

# HURRICANE INFORMATION

Years ago, an international committee developed names for Atlantic cyclones. In 1979 a six year rotating list of Atlantic storm names was adopted – alternating between male and female hurricane names. Storm names are used to facilitate geographic referencing, for warning services, for legal issues, and to reduce confusion when two or more tropical cyclones occur at the same time. Through a vote of the World Meteorological Organization Region IV Subcommittee, Atlantic cyclone names are retired usually when hurricanes result in substantial damage or death or for other special circumstances.

## 2008 NAMES

Arthur, Bertha, Cristobal, Dolly, Edouard, Fay, Gustav, Hanna, Ike, Josephine, Kyle, Laura, Marco, Nana, Omar, Paloma, Rene, Sally, Teddy, Vicky, Wilfred

## HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS INFORMATION

Everyone should take personal responsibility for the health and safety of one's family and themselves. The role of the city and county government in the aftermath of a disaster event is to provide search and rescue, disaster area security, damage assessment, and road clearance at least during the first 48 to 72 hours after the weather clears.

## EVACUATION PLANS

The guiding principle in hurricane evacuation is: Flee from Flood and Hide from the Wind. The determination of whether your home is at great risk for destruction is based upon two major factors: the type of home and storm surge or flood vulnerability. As a rule, mobile homes are not safe to inhabit during ANY hurricane. If you DO live in an evacuation zone, you must decide whether you will leave the area altogether, take shelter with family or friend, or, as a last resort, use a public hurricane shelter. If you don't live in an evacuation zone and live in a conventional home, you may choose to ride out the storm in your home.

## DEVELOP AND DISCUSS A FAMILY DISASTER PLAN

Make sure that every family member understands what his or her responsibilities are under the plan, and when and where they are to meet, leave, or establish contact. Additionally, your plan should include a contact out of state who knows what your family plan is. This person can serve as a connection should family members be separated and unable to contact each other.



## PURCHASE AND STORE 3 DAYS OF SUPPLIES

Before hurricane season starts is the time to purchase enough food to last each person at least three days. That means you need to store nine complete meals per person. Allow two to three gallons water per day, per person. You will also need two changes of clothing, along with blankets and pillows for each person. A 30-day supply of medications is recommended along with first aid supplies or a first aid kit. Store your supplies where they are easily accessible. Refresh the supplies every year.

## PROTECT IMPORTANT INFO

Home mortgages, auto loans, birth certificates, death certificates, licenses, Social Security cards, deeds, titles, insurance policies, stocks, bonds, prescriptions, annuities, and registrations are all examples of critical records that should be sealed in waterproof bags or containers and are safely and securely stored. These should be kept where they would

be reasonably available, but secured in an area outside of the hurricane storm surge vulnerability. If you bring them with you, then seal them in waterproof bags and lock them in a security lockbox.

## RESOURCES

[www.myclearwater.com](http://www.myclearwater.com)  
[www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov)  
[www.pinellascounty.org/emergency](http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency)  
[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)  
[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)  
[www.salvationarmyflorida.org](http://www.salvationarmyflorida.org)



## COSTLY STORMS

Hurricane	Year	Damage Cost Estimate
Katrina	2005	\$80 billion
Andrew	1992	\$26.5 billion
Charley	2004	\$15 billion
Wilma	2005	\$14.4 billion
Ivan	2004	\$14.2 billion
Rita	2005	\$9.4 billion