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SCHurricaneHotline: 305-437-3919
https://www.southcom.mil/
This brief and other resources are available at:
SC Portal & USAG Shared Library: Hurricane Preparation
Overview

- South Florida – Destructive Weather Threats & Hazards
- Be Prepared
  - Stay Informed
  - Make a Plan
  - Prepare Kit/s
- Understanding Local Weather Hazards
- Sources of local resources & information
- Post storm actions and recovery
South Florida Destructive Weather

Vaisala's National Lightning Detection Network® (NLDN®)

Figure 3: Cloud-to-ground lightning from 1997-2012, courtesy of Vaisala.
Prepare Now

• Be Informed / Stay Informed
  • Flood Zones / Surge Zones / Emergency Shelters
  • Storm Tracking and Monitoring

• Make a Plan (or Plans – consider different scenarios)
  • Shelter In Place in a safe area? Friend’s house? Evacuation? Community Shelter?
  • Communication/linkup plan if family separated or at different locations?
  • Outdoor preparations - storm shutters, secure potential flying objects
  • Have you planned for special needs or pets? Medications?

• Build kit/s and review/replenish/cycle supplies (72 hours minimum)*
  * 72hr for an emergency; Recommend a disaster kit/plan also for longer periods of no electricity or water.

• Talk the plan over with your family; rehearse your plan

• Inform your relatives and supervisor of your plan and/or evacuation
Understand the Cone

- Cone predictions have improved, but are often misinterpreted as impact area vs. storm center (eye) path.
- NOAA acknowledges intensity predictions are unreliable.
- Rapid changes require constant monitoring.
- Wind speed category ‘downgrade’ does not necessarily mean less threat: Hide from wind; Run from water.

66% probability the eye path will fall within the cone.
Storm Surge

Storm Surge is not directly correlated to windspeed (Saffir-Simpson Category system) – storm movement speed, storm size and the amount of water precipitation are key to the surge/flooding threat. Florence (NC/SC 2018) and Sandy (NY/NJ 2012) CAT 1

http://mdc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4919c85a439f40c68d7b3c81c3f44b58
**Storm Surge vs Flood Zones**

**Flood zone:** Mapped by FEMA for use in the National Flood Insurance Program. Each flood zone designation tells homeowners exactly what the risk is for flooding at their property over a period of years, regardless of the cause. By law, all homes in high-risk zones carrying a mortgage must be covered by flood insurance.

**Flood Zone Map**

You **CAN** be impacted by hurricane tidal surge flooding **WITHOUT** being in a 100 year flood plain!

You **CAN** be in a flood zone without being in a Storm Surge Planning Zone.

**Evacuation zones are normally based on Storm Surge zones, but check with your county!**

The **Flood Zones** and the **Storm Surge Planning Zones** are determined by different methods and have different purposes. **Residents must check both zones.**

**Storm Surge Map (SLOSH)**

**Storm Surge Planning Zones:** Based on hurricane storm surge determined by the National Hurricane Center using ground elevation and the area’s vulnerability to water from lakes/oceans being pushed over land by a hurricane. The storm surge planning zones are marked from A through E.
Make a Plan

- **Know your Storm Surge/Evacuation Zone**
  - Miami Dade Storm Surge Interactive map (also on Ready MDC app):
    [http://mdc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4919c85a439f40c68d7b3c81c3f44b58](http://mdc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4919c85a439f40c68d7b3c81c3f44b58)
  - Broward Storm Surge/Evacuation:
    [http://www.broward.org/Hurricane/Pages/EvacuationRoutes.aspx](http://www.broward.org/Hurricane/Pages/EvacuationRoutes.aspx)
  - Palm Beach County Surge/Evacuation (also on PBC Dart app):

- **Make a plan – consider different scenarios – stay/go**
  - Emergency Management Resources and Counties have planning information
  - Shelter In Place in a “safe room”? Friends house? Evacuation?
  - Any special needs or pets? Medical or dietary issues? Infants/children? (refills/refrigeration/medical devices/toys/comfort items)
  - Communication/linkup plan if family is at different locations or TDY?
  - Include checklists, they work! (For example, home/outdoor preparations?)
  - Fail to plan=plan to fail. Avoid competing with desperate people post storm.
Local Resources

- Miami Dade Emergency Management
  - [http://www.miamidade.gov/oem](http://www.miamidade.gov/oem)
- Broward Emergency Management
  - [http://www.broward.org/Hurricane](http://www.broward.org/Hurricane)
- Monroe County Emergency Management
  - [https://www.monroecounty-fl.gov](https://www.monroecounty-fl.gov)
- Local News and Weather
- *Battery operated radio*

**Emergency Management Resources:**

- [www.readysouthflorida.org](http://www.readysouthflorida.org) (FL counties)
- [www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org) (FL state)
- [https://www.ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) (Federal)

**SC Hurricane Hotline:** 305-437-3919

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**REMEMBER:**

The JOC is NOT an info line

For SOUTHCOM Specific information

- SC Hurricane Hotline: 305-437-3919
- [https://www.southcom.mil](https://www.southcom.mil)
- Your Supervisor
Be Informed/Stay Informed

• **Weather**
  - [https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/](https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/)
  - Consider apps like “My Radar”, “Max Tracker” (local 10 news)
  - Local News and Weather (Battery operated radio in kit!)

• **County Resources**
  - Miami Dade Emergency Management
  - Broward Emergency Management
    [http://www.broward.org/hurricane](http://www.broward.org/hurricane) (Alert signup available)
  - Monroe County Emergency Management
    [https://www.monroecounty-fl.gov](https://www.monroecounty-fl.gov)
  - Palm Beach Public Safety (App: PBCDart; plus alert signup available)

• **Emergency Management Resources**
  - [www.readysouthflorida.org](http://www.readysouthflorida.org) (FL counties)
  - [https://floridadisaster.org](https://floridadisaster.org) (FL state)
  - [https://www.ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) (Federal)
Local Information

- Be Informed/Stay Informed
- Make A Plan
- Build A Kit
- Risk after the Storm
- Recovery

For SOUTHCOM Specific information

- SC Hurricane Hotline: 305-437-3919
- https://www.southcom.mil
- Your Supervisor

Tracks of hurricane centers within 65 miles of Miami since 1865
Build a Kit/s

• Build kit/s and review/replenish/cycle supplies (72 hours minimum)
  • 72 hours is an “emergency” kit
  • Create a “disaster” kit for longer periods of no electricity or water (14-30 days) – even minor hurricanes may result in week(s) of power loss/boil water orders
  • Talk the plan and kit over with your family – get input!
  • Use checklists – particularly for the last minute top off/tasks

• Exercise the plan – find gaps and instill confidence
  • For example, 3 hours in safe room; 3 meals from kit; no lights or plug-in electricity for 1 night (spare batteries, power bank, card games)
  • Does your spouse/family have access to everything to be ready without you if you are TDY or deployed?

• Inform your relatives and supervisor of your plan and/or evacuation
Prior to Storm

• Confirm and Verify Access to Key Systems
  • Ensure info in DEERS is correct via milconnect: https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/
  • Verify ALERT! Information in system
  • Know your Service’s accountability system process
    • Army personnel – Army Disaster Personnel Accountability and Assessment System (ADPAAS) at https://adpaas.army.mil or 800-833-6622
    • Air Force – Air Force Personnel Accountability and Assessment System (AFPAAS) via the AF Portal at https://afpaas.af.mil or by calling 800-435-9941, is also a mobile app for smart phones via the webpage
    • Navy – Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) at https://navyfamily.navy.mil or call the 24-Hour Navy EOCC at 877-414-5358 or 1-866-827-5672
    • Marine – Marine Online at https://www.mol.usmc.mil
    • Coast Guard – Coast Guard Personnel Accountability and Assessment System (CGPAAS) via https://cgpaas.uscg.mil
  • Confirm you have the latest copy of your organization’s recall roster
• **After the Storm**
  - Monitor the news before, during and after the storm for information on curfews, shelters, relief centers, contaminated water
  - Contact relatives/supervisor with your status (consider texting)
  - Minimize calls and driving to allow emergency calls, first responders and utility repair personnel to get through
  - Keep receipts and take photos of damage if possible
  - No generators indoors (or near air vents, windows), nor grill indoors
  - Avoid injury – limited emergency response capability (e.g., removing debris/cutting down trees/traversing flooded areas)

• **Post Storm Potential Conditions and Hazards**
  - Prolonged loss of utilities and public services; downed power lines
  - Contaminated water, boil water orders
  - Debris blocked/flooded streets – do not trust what you cannot see!
  - Missing traffic lights/stop signs
  - Shortage of food, water, fuel and supplies
Recovery

• **Official Work-Related Key Items**
  - At first opportunity, re-establish accountability via Service and Section
  - Monitor ALERT! for notifications and installation information – including re-opening
  - Inform chain of command of damage/family issues impacting your return

• **Personal Key Items**
  - Be Prepared, Stay Informed, Have a Plan & Build a Kit.
  - If storm caused significant damage to your area, whether or not you evacuated, always carry an official ID with home’s address to regain access to the area if you leave
  - Take photographs
  - Perform damage assessment
  - Upload insurance and FEMA apps to assist in claims submissions