

Things to do and Evacuation

Things to do when a Hurricane Watch is issued

- Moved everything indoors including outdoor furniture, plants, floor mats, pots, wreaths and decorations. Everything becomes a danger during a storm.
- Remove screens from windows and doors and store indoors.

Things to do for a Hurricane Warning

- Close all hurricane shutters.
- Lock all windows and sliding doors (wind has blown windows open and allowed water intrusion)
- Move all valuable furniture and objects away from windows if you do not have shutters.
- Put towels or “pigs” on the floor in front of your doors and windows to help minimize water intrusion.
- Turn off your hot and cold water supply valves to the unit.
- Empty ice from freezer and shut off the ice maker.
- Remove anything perishable from the refrigerator and all items from your freezer. During Hurricane season, it would be good to only keep one week of frozen supplies.
- Shut off your HVAC unit. Start again once the cooling tower has been powered back up.
- Leave phone numbers on your kitchen counter where you can be reached in case of an emergency.
- Fill all bath tubs with water for use until city water service has been re-activated. Bathtub water may not be safe to drink.
- Un-plug all electrical appliances including TV’s, computers, cable lines, etc. If your radio is not battery operated, you could buy a UPS (Universal Power Supply) for about \$50 which has a built in battery (and surge protector) to operate any 110 volt radio.
- Close garage doors completely.

Evacuation

- The Office of Emergency Management or other official government agencies are authorized to mandate evacuation orders. You may also want to evacuate if the Aquanique Property Management Company has to shut down of all Condo facilities in order to protect the buildings and common area or they have to turn off the water or the electricity or both.
- If the building has to operate on the generator, only one elevator or none may be operable. Power and water could be lost at any time.

Where to go

- Not all shelters in the area are open at the same time. Information will be provided on TV or the local radio stations. Listen to them for more detailed instructions on locations, times and points of access. The Health Department of St. Lucie County operates a shelter located at the Civic Center, 25th St. and Virginia Avenue. Other shelter locations can be the Middle School and High School. Listen to the radio for details.

- Most shelters have first aid personnel on site.
- All public shelters are safe refuge during a hurricane. The American Red Cross is usually operating these facilities. Assistance is provided. You should bring: pillow, blanket or sleeping bag, towels, soap, lots of reading material, folding chair, playing cards, radio, change of clothes, flashlight, extra batteries, non-perishable food and water.
- Most shelters do not accept pets

If you chose not to stay in a local emergency shelter, there are many hotels and motels outside our area. Travel in a direction away from the storm such as Orlando. Hotels will fill up quickly. Make a reservation by credit card to ensure a guaranteed stay. REMEMBER MANY PEOPLE WILL BE TRAVELING IN THE SAME DIRECTION. THE ROADS WILL BE CROWDED, GIVE YOUR SELF PLENTY OF TIME.

If you do not Evacuate

Note: if the civil authorities order an evacuation and you choose to stay, they may not respond to your call for help.

- Have flashlights, extra batteries, candles, battery powered radio, sufficient drinking water and non-perishable food in your unit to last for three days to one week for each person staying.
- Freezing ice in large containers (milk cartons, large plastic bottles) will allow you to keep perishables for a couple of days without refrigeration.
- Sign the register in the lobby notifying others staying in the building of your intent to stay. Include contact names and phone numbers.
- Notify relatives or friends of your intent to stay.
- Do not exit the building unless you are certain that the storm has passed. The calm may be the eye of the storm.

Returning to the Condo

- Once the storm has passed and the office of Emergency Management has issued orders for a safe return, access might be on a limited basis. Have property ownership ID with you.
- Check the bulletin board for specific instructions regarding available utilities, damages, etc.
- Wear proper shoes if there is debris around
- Stay away from downed power lines
- Check your unit and report all damages to Building Management or a Board Member. All off site property owners should make arrangements to check their units as quickly as possible for any damage.