

GENERAL POST-STORM SAFETY

- Keep listening to NOAA Weather Radio or local radio and TV stations for instructions.
- If you evacuate, return home only when local officials tell you it is safe to do so.
- Use flashlights in the dark; do not use candles.
- Roads may be closed for your protection. If you come upon a barricade or a flooded road, turn around and go another way!
- Avoid weakened bridges and washed out roads. Do not drive into flooded areas.
- Stay away from flood waters and stay on firm ground. Moving water only six inches deep can sweep you off your feet.
- Standing water may be electrically charged from underground or downed power lines.
- Check gas, water and electrical appliances for damage.
- Do not drink or prepare food with tap water until you are certain it is not contaminated.
- Use the telephone to report life-threatening emergencies only.
- Be especially cautious if using a chainsaw to cut fallen trees.
- Avoid loose or dangling power lines and report them to the power company, police or fire department.
- Enter your home or any building with caution.
- Wear sturdy shoes and do not enter if there is water around the building.
- If you feel a building is not safe, do not enter and call your contractor or engineer.
- Look for fire hazards such as flooded electrical circuits or submerged furnaces and appliances.
- Check for gas leaks. If you smell gas or hear a hissing noise, open a window and leave quickly. Turn off the gas at the outside main valve, and call the gas company from a neighbor's home.
- Look for electrical system damage. If you see sparks or frayed wires, turn off the electricity at the main fuse box or circuit breaker.
- Check for sewage and water line damage. If you think sewage lines are damaged, don't use toilets, and call a plumber. If water pipes are damaged, don't use tap water, and call the water company.
- Watch out for animals, especially poisonous snakes that may have entered the building with flood waters.
- Open windows and doors to ventilate and dry your home.

Hurricane Tips

**YOUR OFFICIAL HURRICANE
INFORMATION SOURCES**



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.pbcgov.com

OR

PBC-TV CHANNEL 20

Get a French press coffee maker. It doesn't need electricity so if you've got a gas stove (or gas grill), you can boil water and you've got coffee.

Always buy a gas grill with a side burner. It proves invaluable for heating water for coffee, soups and warming baby bottles. One note of caution: Use only in a well-ventilated area outdoors.

Use your dishwasher to store important papers. Dishwashers have a watertight seal, so if there's water damage to your house your documents will stay dry. Make sure to remove your documents before using the dishwasher.