



THE BELLEAIR BEACH BREEZE

2015 Hurricane Edition

June 2015

City of Belleair Beach

Mayor

Rob Baldwin

Vice Mayor

Leslie Notaro

Councilmembers

Jeril S. Cohen

Pamela Gunn

Mitch Krach

John Pietrowski

Wanda Schwerer

City Manager

Nancy G. Gonzalez

City Clerk

Patricia A. Gentry, CMC

Finance Officer

Melanie Kruszona

City Attorney

Paul J. Marino

Community Services

Allen Godfrey

Administrative Assistant

Pamela J. Nightingale

Community Services Staff

Howard Chavis, Supervisor

Jana Mastilovic

Community Improvement Officer

Jack White

Upcoming City Council Meetings

June 1, 2015 - 6 pm

City of Belleair Beach
444 Causeway Boulevard
Belleair Beach FL 33786

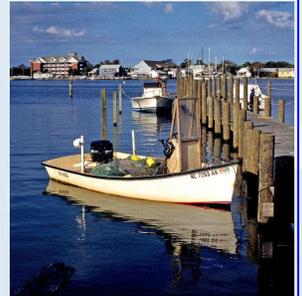
727.595.4646

727.593.1409 FAX

Hours: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm M-F

Boat Safety

The key to protecting your boat from hurricanes or any severe, threatening weather is planning, preparation, and timely action. The following precautions and checklists are meant as guidelines only. Each boat owner needs a plan unique to the type of boat, local boating environment, the severe weather conditions likely to occur in that region, and the characteristics of safe havens and/or plans for protection.



- Prior to the hurricane season, develop a detailed plan of action to secure your vessel in the marina. If permitted, remove your boat from the threatened area, or take your boat to a previously identified hurricane refuge. Specifically, identify and assemble needed equipment and supplies. Keep them together. Before hurricane season, practice your plan to ensure that it works.
- Arrange for a friend to carry out your plans if you are out of town during hurricane season.
- Check your lease or storage rental agreement with the marina or storage area. Know your responsibilities and liabilities as well as those of the marina.
- Consolidate all records, including insurance policies, a recent photo of your vessel, boat registration, equipment inventory, lease agreement with the marina or storage area, and telephone numbers of appropriate authorities (i.e., Coast Guard, insurance agent, National Weather Service, etc.) and keep them in your possession. They may be needed when you return to check on your boat after the hurricane.

Preparation For Your Pet

If you must evacuate your home in a crisis, plan for the worst-case scenario. If you think you may be gone for only a day, assume that you may not be allowed to return for several weeks. When recommendations for evacuation have been announced, follow the instructions of local and state officials.

To minimize evacuation time, take these simple steps:

- Store an emergency kit and leashes as close to an exit as possible.
- Make sure all pets wear collars and tags with up-to-date identification. Your pet's ID tag should contain his name, telephone number, and any urgent medical needs. Be sure to write your pet's name, your name and contact information on your pet's carrier.
- The ASPCA recommends microchipping your pet as a more permanent form of identification. A microchip is implanted in the animal's shoulder area, and can be read by scanner at most animal shelters.
- Always bring pets indoors at the first sign or warning of a storm or disaster. Pets can become disoriented and wander away from home during a crisis.
- Consider your evacuation route and call ahead to make arrangements for boarding your pet outside of the danger zone at the first sign of disaster.

What do experts say about hurricane season 2015?

- **The Weather Channel** is predicting a hurricane season that's slightly less active than the average, with nine named storms, five hurricanes and one major hurricane this year.
- **Colorado State University** is predicting that 2015 will be one of the least active in decades, with seven named storms, three hurricanes, and one major hurricane of Category 3 or higher.
- **North Carolina State University**'s Department of Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences is also predicting a quiet season, with four to six named storms, one to three hurricanes, and only one that may become a major hurricane.
- **Tropical Storm Risk** from the University College London is predicting a season that's slightly quieter than average, with 11 named storms, five hurricanes, and two major hurricanes.

Global Weather Oscillations Inc. (GWO) is going in the opposite direction, predicting that the 2015 Atlantic hurricane season will be the most active and dangerous in at least three years and that the next three seasons will be the most dangerous in 10 years. In 2015, GWO is forecasting 14 named tropical storms, with eight hurricanes and three major hurricanes.

Last year's predictions were generally on target. As most agencies predicted, the 2014 hurricane season was quieter than normal. Only one tropical cyclone made landfall in the United States—Hurricane Arthur, which made landfall in North Carolina in early July—but the year continued an incredible lull in major hurricane landfalls in the United States.

Here's a rundown of predictions that were made for 2014.

- Last year, the team at **North Carolina State University** was spot on, predicting eight to 11 named storms, with four to six growing into hurricanes, and one to three that becoming major hurricanes.
- **The Weather Channel** also got it right, and came close to predicting the exact number of storms. It forecast 11 named tropical storms, with five hurricanes, of which two would become major hurricanes.
- **Colorado State University** got the trend right, too. Tropical Meteorology Project forecasted a quiet 2014 Atlantic hurricane season, predicting nine tropical storms and three full-fledged hurricanes.

The **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** also correctly predicted that a near-normal or below-normal hurricane season in 2014. NOAA predicted a relatively quiet season, with eight to 13 named storms, three to six hurricanes, and one to two major hurricanes. The season would bring 17 named tropical storms, eight hurricanes and three major hurricanes.

2015 Hurricane Shelters

Clearwater Fundamental Middle School	1660 Palmetto St.	Clearwater	
Skycrest Elementary School	10 N. Corona Ave.	Clearwater	
Belleair Elementary School	1156 Lakeview Rd.	Clearwater	
Ross Norton Recreation Center	1426 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.	Clearwater	
Oak Grove Middle School	1370 S. Belcher Rd.	Clearwater	
High Point Elementary School	5921 150th Ave. N.	Clearwater	
Shelter Name	Address (googlemaps)	City	
Pinellas Park High School	6305 118th Ave N.	Largo	
Bauder Elementary School	12755 86th Ave N.	Seminole	

Preparing Your Condo

Your evacuation zone is Level A. Even if you live on a upper floor, you may be completely cut off from rescue if the grounds flood. NEVER evacuate up!

Get shutters or panels to cover your glass doors and windows. Be sure to check with your condo association to see if they require a specific style.

Bring all balcony furniture, potted plants and other items indoors so they won't be blown around by the strong winds.

Know where your exit stairwells are located. They will be necessary if your building loses power and elevators are unavailable.





If an Emergency Strikes...



Do you have your free **Sheriff's Office** issued **EMERGENCY ACCESS PERMIT**?

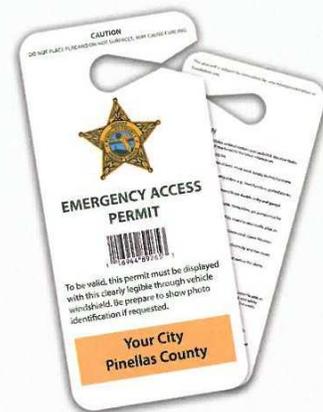
Pinellas County Sheriff's Office | Sheriff Bob Gualtieri

EMERGENCY ACCESS PERMIT

In an effort to prevent looting and burglary after a large-scale mandatory evacuation, your city has joined the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office to provide free Emergency Access Permits to all businesses and residents of the barrier islands. Once a mandatory evacuation order has been lifted, Emergency Access Permits will be required to re-enter an evacuated area. There are nine entry points to the barrier islands. Access will be limited based on the closest entry point to your residence.

You will be asked to hang the permit from your vehicle's rearview mirrors upon evacuation. When the order is lifted, law enforcement posted at city entrances will scan the barcode on your permit to verify your residence.

With your help, we will be able to keep trespassers from easy access to your property.



To get your Re-Entry permit:

Stop by the Belleair Beach Community Center between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm M-F with your driver license. You can also email a clear copy of your driver license to info@cityofbelleairbeach.com and the Re-Entry permit (s) can be mailed to you.

Is your insurance ready?

Getting your insurance ready for hurricane season is an important preparedness step. Not only having insurance – but having the right amount and the right kind – can mean the difference between a smooth recovery and one full of challenges. That’s why it’s important to check with your insurance agent to discuss the type of coverage you need and the amounts you should have.

If you have specific questions about your policy, be sure to speak with your agent, or visit these online resources.

Florida Office of Insurance Regulation
The Insurance Information Institute
Insuring Florida blog
Know your stuff with a home inventory

Don’t wait another minute! Review your homeowner’s or renter’s insurance policy and review exactly what coverage you have.

Ask yourself these four important questions:

- ◆ What is my deductible?
- ◆ What is my hurricane deductible?
- ◆ Do I need flood insurance?
- ◆ Do I have enough coverage to replace my home and belongings?

Homeowners should check with their insurance agents to determine what improvements could offer discounts on their hurricane insurance premium. Some companies offer rate reductions for reinforcements to the roof, garage, windows and doors.



Homeowners can find a great deal of information about their insurance policies by checking with the state’s Department of Financial Services. Call (800) 342-2762 or visit www.fldfs.com

Emergency Supply Kit by the CDC 2015

During and after a hurricane, you may need supplies to keep your family safe and healthy. Remember that a hurricane could cut off your power and water supply. You also may not be able to drive because of damage to your car. Roads may be flooded or blocked.

That's why it's best to be prepared — stock up on everything you might need now. Here's a checklist of what you need:

Food and Medicine

- Clean containers for water
- At least 5 gallons of water per person (which should be enough to last 3 to 5 days)
- A 3 to 5 day supply of food that doesn't go bad (like canned food)
- Baby food or formula

Prescription medicines

Safety Items

- First aid kit and instructions
- Fire extinguisher
- Battery-powered radio
- Flashlights
- Extra batteries
- Sleeping bags or extra blankets
- Supplies to make drinking water safe (like iodine tablets or chlorine bleach)



Personal Care Products

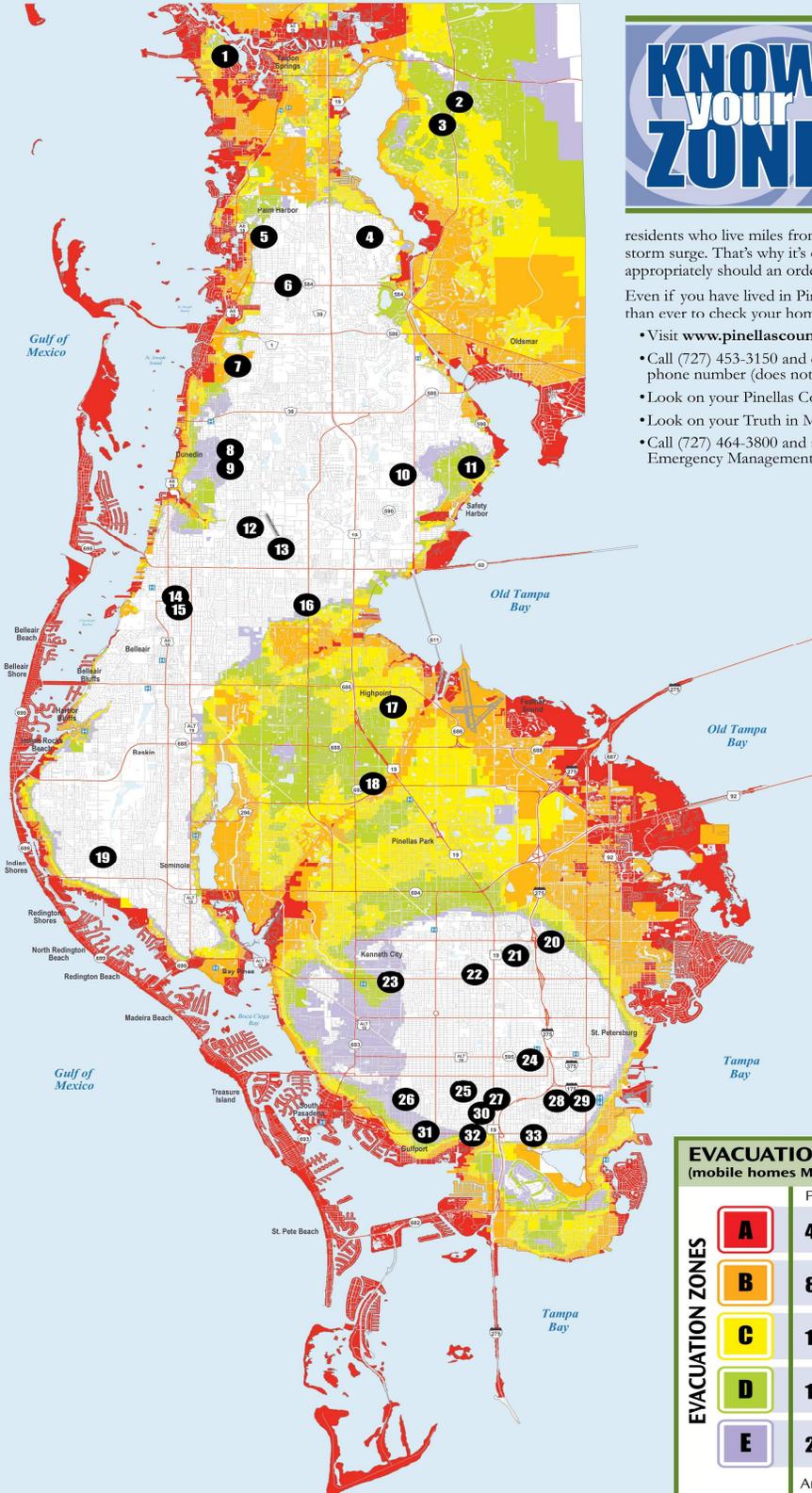
- Hand sanitizer
- Wet cleaning cloths (like baby wipes) in case you don't have clean water
- Soap
- Toothpaste
- Tampons and pads
- Diapers

Make sure your supplies are stored together in a place that's easy to reach.

Make an Emergency Car Kit

In case you need to leave quickly during a hurricane, always keep an emergency kit in your car, too. Make sure you include:

- Food that doesn't go bad (like canned food)
- Flares
- Jumper cables (sometimes called booster cables)
- Maps
- Tools, like a roadside emergency kit
- A first aid kit and instructions
- A fire extinguisher
- Sleeping bags
- Flashlight and extra batteries



KNOW YOUR ZONE

The deadliest hazards in a hurricane are not the high winds, heavy rains or possible tornadoes. The deadliest hazard is the storm surge – a dome of water pushed ashore by high winds. In a worst case scenario, this can mean a surge of 29 feet above the normal water level, causing tremendous damage and danger of drowning.

While those residents who can see the gulf or the bay have a visual reminder of how vulnerable they are to the water, residents who live miles from these bodies of water can still be vulnerable to storm surge. That's why it's critical to identify your evacuation level and act appropriately should an order go into effect.

Even if you have lived in Pinellas County for a long time, it's more important than ever to check your home's evacuation level. To find your level:

- Visit www.pinellascounty.org/emergency
- Call (727) 453-3150 and enter your 10-digit home phone number (does not work for cell phone numbers)
- Look on your Pinellas County water bill
- Look on your Truth in Millage (TRIM) notice
- Call (727) 464-3800 and speak with Emergency Management staff



www.pinellascounty.org/emergency
SCAN WITH SMART PHONE APP



EVACUATION GUIDELINES	
(mobile homes MUST always evacuate)	
EVACUATION ZONES	A Potential Surge Heights (in feet) 4' to 8' Evacuate red areas and all mobile homes
	B 8' to 14' Evacuate red and orange areas and all mobile homes
	C 14' to 19' Evacuate red, orange and yellow areas and all mobile homes
	D 19' to 26' Evacuate red, orange, yellow and green areas and all mobile homes
	E 26' to 29' Evacuate red, orange, yellow, green and purple areas and all mobile homes
Areas shown in white are non-evacuation zones.	

Special Needs

Residents with certain medical conditions can get help during an evacuation. Three special needs shelters are designated for those requiring MINIMAL medical assistance.



Register now!



Call Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue at 727.595.1117 or Pinellas County Emergency Management at 727.464.3800 . Once registered, you will be contacted for more information. After a medical needs review, your eligibility will be assessed. If you don't qualify for special needs shelter, other options will be discussed with you.

You may bring your caregiver and/or family member with you to a special needs shelter, in fact it is recommended.

