



# Scott Police Department

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**[www.scottpd.org](http://www.scottpd.org)**

## Hurricane Safety Guide



## HURRICANE WARNINGS

Hurricane Warnings are issued when hurricane conditions are expected within 24 hours or less before landfall.

### **IF AN EVACUATION ORDER IS ISSUED:**

- ❖ Leave as soon as possible. Avoid flooded roads & Watch for washed-out bridges
- ❖ Secure your home by unplugging appliances, turning off electricity, & shutting off water at the main valve
- ❖ Tell someone outside of the storm area where you are going
- ❖ If you have time, elevate furniture to avoid possible flooding
- ❖ Take with you: emergency supplies, warm clothing, blankets, & sleeping bags
- ❖ Lock your home before leaving

### **AT HOME:**

- ❖ Stay inside, away from windows, skylights, & glass doors
- ❖ Avoid open flames & Use flashlights (Have extra batteries on hand)
- ❖ If you are in a Mobile Home, check your tie downs and evacuate immediately
- ❖ If power is lost, turn off major appliances to avoid a power "surge" when restored

## AROUND THE HOUSE

### **OUTSIDE:**

- ❖ Install storm shutters or plywood & door braces. Cover all windows & doors so they can withstand hurricane-force winds
- ❖ Unplug your TV & take down any outdoor antennas or satellite dishes
- ❖ Drain in-ground pools approximately one foot, super-chlorinate to avoid contamination, & disconnect electrical pumps
- ❖ Bring in any outdoor objects that could be blown away
- ❖ Disconnect propane tanks and turn off the main gas line

### **INSIDE:**

- ❖ Turn your refrigerator & freezer to the coldest settings
- ❖ Have 3 gallons of water per person on hand
- ❖ Clean your bathtub with bleach, rinse thoroughly, and let it dry. Seal the drain and fill the tub. Use for sanitary purposes, not drinking.
- ❖ Prepare a "safe room". Stock it with food, drinks, emergency supplies, sleeping materials
- ❖ Place valuables & documents in waterproof containers. Take them with you if you evacuate.
- ❖ Do not stay in a mobile home



# BEFORE THE STORM

- ™ Plan an evacuation route
  - Check with local law enforcement or American Red Cross for shelters
- ™ Learn safe routes inland
  - Plan to drive at least 20-50 miles
  - Have essential needs on hand
- ™ Make arrangements for pets
  - Pets are generally not allowed in Emergency Shelters
- ™ Educate yourself and your family
  - How to turn off gas, electricity, & water
  - How & When to dial 911
- ™ Protect you windows
  - Pre-drilled ½ inch Plywood & 18 inch screws
- ™ Check into Flood Insurance
  - Normally 30 days before effective
- ™ Develop an Emergency Communication Plan
  - In case family members are separated, establish another Family Member™ as the point of contact and all family members know their name, address, and phone number

American Red Cross Shelter Information  
1-800-RED-CROSS (733-2767)

or  
[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

# DURING THE STORM

- ™ Stay indoors, away from the windows
  - Consider turning off circuit breakers before the power goes off
  - Once inside a safe room, stay there even if you hear glass breaking
  - If your house begins to break apart, cover yourself with a mattress and/or pillows. If you are using the bathroom as a safe room, get into the bathtub and cover yourself with the mattress
  - Stay tuned to local radio & television stations.
  - Do not leave the residence unless ordered to do so by officials or an all clear is given.
  - If you notice the wind die down, you may be in the eye of the storm. Winds may resume at any time and may be stronger than before
  - Use the phone for urgent calls only

# AFTER THE STORM

- Locate a fire extinguisher before attempting to turn the power back on
- Stay away from downed power lines
- Do not dial 911 unless it is a life-threatening emergency
- Do not report individual power, water, gas, or phone problems. Utility companies will restore services as quickly as possible
- If a generator is needed after the storm to power your home, make sure that you place the generator outside your home or garage where it is well ventilated from fumes
- Do not drink tap water until you hear from officials that it is safe.
- Do not pile debris near power poles
- When possible, call your out-of-town contact and tell them you are alright
- Avoid driving
- Use caution in approaching someone else's property; you could be mistaken for a looter

Did you know...

In 10 minutes, a hurricane releases more energy than all the world's nuclear weapons combines.

