

Weather Wiz Kids

HURRICANE

Evacuation Tips



A **HURRICANE WATCH** issued for your part of the coast indicates the possibility that you could experience hurricane conditions within 36 hours. This **WATCH** should trigger your family's disaster plan, and protective measures should be initiated. Especially, those actions that require extra time such as securing a boat and leaving a barrier island.

A **HURRICANE WARNING** issued for your part of the coast indicates that sustained winds of at least 74 mph are expected within 24 hours. Once this **WARNING** has been issued, your family should be in the process of completing protective actions and deciding the safest location to be during the storm

EVACUATING DURING A HURRICANE:

- Stay alert to storm advisories by using your NOAA weather radio.
- Enact your family disaster plan.
- Map out your route. Use travel routes specified by local authorities. Do Not get on the road without a place to go.
- Fill your car with gasoline.
- Enact your pet plan. Before a storm threatens, contact your veterinarian or local humane society for information on preparing your pets for an emergency.
- Bring your disaster supply kit. Make sure you include important documents. Have enough food and water for at least 3 days.
- Secure your home before leaving. Board up windows and glass doors, anchor loose objects or bring them inside and lock your doors.
- Have some cash handy. Following a hurricane, banks and ATMs may be temporarily closed.
- Notify your family and friends of your plans.

WHEN EVACUATING:

- If possible, evacuate to the home of either friends or family in a non-vulnerable area within your county or parish.
- Next, try a hotel.
- As a last result, go to a public shelter.
- Remember, shelters are not designed for comfort and do not usually accept pets.