



GOVERNOR'S DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Main Message: Protecting your property means taking precautions and making advance preparations well ahead of storm season. Start planning now.

Key Talking Points:

- Learn your vulnerability to flooding from hurricanes by finding out the elevation of your property and checking floodplain maps. As construction increases in your area, floodplains can change.
- Check your insurance coverage. Most homeowner insurance policies do not cover flood damage. Learn about the National Flood Insurance Program.
- Find out if your home meets current building code requirements for high winds. Structures built to meet or exceed current building code high-wind provisions have a better chance of surviving violent windstorms.
- Protect all windows by installing commercial shutters or preparing 5/8 inch plywood panels.
- Garage doors are frequently the first feature in a home to fail. Reinforce all garage doors so that they are able to withstand high winds.
- If you do not live in an evacuation zone or a mobile home, designate an interior room with no windows or external doors as a Safe Room.
- If you live in an evacuation zone, DO NOT plan to stay during a hurricane.
- Before hurricane season, assess your property to ensure that landscaping and trees do not become a wind hazard. Trim all dead wood, and weak branches or overhanging branches from all trees. Certain trees and bushes are vulnerable to high winds and any dead tree near a home is a hazard.
- Consider landscaping materials other than gravel or rocks.