



# HURRICANE SEASON -- 2010

## PLAN AHEAD – BE PREPARED – The First 72 Hours Are Up To You

This year's hurricane season – June 1 through November 30 – is predicted to be “very active” and getting ready is a big job. The City encourages Temple Terrace citizens to have a disaster plan (and a pet plan) in place – get a storm checklist ready and be prepared – your safety depends on it.

**BEFORE A HURRICANE THREATENS.....**Review insurance coverage to determine flood and wind damage coverage. Photocopy personal identification, credit cards, insurance policies, other important documents. Have supplies on hand to last at least two weeks, including non-electric can opener, canned/packaged foods, dried foods, powdered milk, coffee/tea/drink boxes, two portable coolers (one for ice, one for food), battery-operated radio and extra batteries, emergency cooking equipment, paper plates, cups, plastic utensils, lantern with fuel, bleach for sterilization, antibacterial hand sanitizer, tools, tarps, plastic garbage bags, waterproof matches and candles, propane gas for grills, extra prescription medicines, first-aid kit, toiletries/personal items, flashlights/extra batteries for each household member, at least one telephone that is not cordless (cordless phones won't work without power and cell phones will need recharging), extra cell phone battery (if possible), fire extinguisher, mosquito repellent, rope, nails, tools, duct tape or masking tape, rain gear, sleeping bags/blankets, heavy-duty indoor/outdoor rated extension cord to connect to a generator (if one will be used). Plan on one gallon of drinking water per person, per day, for a minimum of 3 days. Be sure anyone who requires special assistance in evacuating or has special needs is registered with Hillsborough County Emergency Management - 272-6900. Make arrangements to stay with friends or relatives who live in a hurricane-safe house outside of evacuation zones OR locate the closest public shelter in the event of evacuation OR plan to evacuate to an inland hotel. One shelter is located in Temple Terrace - Greco Middle School at 6925 Fowler. (Alcohol, firearms, and pets are NOT allowed.) The closest shelter with limited space available for household pets is Burnett Middle School, 1010 N. Kingsway Rd., Seffner. (Pet owners must bring dog/cat in cage with food, water, medications, and proof of vaccination.) Trim trees/landscaping that could be hazardous to property. Inventory your property with photos or videotape.

**UNDER A HURRICANE WATCH....**Listen for weather updates - conditions indicate a hurricane could hit within 36 hours. Check supplies. Gather important papers/photocopied documents and put them in watertight containers or sealed plastic bags. Clear the yard of potential flying debris. Protect windows and glass doors. Brace double-entry and garage doors at the top and bottom. Turn refrigerators/freezers to coldest settings. Freeze water in plastic jugs and/or plastic containers with lids for keeping food cool if power is lost and to use for drinking water as it melts. A well-filled freezer will keep items frozen about 15 hours. Fill the car's gas tank; check oil, water, tires. Leave swimming pool filled and super-chlorinated, turn off equipment electricity, cover filtration system. Get cash – banks and ATMS will not operate without power and few stores will be able to accept credit cards. Animal owners should make any special preparations for pets. Designate an out-of-town emergency contact.

**GENERATOR USE ....** Determine where OUTSIDE the home the generator will be placed BEFORE a hurricane threatens. A generator must NOT be in an enclosed space where deadly carbon monoxide gas could build up. NEVER run a generator indoors OR in the garage. Follow manufacturer's guidelines. Do not connect a generator to the home's circuits. Only use heavy-duty, indoor/outdoor rated extension cords to connect to generator. Plug appliances directly into the generator. Do not overload generator with too many connections. Do not refuel generator while it is running. Turn off all electrical appliances connected to generator, turn off generator, let it cool down, then refuel. Don't run more appliances than the generator can handle.

**UNDER A HURRICANE WARNING....**Listen and stay alert to weather and storm advisories – conditions indicate a hurricane could hit within 24 hours. Brace entry & garage doors with foot and head bolts with minimum one-inch bolt throw length. Finish preparations and review checklist. Fill bathtubs with water for use after the storm passes. If a portable generator will be used in the event of a power outage, purchase gasoline for its operation. Make sure “disaster supply” kit is in safe room (interior room with no windows).

**LAST RESORT....EVACUATION SHELTER** –Do not evacuate to the shelter until it is officially opened. Shelters are crowded and uncomfortable. Take pillows and blankets; food, water, and prescription medications for 3 days; small toys, games, and books for young children. If evacuated to a “special needs” shelter, take medical supplies for at least 3 days, including special food, water, prescriptions, nebulizer, syringes, sterile swabs, and oxygen equipment.

**DURING A HURRICANE ....** Constantly monitor weather broadcasts. **Stay indoors.** Turn refrigerator to its coldest setting; keep it closed. Turn off propane tanks; unplug small appliances. Place animals/pets in carriers. As the storm hits, gather in a safe, interior room with no windows. Once the “eye” passes, do not go outside unless emergency repairs are necessary. The “calm” may last only 10 minutes and winds will suddenly pick up from the opposite direction. If the house starts to break apart, cover yourself with mattress and pillows. Do not use the phone during thunder/lightning.

**AFTER A HURRICANE ....** Remain indoors until an “all clear” is issued. Tampa Electric’s top priority for power restoration is safety. Crews will not work until winds are less than 40 miles per hour. **IF POWER IS OUT, call Tampa Electric at 1-877-588-1010.** If power lines are down and there is an immediate danger, call 9-1-1. Avoid driving, if possible. Stay away from fallen wires, trees, etc. Use phone for emergencies only, but call out-of-town emergency contact to advise of safety and current conditions. Drink only stored water or strain and boil water for 5 minutes before drinking. Beware of snakes, insects, or animals. Make temporary repairs to protect home/property from further damage. Cover holes in the roof or walls with plywood and use heavy duty plastic to cover broken windows. Do not attempt to drive through or across flowing water or cross areas where water is flowing; moving water as little as 6 inches deep can be dangerous.

**RESTORATION AND CLEAN-UP....**Stay tuned to local radio and media for emergency medical, food, housing, and other assistance. The City will make every effort to keep residents informed. If possible, information for the affected areas will be posted on the website, over pre-recorded phone messages, on the cable channel, and in daily newsletters. Assess and photograph damage and retain all receipts for insurance claims. Once safety is ensured, Tampa Electric will work quickly to restore power – first to those who require electricity for medical and emergency functions – hospitals, fire stations, and customers on vital life-sustaining equipment. City crews will assess damage, prioritize clean-up areas, and begin clearing downed trees from roadways. The City has a cooperative agreement with out-of-area crews who are staged outside the storm area and will come in to assist with debris clean-up. Homeowners are responsible for yard waste and storm debris clean-up from private property. Storm debris may be piled at the curb. Do not pile debris near power poles or in City streets if possible – materials accumulated in gutters can lead to local flooding. If power is out for more than a few hours, check refrigerated and frozen food items. Freezer items with ice crystals can be refrozen safely. Foods that are “warmer than usual” for a few hours should be pitched. When in doubt, throw it out. Non-emergency City services will resume as soon as possible.

**ABOVE ALL...remain calm, optimistic, and use common sense.  
Maintain as normal a routine as possible.**

**Important Phone Numbers:**

- Temple Terrace City Hall – 506-6400
- Hurricane Help Line – 1-800-227-8676
- Traffic & Travel Information – 511 (from cell phone)
- American Red Cross Disaster Assistant – (813) 348-4820
- FEMA – 1-800-525-0321
- Florida Department of Financial Services – 1-800-342-2762

**Supply Check List**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cash (ATMs may not work)</li><li>• Drinking water – 3-day supply/1 gallon per day per person.</li><li>• Prescription Medicine</li><li>• Two ice chests with ice</li><li>• Manual can opener</li><li>• Flashlights/lanterns</li><li>• Battery-operated radio/clock</li><li>• Spare batteries</li><li>• Toilet paper</li><li>• Hygiene items</li><li>• First-Aid Kit</li><li>• Bleach for sterilization</li><li>• Disinfectant</li><li>• Soap/sanitizer/dish detergent</li><li>• Water purification tablets</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Disposable plates, glasses, utensils</li><li>• Plastic garbage bags</li><li>• Insect repellent &amp; sunscreen</li><li>• Plastic sheeting/tarp</li><li>• Duct/masking tape</li><li>• Nails/rope/lumber/tools</li><li>• Rain gear</li><li>• Change of clothing/shoes</li><li>• Fire extinguisher</li><li>• Fuel for autos/generators</li><li>• Propane gas (for grills)</li><li>• Charcoal/lighter fluid</li><li>• Waterproof matches</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Canned Meat</li><li>• Canned fruits/vegetables</li><li>• Canned soups/chili</li><li>• Dried foods</li><li>• Cereal</li><li>• Crackers/cookies</li><li>• Coffee/tea/drink boxes</li><li>• Peanut butter &amp; jelly</li><li>• Pudding</li><li>• Powdered milk</li><li>• Evaporated milk/parmalat milk</li><li>• Baby supplies</li><li>• Supplies for elderly/disabled family members</li></ul> |
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