

Hurricane Guide 2021

Preseason Preparedness

Special Needs Registry

Home Inspection Checklist



Hurricane Guide

WHY EVACUATE If Ordered To Do So?

Not doing so could be fatal

If you stay, and if we are seriously hit, and you survive - you are lucky. However, if you are not lucky, you could be dead. Having been lucky once does not indicate you'll be lucky a second time. Those who have stayed and survived direct hurricane hits elsewhere invariably have said it was the dumbest thing they ever did, and they would never do it again.

When you're told to evacuate, DO.

- Life could be extremely unpleasant.
- Water may be shut off once an evacuation is ordered. Electrical power and gas may be lost during a storm, and not be restored for a long time.
- Wildlife - As floodwaters rise, mice, rats, snakes and other wildlife will seek higher ground. They can, and will, invade your house.
- Emergency medical and fire services will NOT be available once we reach sustained Tropical Storm Force winds.
- No escape - Once the storm gets very bad, it likely will be impossible to change your mind and then leave; the way may be blocked with downed trees, and the Causeway may be flooded.

PRESEASON PREPARATION

Create a Hurricane Kit for a quick exit. Contents should include:

- Georgia roadmap
- Insurance information - Company, agent, phone numbers, and policy numbers for homeowner's and flood insurance.
- First-aid kit
- Non-perishable food (for at least three-to-five days)
- Pet supplies
- Water (one gallon per person, per day)
- Toilet paper, matches, can opener
- Radio, flashlight, and batteries
- Contact information for family and friends.
- Phone numbers of friends and relatives whom you may wish to contact once you've left
- Camera or your smart phone to document the state of your home when you return
- A copy of this Hurricane Guide document, also found on the Association's website (www.landings.org)

A second hurricane kit

We strongly advise taking only one car, but if you absolutely

must take two cars, have a hurricane kit prepared for both cars. Also, agree beforehand on an out-of-area friend or relative to contact and use as coordinator in the event your cars become separated.

Pets

Have any necessary carriers and supplies to support pets. If you intend to stay in a shelter, generally you must bring pet carriers with you.

Inventory your home

Photos or video are good ways to record your belongings as documentation for insurance. Create the inventory record, and put it in your Hurricane Kit. Update your inventory yearly.

HURRICANE REENTRY HOTLINE

855-880-2362

The Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) has a Hurricane Hotline. This number (855-880-2362) will be activated in the event an evacuation is ordered. This number will be updated to provide information about when it is safe to return as well as general storm information.

Know routes, destinations, special considerations for pets, etc.

If you intend to go to a relative, friend, or shelter whose destination you know well before hand, determine the best route and any special provisions you need to make for pets.

Supplies in case there is no evacuation

Create a several-days supply of the following, in case a hurricane is not close enough to cause an evacuation, yet causes disruption of services:

- Water
- Nonperishable food
- Medicines - an adequate supply
- Battery-powered radio and plenty of batteries
- Flashlight and batteries
- Also, clear trees of dead or weak limbs.

Use CEMA and other resources

Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA), located at 124 Bull Street, has many helpful pamphlets, such as *When You Return To A Storm Damaged Home* (by FEMA) and *Repairing Your Flooded Home* (by the American Red Cross). Stop in and pick up some literature, or visit their website (chathamemergency.org). CEMA also has a Hurricane Information Line (912-644-8811) that provides hurricane preparedness information, weather advisories, and tips on what to do during and after the storm.

The Department of Homeland Security's website (www.ready.gov) provides resources for planning for all emergencies.

Finally, HurricaneSafety.org is another good resource.

KEEPING INFORMED

Hurricane Season

Hurricane Season runs from June-November, peak season is August-October. Watch a good weather report and forecast at least every other day, and preferably every day.

Once a hurricane is identified as possibly being a factor for anywhere in the Southeast U.S., watch every day. Once it reaches a point where it is 3-4 days away, tune in at least every few hours.

Where to watch, listen, and read

Radio, local TV, newspaper, and CEMA's website are good resources. Automatic alerts from CEMA are available to e-mail users by signing up at their website (chathamemergency.org).

It is YOUR responsibility.

The Landings Association is NOT your source of information.

THERE IS NO EXCUSE: GET INFORMED - STAY INFORMED.

SPECIAL NEEDS REGISTRY - 1-833-243-7344

The Hurricane Registry for those with functional, access, or medical needs is a list maintained by the health department of residents who may need transportation or medical assistance and have no resources such as family members, neighbors, or friends to help them evacuate if a hurricane is threatening our area. Residents must apply to be on the Registry. Those who meet the criteria and are put on the Registry will be evacuated when there is serious threat of a hurricane.

Those with functional or access needs - including children or adults with physical, sensory, or intellectual disabilities who need assistance with the activities of daily living including eating, taking medication, dressing, bathing, communicating, transferring from bed to chair and chair to bed, and toileting - will be evacuated to a gymnasium type setting far enough inland so that they are safe from the storm. The accommodations at the shelter will be basic (a cot with 20-40 square feet of space, bathroom facilities, meals, etc.) and the shelter may be several hours away.

Those with medical needs - including those who need the help of trained medical professionals for things like IV medication or who may be dependent on a respirator or other medical equipment may be taken to a healthcare facility.

Please note that anyone who lives in a nursing home, assisted living, or personal care facility is not eligible for the Registry and must follow their facility's emergency plan.

The Registry truly is a last resort, but it is important that CEMA and Public Health officials have a list of residents who have certain needs and absolutely no other way to evacuate to ensure their safety and well-being, should an evacuation become necessary.

The time to apply for the Registry is NOW! It is important to note that Registry applications will no longer be accepted 72 hours prior to the arrival of tropical storm force winds. Therefore, you cannot wait until a storm is approaching to apply.

BEFORE A HURRICANE WATCH IS DECLARED

- Top off fuel tanks.
- Get cash, as credit cards may not be processed during a utility outage.
- Medicines - Prepare a minimum two-week supply of medicines. Bring your prescriptions to obtain refills in the event there is an extended evacuation.
- Personal papers - Pack any pertinent financial records for access if necessary. Be certain you have personal identification for you and your family.
- Establish your destination - Communicate your travel intentions to friends and relatives, and leave an itinerary in your vehicle, including a phone number for contact.
- Special possessions - Pack any possessions of special sentiment or financial value that are small and easy to take. Remember, possessions are physical objects that are less important than your health, safety, friends, and family.
- Yard items - Move all loose yard items inside. Left outdoors, items may become projectiles.
- Place your Hurricane Box in your vehicle.
- Deploy all but the final shutters or other house protection. If you intend to deploy hurricane shutters, plywood, or other protection for your house, consider installing now all but those you wish to leave for the last minute.
- Pack for several days - It may be several weeks, but you can buy clothes elsewhere.
- Back up your computer files - Back up any important files, and pack the external hard drives, DVDs, or CDs, to take with you.
- Pets - Pack medical records and supplies of food and bowls, water, bedding, etc., for several days.

WHEN A HURRICANE MAY BE HEADED THIS WAY

- Finalize house protection.
- Install any final shutters or plywood.
- Monitor TV or radio for news at least hourly.
- Pack final clothes and items on your list of special possessions.
- Pack last-minute items for personal hygiene, baby care, etc.
- When an evacuation is ordered, GO.

IMMEDIATELY BEFORE YOU GO

- Turn your refrigerator and freezer to maximum cold. If you evacuate, and it turns out that electrical power has been lost for only a short time, this improves the chance of not having all the food go bad. Empty ice buckets.
- Unplug appliances (except refrigerator) and electrical equipment.
- Do NOT turn off the gas line or pilots - Atlanta Gas & Light requests these be left ON.
- Close all windows and all exterior AND INTERIOR doors.

HOW AND WHERE TO GO

Select a prescribed route; take a map and be prepared to use alternate routes.

If you have a previously-arranged place to stay, take the most sensible route to it. Otherwise, take the CEMA-prescribed evacuation route.

Highways outside the County that parallel the coastline (e.g., US 17A or US 17 southbound) should be avoided as a hurricane approaches. They are not designated evacuation routes and may be dangerous within 12-18 hours before the storm's landfall. Recommended inland routes are GA 21, US 80, I-16, and GA 204.

Inland counties will open shelters at the appropriate time based on coordination with the coastal counties and the Red Cross Hurricane Watch Team.

Take one vehicle only, if at all possible.

If every household evacuates with two cars, the congestion will be far, far worse than if each takes only one car. Be responsible, and take only one car if at all possible.

WHEN TO RETURN

It may not be possible to return immediately after the storm has passed. If the storm misses or only brushes us, you may be able to return in one to two days. If we are hit seriously, you may not be able to return for two or more weeks. Storm damage may block roads through Savannah and to The Landings, the Causeway could be washed out, or any number of other situations could delay return. Before attempting to return, check to determine if access is possible.

Radio and TV stations

When an evacuation is imminent, most local radio and TV stations will broadcast news very frequently. Once an

evacuation is ordered, many will broadcast news and updates continuously. Please stay tuned to the appropriate channels.

CEMA - Chatham Emergency Management Agency can be reached at 912-201-4500, and should be able to advise you of accessibility through the area to Skidaway Island.

Almost all hotels or friends that you visit will have Internet access. You can reference CEMA's website (chathamemergency.org).

The Landings

As soon as practical, The Landings Association will post a message indicating the current state of The Landings' access and services and advise you appropriately to return. (**BE ADVISED:** TLA personnel will have evacuated as well.) Information will be posted as quickly as possible on our website (www.landings.org), and sent via E-Mail Bulletins and Swift911.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU RETURN

We all hope that each evacuation will turn out to be a wise precaution, and that the storm will have missed us.

Depending upon the severity of the storm, you should be prepared for any or all of the following when you do return:

- Some streets may be blocked by debris.
- Storm drains may be clogged, and there may be flooding.
- Some or all utility services may be inoperable.

For all the above, The Landings Association, Chatham County, and the utility services will all be attempting to restore the situation to normal as quickly as possible. Recognize that there will be limited resources allocated to deal with all issues immediately, so prepare for restoration to take awhile.

Damage to your home

If you smell gas, or see electrical arcing, immediately leave your home and report the problem to the appropriate utility company or Chatham Emergency Services.

Your home may be damaged, uninhabitable, or destroyed. It is your responsibility to work directly with your insurance company to begin the resolution process.

Wildlife in your home

If the area flooded, wildlife may have invaded your home seeking high ground. Please enter your premises with caution.

Conserve use of utilities

Telephone and electrical service will be under stress; use them only as absolutely necessary.

Protect your health

If you have cleanup work to do, do not endanger your health with exertion or stress. Eat well, rest often, and work a manageable schedule.

HURRICANE NAMES FOR 2021:

Ann	Henri	Odette
Bill	Ida	Peter
Claudette	Julian	Rose
Danny	Kate	Sam
Elsa	Larry	Teresa
Fred	Mindy	Victor
Grace	Nicholas	Wanda

HURRICANE REENTRY HOTLINE

855-880-2362 OR 912-644-8811

The Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) has a Hurricane Hotline. This number will be activated and announced in the event a hurricane or tropical storm is headed this way. This number will be updated to provide information about when it is safe to return. The hotline will include storm and disaster information.

STAY INFORMED

In our efforts to provide more reliable communications with our residents, The Landings Association has implemented Swift911™ for our Emergency Notifications. Residents can receive important alerts such as traffic updates, public utility updates, emergency notifications, and critical security advisories.

SIGN UP NOW!

Signing up is easy, and it's free! Here are some ways to opt-in for alerts:

- www.landings.org/swift911 and click Register Now.
- Download the Swift911™ Public mobile app. It's free and easy to use!
- Text "Swift911" to 99538 Use your smartphone and click on the link in the text message and follow the instructions.



WHY SIGN UP?

- You have more control of how you are alerted by choosing which numbers are called first.
- You can receive text messages for urgent notifications.
- Users are notified almost instantly.
- It helps keep you and your family safe and informed!
- Your information is kept private and never shared with anyone.

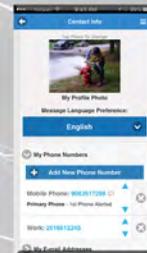
HOW WILL I RECEIVE ALERTS?

Alerts will be sent by one or more of the following:

- A **voice call** to your home and/or cell phone.
- A **text** to your cell phone.
- An **email** to one or more addresses.
- Subscribers using the Swift911™ Public mobile app will receive **push notifications**.

SWIFT911™ PUBLIC APP AND PORTAL

- **Manage Information:** Contact info and communication preferences can be updated easily.
- **Review Missed Messages:** Messages can be reviewed up to 72 hours after the original broadcast was sent.
- **Push Notifications:** Wakes the phone and makes you aware of new alerts.



SWIFT 911™

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SERVICES



HOME INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Courtesy: Chatham Emergency Services (CES)

OK NO N/A

- _____ 1. Is there at least one approved smoke detector on each floor of the home?
- _____ 2. Has the battery been replaced within the last year?
- _____ 3. Are there fire extinguishers in correct locations, such as the garage, kitchen, workshop, autos, 2nd floor?
- _____ 4. Are the attic, garage and crawl space clear of all combustibles?
- _____ 5. Are spaces around water heaters, furnaces, etc., free of combustible material and flammable liquids?
- _____ 6. Are spaces under, on and near heating equipment free of lint?
- _____ 7. Is the furnace filter(s) clean so that air can flow freely?
- _____ 8. Has heating equipment been checked by a specialist within the past 12 months?
- _____ 9. Are circuit breakers on lighting circuits less than 30 amps?
- _____ 10. Are extension cords kept to a minimum?
- _____ 11. Are extension cords kept out from under rugs and carpets and off of nails and pipes?
- _____ 12. Are matches and lighters kept out of reach of children?
- _____ 13. Is only one appliance or device plugged into an extension cord?
- _____ 14. Are supplies of paint, varnish, gasoline turpentine, charcoal lighter fluid and other flammable liquids kept in tightly-closed approved containers and kept away from the furnace and water heaters?
- _____ 15. Has your chimney been cleaned in the past five years?
- _____ 16. Is there a proper screen in front of the fireplace to keep sparks inside the fireplace?
- _____ 17. Are ashes removed from the fireplace in a metal container?
- _____ 18. Is there proper clearance between heater vents and combustible walls?
- _____ 19. Are cords on lamps, irons, radios, TVs and other electrical appliances in good condition and not frayed or worn?
- _____ 20. **Do you have the CES Emergency phone number (355-6688) on all of your phones?**

Location

Resident

CES

Date

Please call CES (354-1011) to schedule a home inspection if you would like us to have a firefighter come to your home and conduct an inspection with you.