

HURRICANE SEASON IS ON OUR DOORSTEP

Are you ready?

REMEMBER ANDREW?

In 1992, Category 5 Hurricane Andrew made landfall near Homestead in the early morning hours with winds up to 165 miles per hour and storm tide as high as nearly 17 feet. It was a devastating storm destroying 25,000 houses in Miami-Dade County alone, and severely damaging about 100,000 more. 65 people were killed and the damage total across the affected regions exceeded \$26 billion. It's important to remember the lessons learned. We cannot stop Mother Nature but we can prepare our homes. As they say, prepare for the worst and hope for the best.



WHAT ARE HURRICANES?

Hurricanes are severe tropical storms that form over warm ocean waters. They rotate in a counter-clockwise direction around an "eye." The most violent part of a hurricane is at the edges of its eye.

The storm strengthens until it comes into contact with land or cooler water. When hurricanes come onto land, the heavy rain, strong winds, and heavy waves can damage buildings, trees, and cars. Florida is vulnerable because it is near the tropics and westerly winds blow off the African coasts along the equator.

Hurricanes are classified into five categories, based on their wind speeds and potential to cause damage.¹

CATEGORY 1
Winds 74–95 miles per hour

CATEGORY 2
Winds 96–110 miles per hour

CATEGORY 3
Winds 111–130 miles per hour

CATEGORY 4
Winds 131–155 miles per hour

CATEGORY 5
Winds greater than 155 miles per hour



ARE YOU READY?

HURRICANE SEASON BEGINS JUNE 1

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The National Hurricane Center is located in Miami. Experts there are particularly busy during the Atlantic hurricane season from June 1 through November 30. Specially strengthened and electronically equipped aircraft are sent into the eye of a hurricane to help in the analysis of a hurricane's strength.

If a hurricane is possible within 36 hours, the Hurricane Center issues a HURRICANE **WATCH**. This means they are tracking the storm and trying to predict where it may come ashore. People in the area should stay tuned to the radio and television for more information. If a hurricane is expected within 24 hours, the Hurricane Center issues a HURRICANE **WARNING**. This means that people may be told to evacuate. People in the area should begin making preparation to leave.

PREPARING TO EVACUATE

Local & State authorities have always stressed that in the event of an approaching hurricane (warning stage), they will order the total evacuation of all residents east of the Intracoastal Waterway, which includes The Hemispheres. Understandably, such an ordered mass emigration inland requires not only sufficient advance notice, but also careful preliminary planning by all residents.

An ordered evacuation will include not only residents but also all employees of The Hemispheres, including office, maintenance, security, housekeeping and parking personnel.



INDIVIDUALS REMAINING AT THE HEMISPHERES, AFTER AN ORDER TO EVACUATE, DO SO AT THEIR OWN RISK

BE AWARE

If a hurricane strikes, you may anticipate that there will be no electricity (lights, air conditioning, refrigeration, elevator service); no water supply, no telephone service, no fire or police protection and no rescue/ambulance vehicles to respond to emergencies.



You are urged to plan now for a safe destination either inland or completely out of the anticipated hurricane strike zone. After the first tropical cyclone advisory, keep your radio or TV set tuned for all further messages from the National Weather Service. If the order is given to evacuate, your plans should have been made, including your evacuation route, a pre-selected destination, bags packed and your car previously topped off with gasoline. There should be adequate warning to permit your safe departure before a hurricane strikes. Prior to leaving the premises, the following preliminary precautions should be observed:

PRIOR TO EVACUATION

- ✓ All furniture and loose objects should be removed from the balcony. These could become deadly flying missiles in hurricane winds.
- ✓ If you have hurricane shutters, they must be closed and securely fastened.
- ✓ All windows should be firmly closed and locked.
- ✓ All shades, blinds, drapes, etc., should be drawn and closed.
- ✓ Folded towels should be placed on all windowsills and at the bottom of doors leading to the balcony.
- ✓ All fragile objects and valuable possessions should be moved away from windows and glass balcony doors.
- ✓ Check faucets to determine that they are in a closed position.
- ✓ Check your stove and oven to be certain that they are turned off.
- ✓ Remove T.V. plugs from electrical outlets.
- ✓ Cars should be removed from the premises to an inland location if necessary. Cars left in the lower level garages will almost certainly suffer severe damage by water and sand in case a tidal surge accompanies a hurricane. No vehicle should remain on the upper decks, as a two-ton car on wet pavement pushed by hurricane winds could become a deadly instrument of destruction. In addition to the probability of significant damage to your automobile, the owner would be legally liable for any damages to property caused by such an unattended vehicle.
- ✓ All occupants are requested to supply duplicate keys to management to permit access in case of threat of hurricane or other emergency. All such keys are kept in custody under the strictest custody conditions. Failure to remove all loose items from your balcony, or any emergency situation requiring access to your apartment, means that in your absence your apartment may be forcibly entered by authorized personnel, at considerable expense to you, the unit owner. A charge of \$50.00 will be made in addition to the costs of repairs to doors and/or door jambs. If keys have been left with management, there will be a labor charge only for removal of articles from a balcony.



A piece of furniture
is airborne after
being blown off a
condo balcony

PRE-HURRICANE ASSISTANCE

Under no circumstances will any Hemispheres' employees respond to calls from residents during a storm « advisory », a hurricane « watch » or « warning » to remove furniture from balconies, close hurricane shutters, accept keys to remove private vehicles from the premises or assist in the evacuation of anyone, including the physically handicapped. All employees on the premises, prior to an order to evacuate, will have as a sole responsibility, the safeguarding and securing of common areas and property, which belong to all unit owners « in common ».



OUT-OF-TOWN OR ON VACATION

If you intend to be out-of-town or on vacation during part of the hurricane season and you leave a car on the premises, please arrange to leave the keys with someone who will remove it to an inland location if necessary. As a precaution, all loose items on your balcony should be removed prior to your temporary absence. Additional precautions, as detailed for those who intend to evacuate should also be observed in your absence by arranging for someone to safeguard your apartment in the event a hurricane threatens.

REACTING PROMPTLY

Following an order to evacuate, please act as promptly and evacuate without further delays as it must be considered that a monumental traffic jam, a bridge malfunction, a traffic accident, early road flooding or misjudgment relative to the time of a hurricane's arrival could force many of the residents to remain in their apartments despite all reasonable efforts to evacuate the premises. As a basic guide, no one should attempt to leave the premises by car or on foot once winds have intensified. Broadcasting and announcements from Local & State authorities and the National Weather Service should be monitored closely.



HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

- ☒ Be prepared
- ☒ Stay Informed
- ☒ Take Action
- ☒ Maintain Contact

PRELIMINARY PLANS AND PRECAUTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN BY ALL HEMISPHERES RESIDENTS

Individuals, who reside at The Hemispheres during the hurricane season, unless they plan to leave even before a hurricane warning, may become «involuntary remainders» in residence because of circumstances beyond their control. With such a possibility in mind, the following precautions and actions to all residents are recommended:

A. WHAT TO ACQUIRE AND WHAT ACTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN NOW!!

- 1 Be certain you have a proper size rubber stopper (for 1-3/4 » opening) to replace the metal stopper in your bathtub.
- 2 Portable, battery-operated radio and extra, fresh batteries are essential.
- 3 An adequate supply of flashlights or battery-operated lanterns, as well as fresh replacement batteries. Using candles should be avoided because broken windows and a sudden gust of wind could create a serious fire hazard.
- 4 Manual can opener.
- 5 Minimum 5-day supply of nonperishable foods.
- 6 Sufficient supply of prescription medication on hand.
- 7 Stock disposable paper plates, cups and plastic utensils. Limited water supplies will be too precious to waste on dishwashing.
- 8 Supply of sturdy garbage bags and ties. All refuse, including disposable eating ware should be sealed and stored in your apartment. Do not dispose of any garbage in trash chutes after a hurricane warning. There will be no garbage pick-up, and accumulated garbage in dumpster rooms and chutes will create a serious fire hazard, as well as a later problem with vermin.
- 9 A lot of bottled water is a necessity.
- 10 No open flame should be used.
- 11 Make a mental note that residential floors have three fire extinguishers in glass cabinets, one large one at each end of the hallways and a smaller one near the elevators. These are all simply operated in an upright position. Merely pull the retaining pin out of the handle, squeeze the lever, and aim in a to-and-from motion at the base of the flames. Learn to protect yourself, as there may be no fire department response after a hurricane warning.
- 12 If you are physically incapacitated and have not already made arrangements for your safety, it is advised that you call the Advisory officials for local shelters contact information.

B. PRECAUTIONARY ACTIVITIES AND BEHAVIOR WHEN A HURRICANE STRIKES:

- 1 All eleven precautions listed under «Prior to Evacuation» should be observed. The only exception is that you may leave your T.V. set turned on until there is a power failure. At that time, pull the plug from the electrical outlet. Turn on your portable radio.
- 2 Do not panic and remain calm.
- 3 Use your telephone for emergencies only. If you have a cell phone, keep it on charge for as long as there is power.
- 4 Turn your refrigerator up to the coldest setting, in order to preserve food as long as possible after the power fails. Avoid unnecessary opening and closing of refrigerator or freezer doors, which will accelerate spoilage.
- 5 Clean and rinse your bathtub thoroughly and use a rubber stopper. Fill the tub with water, which will be used later for flushing of toilets.
- 6 When the leading edge of hurricane winds arrive in force do not attempt to use the elevators. An unexpected power failure or interruption could leave you trapped in a closed, dark elevator, with no rescue personnel available.
- 7 Do not venture on your balcony or outdoors during this deceptive, temporary lull in the storm. Hurricane winds will shortly resume again.
- 8 If a window is broken, do not attempt to stop the influx of wind and water, since broken and flying glass will be extremely dangerous. Leave the affected room(s) and, if necessary, evacuate to the corridor.
- 9 When winds exceed 50 M.P.H., and are rapidly increasing in intensity, you will feel safer and be safer if you evacuate to the corridors above the third floor. Anyone living below the 4th floor is advised to bring a flashlight and use the enclosed fire stairwells to reach the 4th Floor and floors above.
- 10 Flush toilets only sparingly and when absolutely necessary. Remember, you will be using precious water with each flush. A cup full of liquid Clorox (chlorine) poured into a toilet bowl will serve as a deodorant and disinfectant.
- 11 Join with friendly neighbors in your same predicament, for comfort, safety and sharing of resources.

Hurricane Preparedness Week (May 7–13, 2017) is your time to prepare for a potential land-falling tropical storm or hurricane. Please seek more information at :

www.weather.gov/wrn/hurricane-preparedness

SAFE HURRICANE SHELTERS

The locations of safe hurricane shelters most convenient to Hallandale residents will be announced accordingly by the city and the county officials, make sure to listen to your radio or TV advisories.

Bring blankets, pillows, flashlights, food supply and medications for a 48-hour period.

AFTER THE HURRICANE

- 1.** Bacterial contamination of the municipal water supply, as a result of flooding, is a real possibility. Listen to announcements on your radio which will indicate regions of contamination.
- 2.** Do not get into your car and drive about. It is quite possible that certain sections of roadway, which appear intact and sturdy, have been undermined by flood waters. You could lose your car and your life in case of a road cave-in. Listen for post-hurricane instructions over your radio and warnings which identify road danger areas.
- 3.** Prior to official words of assurance, do not leave your premises on foot out of curiosity to inspect for hurricane damages. When electricity has been restored, there may still be the possibility of downed high voltage wires. Any puddle in contact with such live wires, or a misstep on a downed wire, could be deadly. Broken tree limbs, damaged traffic signals and other overhead objects may also constitute a hazard for pedestrians. Wait for the «all clear» announcement before leaving your building.



HURRICANE WATCH
MEANS A HURRICANE
MAY THREATEN AN AREA.

HURRICANE WARNING
MEANS A HURRICANE IS
EXPECTED TO STRIKE THE
AREA **WITHIN 24 HOURS.**

EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT OUR GENERATORS, but hesitated to ask....

Questions by Barbara Drabkin

Answers by Joe Tocci and Hector Franco

Now that Hurricane Season is here, it is time to take a moment to get to know the facts about the Generators at The Hemispheres. There is a common misconception that having a generator means that in a power failure we will have complete electrical power on the property. This is not the case. The supply of electricity will be limited as noted in the questions below. The most important fact that you need to remember is that our Generators DO NOT SUPPLY ANY ELECTRICAL POWER TO INDIVIDUAL UNITS AT THE HEMISPHERES.



Questions and Answers about our Generators:

1. What is a "Generator"?

A generator is a mechanical device that produces electricity.

2. What triggers the use of the generator?

When there is a complete loss of electrical power from FPL, the generator will automatically begin supplying electrical power.

3. What fuels The Hemispheres' generators?

Natural gas fuels our generators. We have a contract with a natural gas company that fills this need.

4. Does each building have a generator?

Each of the 4 Residential Towers plus the Mechanical Building have their own generators. The Ocean Terrace and Bayside Yacht Club buildings do not have generators, but receive a small amount of power from adjacent building generators.

5. Where are the generators located?

On the ground level in each residential building.

6. How often are the generators tested?

All of our generators are tested every week. The natural gas flow automatically refills the fuel used during the testing.

7. When there is a power failure from FPL and the generator begins supplying electricity will there be FULL electrical power to The Hemispheres?

NO.

8. What areas will be supplied by the electrical power from the generators? The generators will supply electrical energy to:

A. One elevator can be supplied, but only if the elevator has not been shut off For other reasons.

For example, in a hurricane there may be danger of flooding of the elevator shafts. If this is a danger, the elevator will be shut off completely and not powered at all.

B. Emergency stairwell lighting

C. Fire Alarm System

D. Domestic water pumps

E. Access control system

F. Limited hallway lighting – about every 3rd or 4th light, no electrical outlets

G. Minimal lighting in Ocean Terrace and Yacht Club

H. Minimal garage lighting

9. Will the Air Conditioning function under generator power?

NO.

There will be no air-conditioning while we are on emergency generator power, because there will be no power supply to the chillers and cooling tower. Also, there will be no hot water as the boilers are not powered by the generator.

10. When the building is on generator power, will there be electrical power in any individual units at The Hemispheres?

NO.

The generator does not supply any electrical power to any individual residential unit at The Hemispheres.

11. How long will the generator supply electrical power?

As long as there is no power coming from FPL, the building will be on generator power. The generators will function as long as there is a supply of natural gas to fuel them coming through our gas lines and there is no mechanical failure.

12. Is there a backup generator?

Yes, The Hemispheres has one portable generator available if one of the permanent generators should fail. However, it takes time and manpower to put it into service.



Barbara Drabkin
Director