



GOVERNOR'S DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Main Message: Killer hurricanes can flood roads miles away from the coast.

Key Talking Points:

- Hurricanes are nature's most powerful storms and can cause flooding hundreds of miles away from the coast.
- The smartest thing to do when a hurricane threatens is to monitor TV and radio broadcasts. When officials call for evacuations – get out.
- Remember that heavy rainfall can occur hundreds of miles away from the center of the storm. Storms, tornadoes and heavy flooding can occur several days after a hurricane makes landfall as the storm system moves inland.
- Drivers should never attempt to drive through water running across roadways. When drivers see water across roads or highways, they need to back up and choose alternate routes.
- Water on a roadway can be much deeper than it appears and water levels can rise very quickly. Floodwaters erode roadways. A missing section of road -- even a missing bridge -- will not be visible with water running across the area.
- If your car stalls in floodwater, get out quickly and move to higher ground. Floodwaters may still be rising and the car could be swept away at any moment.
- Water displaces 1,500 pounds of weight for every foot that it rises. In other words, if a car weighs 3,000 pounds, it takes only two feet of water to float it.
- Cars can become death traps because electric windows and door locks can short out when water reaches them, trapping occupants inside.