provided with transportation to the nearest Red Cross shelter.

Is The Town of Brookhaven prepared?
Yes. Our hurricane response and recovery plans have been carefully developed and our staff is prepared. The Town has developed a well coordinated response to provide public safety services to those areas affected by a hurricane. The Town will coordinate power restoration plan with LIPA. County, State and Federal response agency representatives will provide assistance to us after the storm. The Town has a dedicated work staff, as well as our local volunteer EMS and Fire department personnel, whose purpose is to save lives, protect property and to help us recover from a storm as soon as possible.

Who is in charge after a storm?
The Town of Brookhaven is in charge of evacuation and recovery actions. County, State and Federal agencies and their staffs provide necessary assistance, but the Town government will retain control over all evacuation and recovery actions.

GLOSSARY

Advisory
Official information issued by tropical cyclone warning centers describing all tropical cyclone watches and warnings in effect along with details concerning tropical cyclone locations, intensity and movement, and precautions that should be taken.

Eye
The roughly circular area of comparatively light winds that encompasses the center of a severe tropical cyclone. The eye is either completely or partially surrounded by the eyewall cloud.

Eyewall
An organized band or ring of cumulonimbus clouds that surround the eye, or light-wind center of a tropical cyclone.

Evacuation Area
Predesignated coastal areas that require residents living within its confines to evacuate upon order by officials.

FEMA
The Federal Emergency Management Agency

Gale Warning
A warning of one-minute sustained surface winds in the range 39 mph to 54 mph inclusive, either predicted or occurring and not directly associated with tropical cyclones.

Hurricane / Typhoon
A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface winds reach 74 mph or more. The term hurricane is used for Northern Hemisphere tropical cyclones east of the International Dateline to the Greenwich Meridian. The term typhoon is used for Pacific tropical cyclones north of the equator west of the International Dateline.

Hurricane Season
The portion of the year having a relatively high incidence of hurricanes. The hurricane season in the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico runs from June 1 through November 30.

Hurricane Warning
A warning that sustained winds of 74 mph or higher associated with a hurricane are expected in a specified coastal area in 24 hours or less. A hurricane warning can remain in effect when dangerously high water or a combination of dangerously high water and exceptionally high waves continue, even though winds may be less than hurricane force.

Hurricane Watch
An announcement for specific coastal areas that hurricane conditions are possible within 36 hours.

Landfall
The intersection of the surface center of a tropical cyclone with a coastline. Because the strongest winds in a tropical cyclone are not located precisely at the center, it is possible for a cyclone's strongest winds to be experienced over land even if landfall does not occur. Similarly, it is possible for a tropical cyclone to make landfall and have its strongest winds remain over the water.

NOAA
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

SEMO
The New York State Emergency Management Office

Storm Surge
An abnormal rise in sea level accompanying a hurricane or other intense storm, and whose height is the difference between the observed level of the sea surface and the level that would have occurred in the absence of the cyclone.

Storm Tide
The actual level of sea water resulting from the astronomic tide combined with the storm surge.

Tornado
A violently rotating column of air which is in contact with both a cumulonimbus (or, in rare cases, cumulus) cloud base and the surface of the earth

Tropical Cyclone
Originating over tropical or subtropical waters, with organized deep convection and a closed surface wind circulation about a well-defined center. Once formed, a tropical cyclone is maintained by the extraction of heat energy from the ocean at high temperature and heat export at the low temperatures of the upper troposphere.

Tropical Depression
A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind speed (using the U.S. one-minute average) is 38 mph or less.

Tropical Disturbance
A discrete tropical weather system of apparently organized convection - generally 100 to 300 nautical miles in diameter - originating in the tropics or subtropics and maintaining its identity for 24 hours or more.

Tropical Storm
A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind speed ranges from 39 mph to 73 mph. (Tropical Storm Warning A warning that sustained winds within the range of 39 to 73 mph associated with a tropical cyclone are expected in a specified coastal area within 24 hours or less.)

Tropical Storm Watch
An announcement for specific coastal areas that tropical storm conditions are possible within 36 hours.

Tropical Wave
A trough or cyclonic curvature maximum in the trade wind easterlies. The wave may reach maximum amplitude in the lower middle troposphere.

Acknowledgements

The Town of Brookhaven gratefully acknowledges the assistance and contributions of the Town of Southampton, NY, in granting permission to excerpt relevant sections for the Town's "Official Hurricane Survival Guide." The assistance of the Town of Southampton was invaluable.

The Town of Brookhaven would also like to thank :
the American Red Cross for the use of its document, "Using a Generator When Disaster Strikes." This document was created under the direction of the Brookhaven Town Office of Public Information with the assistance of numerous Town Departments.

For More Information

American Red Cross
http://suffolkcounty.redcross. org

American Association of Equine Practitioners
http://www.aaep.org

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Authority)
http://www.fema.gov/hazard/hurricane/index.shtm

International Hurricane Research Center
http://www.ihrc.fiu.edu

PSEGLI Storm Center
www.psegliny.com/page.cfm/CustomerService/StormCenter

National Flood Insurance Program
http://www.floodsmart.gov

National Weather Service
http://nws.noaa.gov/

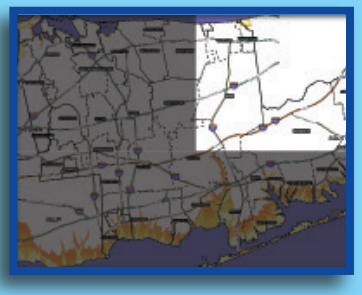
NY State Insurance Program
http://www.ins.state.ny.us

SEMO (State Emergency Preparedness Office)
http://www.semo.state.ny.us/index.cfm

Suffolk County Emergency Preparedness
http://www.co.suffolk.ny.us/

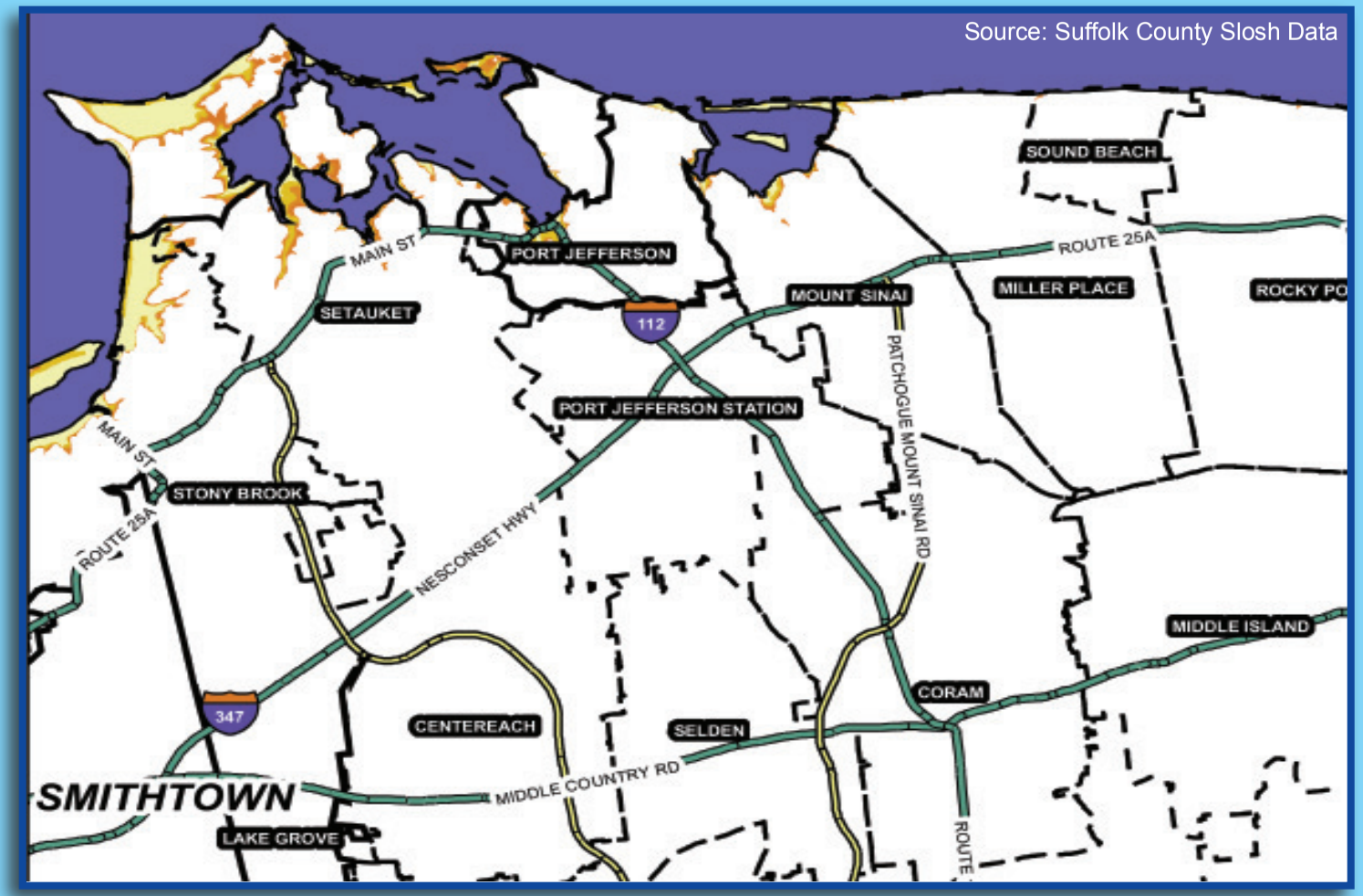
Weather Channel

NORTHEAST BROOKHAVEN



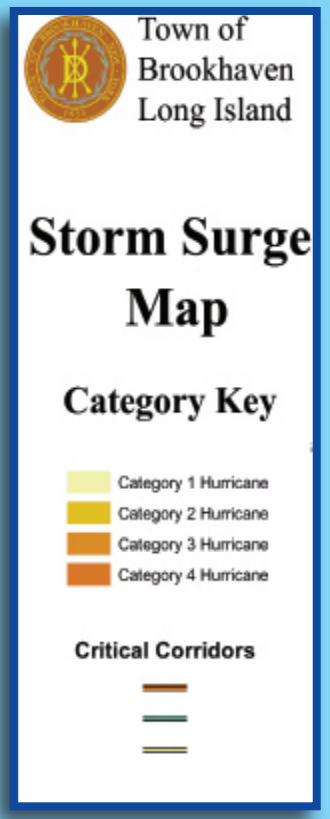
Displayed above is a storm surge map for northeast Brookhaven. Storm surge is an abnormal rise in sea level accompanying a hurricane.

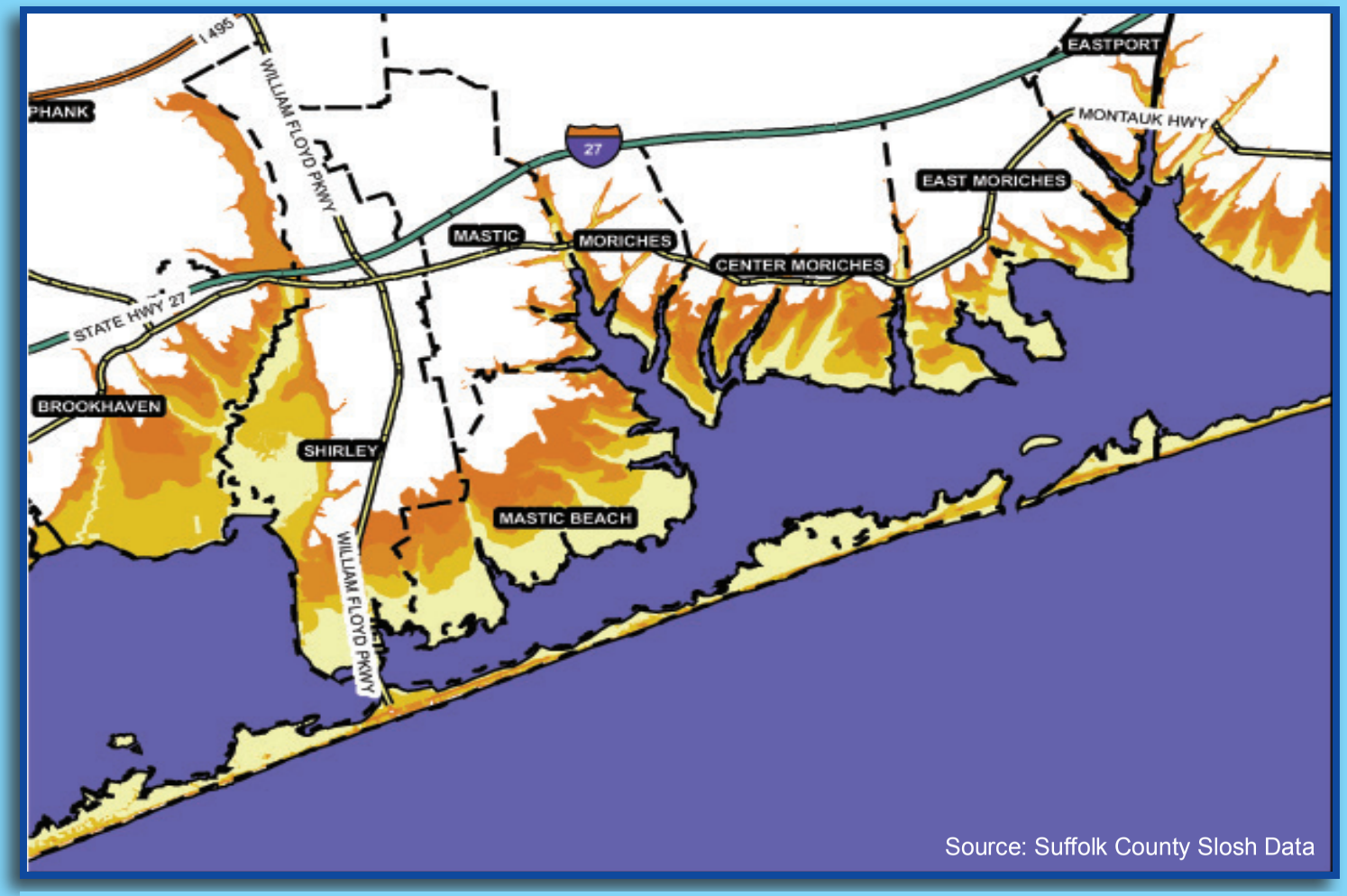
NORTHWEST BROOKHAVEN

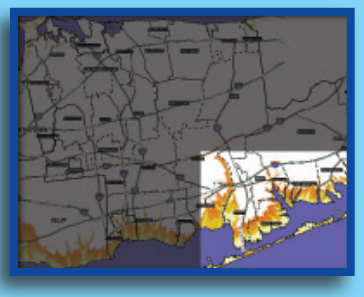


Displayed above is a storm surge map for northwest Brookhaven. Storm surge is an abnormal rise in sea level accompanying a hurricane.

SOUTHEAST BROOKHAVEN







Displayed above is a storm surge map for southeast Brookhaven. Storm surge is an abnormal rise in sea level accompanying a hurricane.

SOUTHWEST BROOKHAVEN

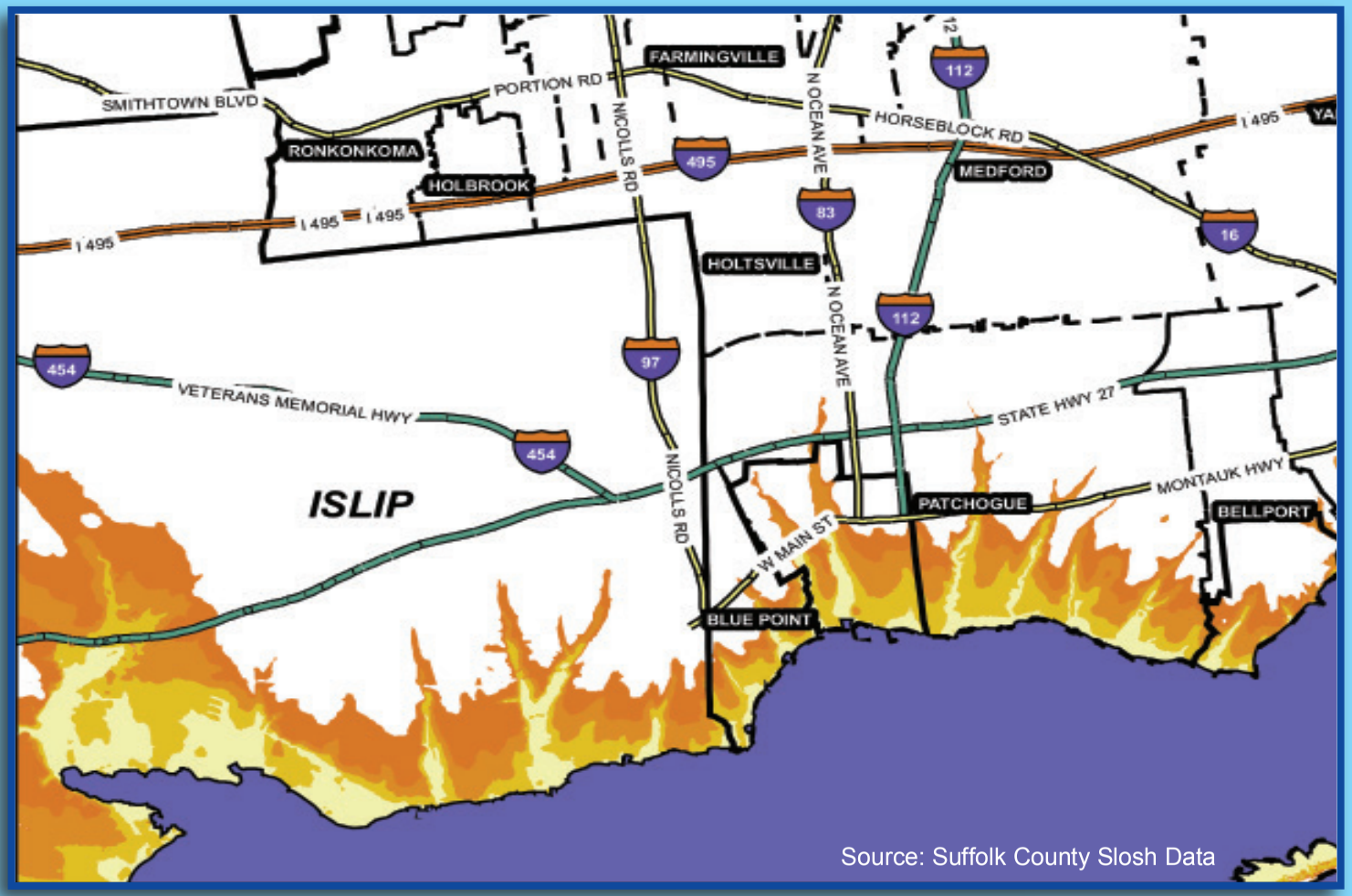
Town of Brookhaven Long Island

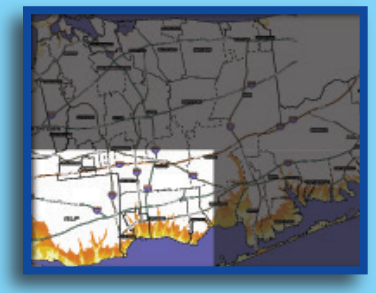
Storm Surge Map

Category Key

- Category 1 Hurricane
- Category 2 Hurricane
- Category 3 Hurricane
- Category 4 Hurricane

Critical Corridors





Displayed above is a storm surge map for southwest Brookhaven. Storm surge is an abnormal rise in sea level accompanying a hurricane.