

GUIDE TO HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS



FIU | Academic &
Student Affairs
Housing and Residential Life

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

WHAT IS A HURRICANE?

Hurricanes are tropical cyclones in which wind speeds reach a constant of at least 74 miles per hour with thunderstorms, torrential rains and storm surges of up to 20 feet. Other tropical cyclones include:

Tropical Depression

An organized system of clouds and thunderstorms with maximum sustained winds of 38 mph or less.

Tropical Storm

An organized system of strong thunderstorms with maximum sustained winds of 39-73 mph.

HURRICANE WATCH VS. WARNING

Hurricane Watch

Indicates the possibility that you could experience hurricane conditions within 48 hours. This watch should trigger your action plan, and protective measures should be taken.

Hurricane Warning

Indicates that sustained winds of at least 74 mph are expected within 36 hours or less. Once this warning has been issued, you should be in the process of completing protective actions and deciding the safest location to be during the storm.

For more information visit the National Hurricane Center at www.nhc.noaa.gov

HURRICANE WATCH VS. WARNING

All resident students are strongly encouraged to establish an evacuation plan in the event the University or Miami-Dade County issues an evacuation order, all residents will be directed to seek shelter. Students from Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties (the tri-county area) will be instructed to return home to their families or relatives' or a safe place off campus, for the duration of the hurricane event.

Notify your RA immediately of your plans. If you are from outside the tri-county area and you don't have a safe shelter off campus, you will be sheltered on campus. You will need to register for the shelter, pack your hurricane kits and watch for email and flyer updates distributed throughout the community. Students who seek shelter on campus will bring a three day (minimum) supply of water and food.

PREPARING YOUR ROOM FOR EVACUATION

- All items considered valuable should be covered in plastic and stored off the floor to avoid water damage.
- All windows and blinds MUST be closed.
- All electrical appliances MUST be turned off and unplugged.
- Notify your parents and/or guardians of your evacuation plan.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

DEVELOPING AN ACTION PLAN

In the event of a hurricane, staff will provide you with updates. If you have questions, please seek out residence hall staff for assistance. We advise all residents to develop an ACTION PLAN so that you are prepared should the weather in our area become severe enough to warrant an evacuation of the residence halls.

You should consider:

Where you seek shelter in the event of an evacuation and replenishing hurricane kits.

Important Reminders

No guests or pets are allowed in the FIU shelter. Please share your plans with family and friends.

Take the following steps:

- If possible seek shelter with your family or a friend
- Have 3 - 5 days of non-perishable food and water available
- Have a reliable flashlight and batteries
- Make sure you have an ample supply of your prescription medication and any other medicines you might need

**FOR FIU HURRICANE UPDATES
CALL: FIU-HELP (305-348-4357)
ACCESS: DEM.FIU.EDU**

HURRICANE SUPPLY KIT & PREPAREDNESS

- **WATER:** at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 5 days
- **FOOD:** at least enough for 3 to 5 days
 - Non-perishable packaged or canned food/juices
 - Snack foods
 - Non-electric can opener
 - Paper plates/plastic utensils
- **BLANKETS/PILLOWS, ETC.**
- **CLOTHING:** seasonal/rain gear/sturdy shoes
- **FIRST AID KIT/MEDICINES/PRESCRIPTION DRUGS**
- **TOILETRIES/HYGIENE ITEMS**
- **FLASHLIGHT & BATTERIES**

- **CASH:** banks and ATMs may not be open for extended periods.
- **KEYS**
- **BOOKS AND GAMES**
- **IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS:** put in a water proof container (insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, social security card, etc.)
- **VEHICLE FUEL TANKS FILLED**
- Move your car to a parking garage. Specific garages will be identified when the University is making storm preparations.
- **DON'T FORGET TO NOTIFY YOUR RA OF WHAT YOUR PLANS WILL BE!**

HURRICANE SHELTER POLICIES & EXPECTATIONS

for FIU Housing Residents

- Follow all directions of Staff and University Police, who will be responsible for managing the operations of the shelter.
- Only FIU residents and approved staff are permitted in the shelter. Guests and pets will not be permitted in the shelter.
- No possession or consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs (regardless of age of student) will be permitted in the shelter. This pertains even if the shelter is held in a residence hall. Shelter policies supercede residence hall alcohol policy.
- All other University and Housing and Residential Life Policies must be adhered to while in the shelter.
- For your safety, it is required that you remain in the shelter. Should you elect to leave the campus shelter (if even for a brief time), you will not be able to return.
- A count of all students will take place periodically. Be prepared to participate and cooperate during these times. Direction will be provided as to when and where these counts will occur.
- Carry your FIU Identification at all times.
- Keep the wristband on and visible for the duration of the shelter.
- Just as in the residence halls, 24 hour courtesy hours are in effect. Please be respectful if asked to quiet down by another student or staff member.
- Adhere to the designations for assigned sleeping areas and those spaces identified for meals and social activities. Residents must remain in designated areas at all times.
- Utilize stairwells for travel between floors. Elevators should only be used by students with special needs.
- Once residents' rooms are evacuated, students will not be allowed to access them until staff provides clearance to do so.
- Aside from Hurricane Kit items, leave all other personal belongings in your room.
- Keep the shelter clean. Please dispose of all trash and pick up after yourself.
- The University assumes no responsibility for your personal items; your belongings are your responsibility - keep track of them at all times.
- Seek out staff for assistance. Please let us know how you and/or those around you are doing.
- Balance your individual needs with those of the community. This means sharing, being cooperative, respectful and sensitive to the needs of others.