



News Release

Sunrise Fire-Rescue Department
(954) 746-3400
www.sunrisefl.gov
For Release: IMMEDIATE

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK IS MAY 7 - 13

The Atlantic Hurricane Season runs June 1 - November 30. Initial predictions for the intensity of the 2017 season have been inconsistent at best, with broad speculation about a return of the El Nino Weather pattern later in the year. However, even if it turns out to be a “mild” season with relatively few storms, residents in South Florida still must take precautions.

“Remember, it only takes one storm to wreak havoc on a community,” said Sunrise Fire-Rescue Chief Thomas DiBernardo. “Don’t wait until the season has started to get your home ready. Prepare now and stay informed.”

Running May 7 - 13 this year, National Hurricane Preparedness Week is the time to prepare for potential tropical storms and hurricanes. Here is a list of steps to take for Sunrise residents:

- Discuss and plan with your family where you will go, if an evacuation is necessary. Be sure to consider any family members with special needs, and the care of pets in your home.
- Inform family and friends of your plan, and establish an out-of-area contact who can relay family members' locations and information, should you become separated.
- Make sure children know the emergency plans and family contact information.
- Determine your family’s food, water and medical needs for a 3-5 day period, and assemble your hurricane kit according to those needs. A list can be found at www.broward.org/hurricane.
- Secure your home now. Ensure that it is in good repair and up to hurricane code specifications, well-before the first storm is announced and a rush on supplies and services ensues. Note that the garage door is the most vulnerable part of the home, so it must be able to withstand the winds. Obtain any needed plywood or panels to board up the windows and doors. For steps on how-to, visit www.flash.org.
- Inventory your home possessions and videotape, record or photograph items of value. Call your insurance company to make sure you have enough homeowners insurance to repair or replace your home, car, and boat. Also note that standard homeowners insurance does not cover flooding. Keep these records in a secure, waterproof place.
- Stay informed. To receive Sunrise-specific emergency notifications on your phone, [register for CodeRED](http://www.sunrisefl.gov) at www.sunrisefl.gov. Additional resources can also be found on the City website’s [Emergency Management and Hurricane Preparedness page](#).

To keep your home and family safe, plan and prepare now - *before* the first storm appears on the horizon!

For more information and safety tips, visit the City of Sunrise website at www.sunrisefl.gov, ‘Like’ us on Facebook at Sunrise-Rescue, and follow us on Twitter @SunriseFRD.

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