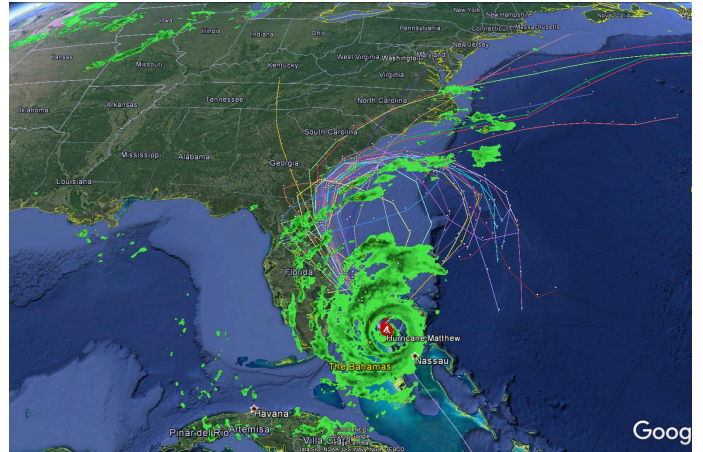


P R E P A R I N G for HURRICANE SEASON

Hurricane Season watch in Florida is from May 15 and ends Nov. 30, according to the National Weather Service. However, most of these storms when they hit its usually during the peak hurricane season between August and October, on both coasts, according to the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center. Early preparation will help provide you with peace of mind throughout the season. Please take a few minutes to review the hurricane preparedness information listed below to help ensure you're prepared.



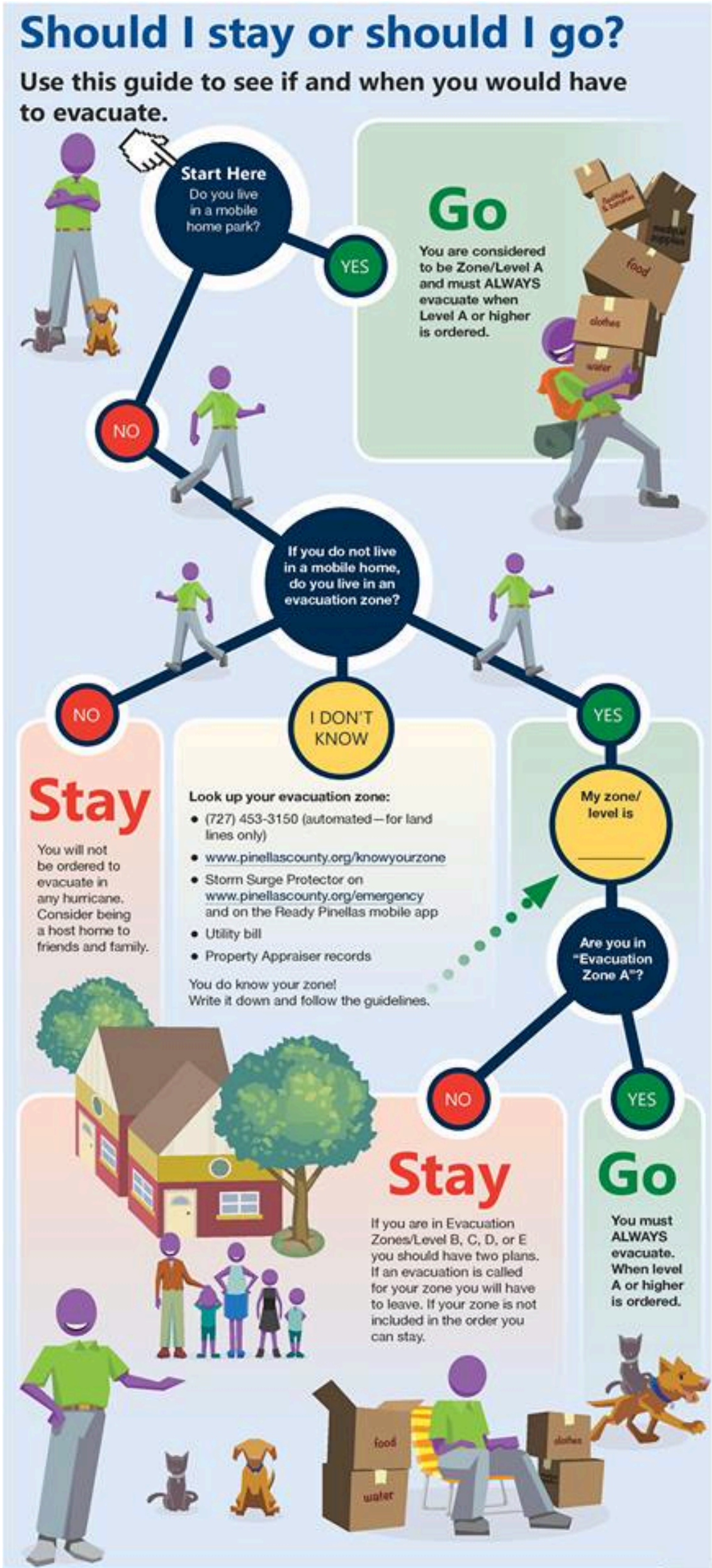
☒ **Make a Hurricane Kit**

It is important to create a kit of supplies that you could take with you if you are forced to evacuate. This kit will also be useful if you are able to stay in your home, but are still affected by the storm, such as through the loss of power. One common trend seen when hurricanes are approaching is a wide-spread panic. When this happens, people rush in large numbers to get all the supplies they think they need. However, if you prepare your kit ahead of time, you can alleviate a lot of the potential stress of a very chaotic situation. You should create your kit in a bag that you can easily take with you.

Some recommended items to include are:

- ☒ Non-perishable food (enough to last at least 3 days)
- ☒ Water (enough to last at least 3 days)
- ☒ First-aid kit (include any prescription medication you may need)
- ☒ Personal hygiene items and sanitation items
- ☒ Batteries and/or pre-charged power banks
- ☒ Flashlights (have extra batteries on hand)
- ☒ Battery operated radio (again, have extra batteries)
- ☒ Waterproof container with cash and important documents
- ☒ Manual can opener
- ☒ Lighter or matches
- ☒ Books, magazines, games for recreation
- ☒ Special needs items: pet supplies and baby supplies if applicable
- ☒ Cooler and ice packs
- ☒ A plan for evacuation and for if family members are separated
- ☒ Remember to include copies of your insurance policies in your preparedness kit

Always heed evacuation warnings. Know your evacuation route and destination before you leave. Never drive into standing water.



☑ Be Prepared for Power Outages

In the event a storm should leave you without power, there are a few things to consider and help you be ready and stay safe outside of your normal hurricane preparedness.

- ☑ Gas: Make sure your tank is full far in advance of an approaching storm. Most people wait until the last minute, rush to get extra gas for cars and generators, and subsequently gas stations can run out early.
 - ☑ ATMS: Have extra cash on hand in the event no ATMS in your area are accessible or working.
 - ☑ Cell Phones: Charge your cell phone and limit use after power is out.
 - ☑ A/C: This can be the most uncomfortable side effect of losing power during a storm. Try to prevent as much light from entering and warming the house by covering up your windows on the inside. If you have back-up or battery operated fans, don't run them unless you are in the room. Fans create a difference in perceived temperature but do not cool the room; instead they create a cooling effect by dispersing the heat off your skin. It is said they can actually add heat to a room just by running.
 - ☑ Water: Fill bathtub and large containers with water for washing and flushing only.
 - ☑ Food: Turn your fridge temperature down and/or freeze any food or drinking water that can be frozen if you expect a power outage. Here is a guide on freezing food: [Freezing and Food Safety](#). Have a cooler with ice packs prepared to cool your drinks and snacks after power has been out for more than 4 hours. And importantly, check out this food safety guide for when to discard your perishable food: http://www.foodsafety.gov/keep/charts/refridg_food.html
 - ☑ Health/Safety: The CDC has a great guide on how to stay safe in the event of a power outage: [Power Outages](#)
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☑ Secure Your Home

Know how to secure your home in the event of damaging winds, storm surge and flooding.

- ☑ Cover all of your windows, either with hurricane shutters or wood.
- ☑ Although tape can prevent glass from shattering everywhere, be warned that tape does not prevent the window from breaking.
- ☑ If possible, secure straps or clips to securely fasten your roof to the structure of your home.
- ☑ Make sure all trees and shrubs are trimmed and clear rain gutters.
- ☑ Reinforce your garage doors.
- ☑ Bring in all outdoor furniture, garbage cans, decorations, and anything else that is not tied down.
- ☑ If winds become strong, stay away from windows and doors and close, secure and brace internal doors.
- ☑ Always have a landline or cell phone available.

☑ Secure Your Condo

Know how to secure your home in the event of damaging winds, storm surge and flooding.


















- ☑ If permitted, install shutters that are commercially approved . Check fasteners to ensure shutters are snug against the wall.
- ☑ Close and lock all windows and sliding glass doors.
- ☑ Draw all shades. Close all blinds and drapes.
- ☑ Place folded towels on windowsills and inside the bottom of doors leading outside to absorb any leaking water.
- ☑ Wedge patio doors shut to prevent them from being blown off.
- ☑ Remove all loose items from terrace or patio (hanging plants, lawn chairs, etc.) Do not place outdoor furniture in the swimming pool as it could be damaged while in the pool or cause damage if blown out of the pool by high wind.
- ☑ Remove all objects from wall shelves (these items can become deadly missiles when high winds occur). Store in closet and off of the floor to safeguard from storm vibrations.
- ☑ Locate the exit stairwell nearest to you and count the number of steps from your door to the exit (in case lights are out in the hallway).
- ☑ Stay inside your condominium in a room with few or no windows (preferably the bathroom).
- ☑ Determine a location outside of the building for members of your family to meet in the event you are asked to evacuate.

HURRICANE HOTLINE CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS

- City of Tampa Hurricane information: Call 813-274-7700
OR go to <https://www.tampagov.net/hurricane-information>
- Electric Power Outage or Safety Concern (TECO 24 hrs):
toll-free 1-877-588-1010
- Hurricane Information Desk (during an emergency) : 813-274-7700
- Neighborhood Enhancement - Enforces all non-criminal city ordinances, codes, and regulations (weekends 7 a.m.- 6 p.m.): 813-690-4631
- Transportation & Stormwater Services 813-274-3101
Roadway/Right-of-Way/Drainage/Flooding Emergencies - (24 hours)
- Tree Hotline/Emergency
 - Illegal Tree Removal (24 hours): 813-258-8733
 - Fallen Tree (business hours 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM): 813-274-5744
 - Fallen Tree (after hours 4:30 PM to Midnight): 813-931-2168
 - Fallen Tree (after hours Midnight to 7:30 AM): 813-274-3101
- Wastewater Emergency Repair/Sewer Backup (24 hours) : 813-259-1693
- Water Department Emergency Services (24 hours) : 813-274-7400

PREP YOUR PETS!

Your pet will need more than a bag of food in a storm!

-  Water for your pet for 3-7 days
-  Non-perishable food
-  Crate/carrier/tank
-  Leash (non-extendable)
-  Collar and/or harness
-  Favorite Toy
-  Blanket or pillow
-  Clean litter box
-  Poo baggies
-  Updated shots and medical records
-  Microchip with up-to-date contact info
-  Any medications
-  Calming aids
-  Tags
-  Puppy training pads
-  Heartworm preventatives
-  Rain gear

