

Hurricane Preparedness



Evacuation Map & Routes

Evacuation Maps and the "Evacuation Level Lookup" tool on the Pinellas County website, www.pinellascounty.org, can help find your Storm Surge Flooding evacuation zone: A (purple), B (blue), C (green), D (yellow), E (orange), and Non-Evac (white). Mobile homes are not constructed to withstand hurricane force winds and should be evacuated whenever ANY hurricane threatens.

Citizens Information Centers

Residents can call the Citizens Information Hotline whenever an evacuation is declared. You can get information about what actions to take during an event.

- City of Clearwater: (727) 562-INFO
- Pinellas County: (727) 464-4333

Public Evacuation Shelters

Emergency shelters will open countywide when evacuations are issued. Due to shelter safety reassessment, your local shelter may change. Television, radio, and newspapers will advise when and where shelters are opened.

Before evacuating to a shelter, try to find a host home (or home of a family member or friend) where you can stay. Please keep in mind that a public shelter is a last resort. For more information, call the Clearwater Emergency Management or Pinellas County Emergency Management offices.

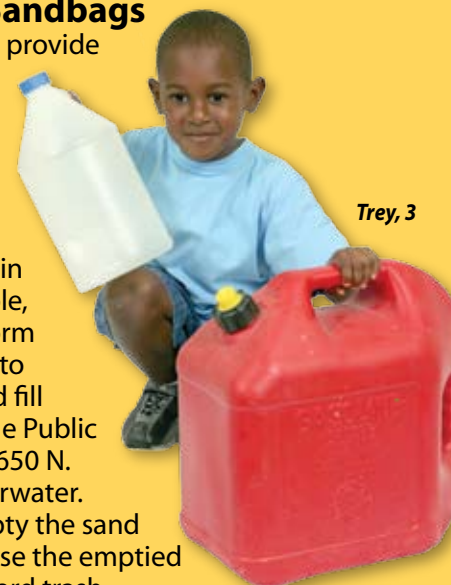
If you or someone you love has a special need, he or she can enroll in Pinellas County's evacuation program. The county maintains a resident registry and arranges for transportation and shelter. Patients are taken to hospitals, nursing homes, special care units, dialysis centers, and public shelters during storms. To register, call the Clearwater Fire Department at (727) 562-4334.

Hurricane Preparation List

A hurricane preparation list is available on the City of Clearwater website, www.MyClearwater.com, or through the City Manager's Office of Emergency Management at (727) 562-4045. It includes a 3-day supply list with food menu, equipment, and preparation actions. You also can find information on www.MyClearwater.com about the safe use of generators and evacuation planning for apartment and condo owners.

Where To Get Sandbags

Clearwater does not provide sandbags. They are available through hardware stores. Alternatively, large yard trash bags can be used with one or two shovels of sand in each. Sand is available, though, during a storm (while supplies last) to those who bring and fill their own bags, at the Public Services Complex, 1650 N. Arcturas Ave. in Clearwater. After the storm, empty the sand into your yard and use the emptied bags to dispose of yard trash generated by the storm.



Protecting Your Pets

Residents should not leave pets alone during tropical storms and hurricanes. Owners should take pets to a host home, pet-friendly hotel, or veterinarian kennel. Local humane societies and evacuation shelters don't take pets.

Contact Information

City of Clearwater, Emergency Management
Bill Vola, Emergency Manager
112 S. Osceola Ave.
Clearwater, FL 33756
Phone: (727) 562-4045
www.MyClearwater.com
bill.vola@MyClearwater.com

Pinellas County, Emergency Management
Gary Vickers, Director
400 S. Fort Harrison Ave.
Clearwater, FL 33756
Phone: (727) 464-3800
TDD: (727) 464-4431
www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/

Important Links

- National Hurricane Center, www.nhc.noaa.gov/
- National Weather Service – Tampa Bay, www.srh.noaa.gov/tbw/TampaBayAreaWeather.shtml
- Pinellas County's Hurricane Guide for Boaters, www.pinellascounty.org/Boating_safety/default.htm
- State of Florida, Emergency Management Division, www.floridadisaster.org/
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security, www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/
- My Safe Florida Home hurricane retrofit grant programs, www.MySafeFloridaHome.com

We all are responsible for the health and safety for our families and ourselves. Each of us must take the responsibility to plan and prepare for hurricanes and disasters seriously.