




Hurricane Season 2023

Cathie Perkins – Director
Pinellas County Emergency Management



2023 PINELLAS COUNTY HURRICANE GUIDE

READY, SET, PROTECT



This photo captures the storm surge as it was rising during Hurricane Ian in Fort Myers Beach. The estimated height of the surge was 10-15 feet along the immediate coastline. There were 58 deaths attributed to drowning. Surge of up to 8 feet was pushed 15 miles inland and up to 24 miles along rivers. [City Of Naples Government/Kinhua via ZUMA Press]

The 2023 Pinellas County Hurricane Guide was developed in partnership with Pinellas County Emergency Management and the Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program and includes activities to help all ages actively learn about hurricanes and what to do to get ready and stay safe.



Risk Messaging

- Meteorological Partners
- Messaging
- Outreach Materials



WIND

Winds in a hurricane can range from outer bands that could be gusty winds, to devastating hurricane-force winds. The winds will impact the entire county.

Winds can extend out for hundreds of miles (bigger than the coast). Sometimes can occur in outer bands. Winds can last from a few hours to more than a day.

READY: WIND

ACTION: Know if your home is enough to stay in.

- Mobile and manufactured homes are strong winds.
- Plan to evacuate to a stronger building evacuation zone.
- Protect the openings to your home to your home.

TIMING: Know when the winds are expected to arrive.

- Roads used to assist with evacuations will stop running at least several hours before the arrival of tropical storm-force winds.
- Other response vehicles will stop running when conditions are no longer safe due to winds.

4 Tampa Bay Times/ML

Hurricane Intensity Scale Wind Damage See animation:

This animation shows the potential impact that strong winds could have on a home. Hurricane winds that are stronger and last longer can cause major damage or even destroy a home, especially if it's not hardened or is an older structure. Damage to roofs, unprotected windows and doors can occur. Even if you are not in an evacuation zone, you should protect the envelope of your home.

ACTION: Know if you are at risk for inland flooding.

- Evacuate valuables in your home.
- Sandbags or other flood barriers may help keep water out of your home only if the flooding is due to rainfall (not storm surge).
- Know if you have flood insurance and what is covered.
- Review information on pinellas.gov/flood insurance.

If you can, check storm drains near your home and remove any loose leaves or items that may block drainage. Do this before the storm.

READY: FLOOD

TIMING: Rain, not rain with the outer bands of a hurricane and last for days. The longer rain may fall.

FLOOD

Tropical storms and hurricanes can create a lot of rain in a short period of time.

- Areas prone to flooding can be overwhelmed.
- Localized flooding can last much longer than storm surge flooding.
- Flooding can occur in areas outside of floodplains, especially with high amounts of rain over a short period of time.

Look up your flood risk at floodrisk.pinellas.gov

COING BEYOND THE TEXT
TRACKING NATURAL DISASTERS

Monitor and receive disaster alerts on daily lives, health and the economy. For example, business, insurance, education and recreation are the top priority. Be on the alert for the latest information on the status of the disaster and how they affect communities. Have your information ready to go. Be on the alert for the latest information on the status of the disaster and how they affect communities. Have your information ready to go. Be on the alert for the latest information on the status of the disaster and how they affect communities. Have your information ready to go.

Use the Tampa Bay Times to keep track of natural disaster news on or close to your area. Keep a record of disaster preparedness for the disaster and its location.

Tampa Bay Times/ML 6

If the weather forecast says surge height could be...

5-7 feet

- Roads are flooded; cars are flooded.
- Fast-moving storm surge may enter homes, with water above electrical outlets.
- Life-threatening conditions.

12-15 feet

- Storm surge is up to house rooflines in Evacuation Zones A and B.
- Homes can be moved from their foundations.
- You are not likely to survive this.

26+ feet

- Homes in Zones A and B may be swept off their foundations.
- Catastrophic damage along the coast.
- Extensive flooding in all zones: inside homes, cars, on roads.
- You are not likely to survive this.

Wind will affect the entire county. Mobile home residents and residents who are dependent on electricity must always evacuate due to winds for all category hurricanes.

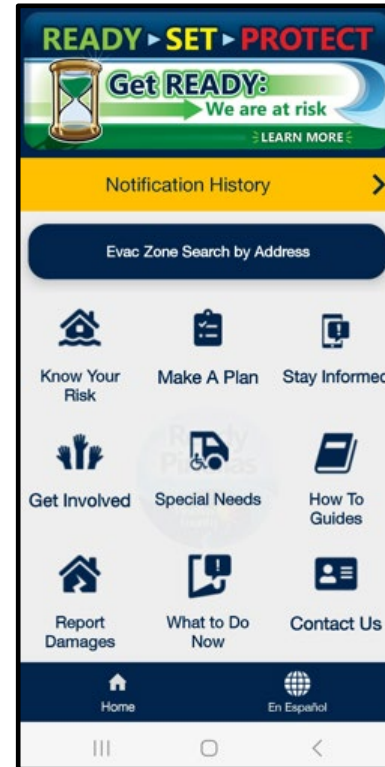
Preparedness Season



- Training
- Exercises
- Outreach events
- Webinars
- Workshops
- Supplies
- Hurricane hygiene kits

After Action Items

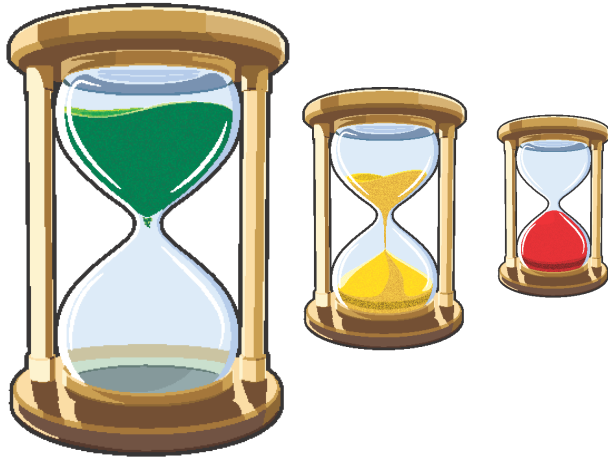
- Know Your Zone
- Ready Pinellas
- Special Needs Registry
- Debris Planning
- Shelters
 - Staffing
 - Step down sites
- Disaster Housing
- Everbridge – State contract



Time is the one resource you cannot get more of



Are you ready?



 **ALERTPinellas**
In emergencies, stay informed.

[Sign up for emergency notifications through Alert Pinellas](#)

READY , SET , PROTECT

disaster.pinellas.gov