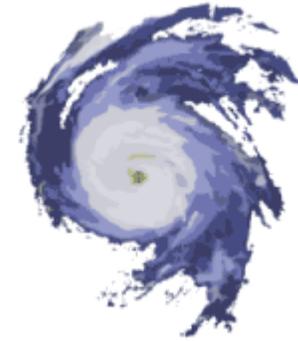


# PREPARING FOR **HURRICANES** IN ATLANTIC COUNTY



The Atlantic Office of Emergency Preparedness has prepared this brochure to help you better understand and prepare for the challenges that may face our area should we be impacted by a hurricane.

## MONITOR THE FOLLOWING FOR UP TO THE MINUTE EMERGENCY INFORMATION:

### NOAA WEATHER RADIO 162.400 MHz

WMGM TV 40, COMCAST, Channel 24  
WAYV 95.1 FM / WAIV 102.3 FM  
WTTH 96.1 FM / WDTN 93.1 FM  
WFGP 96.9 FM  
WXXW 97.3 FM  
WTKU-FM 98.3 FM  
WZBZ 99.3 FM / WGBZ 105.5 FM  
WZXL 100.7 FM  
WMGM 103.7 FM  
WSJO 104.9 FM  
WPUR 107.3 FM  
WIBG 1020 AM  
WCMC 1230 AM  
WMID 1340 AM  
WOND 1400 AM  
WENJ 1450 AM  
WTKU (AM) 1490 AM  
WGYM 1580 AM

## Pre-Evacuation Actions

If a situation warrants a possible evacuation, you can save time and frustration by completing several tasks well in advance of a storm's arrival.

- Fill your car with gas, check car battery and oil, flashlight and radio batteries.
- Secure outdoor lawn furniture and other loose materials, shutter windows, etc.
- Prepare your family for evacuation. You may have to evacuate even before a hurricane warning is issued, due to the storm's strength, location or direction of movement.
- Make arrangements for your pets.
- Top off underground tanks to prevent flotation.
- Put together the materials you will need to take to a shelter: [your disaster supplies kit](#).
- Remember that late evacuations take longer to clear the threatened area- evacuate early and promptly.
- Stay tuned for emergency information on local radio, TV and Cable stations.

## Major Evacuation Routes

The major evacuation routes for Atlantic County are: Atlantic City Expressway, the Garden State Parkway, US 9, 30, 40, 322, State Routes 50, 87 and County Routes 559, Alt. 559 and Alt. 561.



Dennis Levinson  
*County Executive*

Gerald DelRosso  
*County Administrator*

and the  
Atlantic County  
Board of Chosen Freeholders

## Family Disaster Supplies Kit

**Put together a disaster supplies kit for your family before a disaster strikes. Include the following:**

- Prescription medication and medical information.
- Special dietary food required.
- First-aid kits- one for home, one for your car.
- Flashlight or other emergency lighting.
- Food that does not need to be refrigerated or cooked. (a 3 day supply per person, rotate stored food every six months)
- Personal aides, eye glasses, hearing aids, etc.
- Insurance information.
- Portable radio and extra batteries.
- Baby supplies such as: food, formula, disposable diapers.
- Water in plastic jugs or covered containers (3 day supply per person, change water every three months)

## Papers and valuables:

- Social Security cards
- Driver's License
- Insurance Policies
- Savings and Checking Account Records
- Birth Certificates
- Cash and Credit cards
- Deeds
- Inventory of Household goods
- Marriage/death records
- Wills
- Stocks and Bonds
- Small Valuables: cameras, watches, jewelry, etc.

**Keep items in an airtight bag.  
Keep the items you would most likely need  
during an evacuation in an easy-to-carry  
container.**

For further information visit:  
[www.readyatlantic.org](http://www.readyatlantic.org)

## RETROFITTING YOUR HOME

The most important precaution you can take to reduce damage to your home and property is to protect the areas where wind can enter. According to recent wind technology research, it's important to strengthen the exterior of your house so wind and debris do not tear large openings in it. You can do this by protecting and reinforcing these five critical areas:

ROOF | STRAPS | WINDOWS | DOORS | GARAGE DOORS

A great time to start securing - or retrofitting - your house is when you are making other improvements or adding an addition.

Remember: building codes reflect the lessons experts have learned from past catastrophes. Contact the local building code official to find out what requirements are necessary for your home improvement projects.

### FLOOD INSURANCE

The National Flood Insurance Program, is a pre-disaster flood mitigation and insurance protection program designed to reduce the escalating cost of disasters. The National Flood Insurance Program makes federally backed flood insurance available to residents and business owners

Flood damage is not usually covered by homeowners insurance. Do not make assumptions. Check your policy.

## SECURING YOUR BOAT

Long before a hurricane is approaching, boat owners should already have a plan to minimize the impacts of a hurricane on their vessels.

If you know that a hurricane or storm surge are approaching, get off the open water and as far away from the storm as possible. **Never stay with your boat.**

The following guidelines do not ensure a boat will escape damage, but a well-planned strategy will help reduce the chances of disaster. Determine if you will trailer or haul your boat, secure it in a marina or move it to a previously identified mooring.

Keep in mind the hazards hurricanes present: wind, tidal surge and wind-driven waves.

Check your insurance policies to know your responsibilities, as well as those of your marina or storage area. Gather insurance policies, registrations, inventories and other records. You may need them when you return to check on your boat.

Following are guidelines when removing your boat from the water:

- If you can, put your boat and trailer in a garage.
- Avoid exposure to wind and park away from trees.
- Lash the boat to the trailer and secure the boat to a fixed object, preferably from four directions.
- Seal door openings and tape windows that may break.
- Remove sails, rigging and other loose objects.
- If you plan to haul your boat, be sure the marina can store and secure it quickly.
- Check into prearranged contracts for hauling and have an alternate plan in case the marina cannot meet the sudden demand that would be generated.

If you are leaving your boat at the dock, do the following:

- Double all lines and protect them from chaffing. Adjust lines to accommodate unusually high or low water
- Make sure boats will not strike a roof as water level rises.
- Make sure all cleats and winches are well secured to the boat.
- Install fenders to protect boats from rubbing against piers, pilings and other boats.
- Cut off all electrical devices, except bilge pumps, for the duration of the storm.

**Do not stay aboard your boat!**

## HAVE A PLACE TO GO

**Develop a family hurricane preparedness plan before an actual storm threatens your area.** If your family hurricane preparedness plan includes evacuation to a safer location for any of the reasons specified by emergency managers, then it is important to consider the following points:

**If ordered to evacuate, do not wait or delay your departure.** If possible, leave before local officials issue an evacuation order for your area. Even a slight delay in starting your evacuation will result in significantly longer travel times as traffic congestion worsens.

**Select an evacuation destination that is nearest to your home, preferably in the same county, or at least minimize the distance over which you must travel in order to reach your intended shelter location.**

If possible, make arrangements to stay with the friend or relative who resides closest to your home and who will not have to evacuate. Discuss with your intended host the details of your family evacuation plan well **before** the beginning of the hurricane season.

**If a hotel or motel is your final intended destination during an evacuation, make reservations before you leave.**

Most hotel and motels will fill quickly once evacuations begin. The longer you wait to make reservations, even if an official evacuation order has not been issued for your area or county, the less likely you are to find hotel/motel room vacancies, especially along interstate highways and in major metropolitan areas.

**If you are unable to stay with friends or family and no hotels/motels rooms are available, then as a last resort go to a shelter.**

Remember, shelters are not designed for comfort and do not usually accept pets. Bring your **DISASTER SUPPLY KIT** with you to the shelter.