



# FBRA News

Fairfield Beach Residents Association

## Hurricane Season this year predicted to be " Above Normal " - here are some safety tips

An above-normal 2020 Atlantic hurricane season is expected, according to forecasters with NOAA's Climate Prediction Center, a division of the National Weather Service. The outlook predicts a 60% chance of an above-normal season, a 30% chance of a near-normal season and only a 10% chance of a below-normal season. The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30.



Be Prepared for a Hurricane Highlight: Threats from hurricanes include powerful winds, heavy rainfall, storm surges, coastal and inland flooding, rip currents, tornadoes, and landslides.

Definition: A hurricane is a storm that forms over warm ocean waters and has sustained winds of 74 mph or higher.

Quick Facts:

- \* Hurricanes can happen along any U.S. coast or territory in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans or the Gulf of Mexico.
- \* Hurricanes can affect areas more than 100 miles inland.
- \* Hurricanes are most active in September.

### Safety Tips provided by FEMA:

\* Pay attention to emergency information and alerts. If you have not signed up for the town CodeRed system sign up now.. [Link to CodeRed](#)

\* Know your evacuation route and zone!

- o Unless you live in a mandatory evacuation zone, it is recommended that you make a plan to shelter-in-place in your home, if it is safe to do so.

- o If you live in a mandatory evacuation zone, make a plan with friends or family to shelter with them where you will be safer and more comfortable.

- o Only evacuate to shelters if you are unable to shelter at home or with family or friends. If you must evacuate to a public shelter, try to bring items that can help protect you and others in the shelter from COVID-19, such as hand sanitizer, cleaning materials, and two cloth face coverings per person.

\* Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Turn Around. Do not drown. Just six inches of fast-moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.

\* Stay off bridges over fast-moving water. Be Safe

How to Stay Safe When a Hurricane Threatens:

Prepare Now

1. Turn on Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) in your smartphone settings.

(<https://www.ready.gov/alerts>)

2. Gather needed supplies, including cleaning supplies, non-perishable foods, and water. If you are able to, set aside items like soap, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, and general household cleaning supplies that you can use to disinfect surfaces you touch regularly. After a hurricane, you may not have access to these supplies for days or even weeks.

3. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Do not forget the needs of pets.

4. Keep important documents in a safe place or create password-protected digital copies.

5. Protect your property. Declutter drains and gutters. Install check valves in plumbing to prevent backups. Consider hurricane shutters. Review insurance policies.

6. If you live in a mandatory evacuation zone and local authorities instruct you to evacuate, do so immediately. Do not drive around barricades or through floodwater.

7. If staying at a shelter or public facility, take steps to keep yourself and others safe from COVID-19. Wash your hands often, maintain a physical distance of at least six feet between you and people who are not part of your household, and avoid crowds and gathering in groups. When possible, wear a cloth face covering. Children under 2 years old, people who have trouble breathing, and people who cannot take the cloth face covering off without help should not wear cloth face coverings. If possible, wash your cloth face covering on a regular basis.

8. If trapped in a building by flooding, go to the highest level of the building. Do not climb into a closed attic. You may become trapped by rising flood water.

9. Listen for current emergency information and instructions.

10. Use a generator or other gasoline-powered machinery ONLY outdoors and at least 20 feet from your home and away from windows, doors, and vents. If you are using generators near your home, install battery-operated or battery back-up carbon monoxide (CO) detectors and check to be sure they are working properly.

(<https://www.cdc.gov/co/generatorsafetyfactsheet.html>)

## AARP suggests packing a "GO Bag" for you and each member of the family:

### 1. Basic electronics

Pack an extra phone charger in case you're fortunate enough to have electricity, and a portable battery pack in case you're not. Also stash a long-lasting LED flashlight. Pack a small hand-cranked or battery-operated AM/FM radio (with extra batteries).

### 2. Personal needs

While getting ready for a typical day, list every toiletry you use, then buy a [travel-size version](#) of each. Pack backup eyeglasses, as well as a first-aid kit, baby wipes and a multipurpose tool with a knife and can opener.

### 3. Clothing

Pack a few days' worth. Include layers you can add or remove, plus lightweight rain gear and waterproof boots.

### 4. Your meds

Pack about three days' worth of each of your [prescriptions](#), which should last until you can get to a pharmacy that's open. If you need larger items, such as an oxygen tank, make sure you have a portable version.

### 5. The perfect bag

Think small and portable. A backpack is ideal, but a lightweight suitcase with wheels will also do. Just remember, you may literally be running with it.

### 6. Paperwork

Fill a zip-top waterproof bag with photocopies of your birth certificate; driver's license; Social Security and Medicare cards; power of attorney and will; any marriage, adoption or naturalization certificates; proof of address; insurance, medical and immunization records; and information about your credit and ATM cards.

### 7. Food and drink

Bottled water is essential. Granola or energy bars are great because they are small and filling, and they come in a variety of flavors.

### 8. Cash

In addition to enough money for a few days, include small bills and a roll of quarters. If you need to buy something out of a vending machine, you don't want to start asking equally desperate strangers for change.

## Be prepared this season and stay safe

## Other News

South Benson Marina dredging started October 23 and the channel as well as several sections of Jennings Beach will be closed starting November 18 into 2020. Please see attached for area closure schedule:

[South Benson Marina and Jennings beach closures](#)

### Board of Directors:

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Photo by Geoff Steadman

## About the FBRA:

Founded in 1955, the Fairfield Beach Residents Association is a 501(c)4 advocacy organization comprised of homeowners from the Old Post Road south to Fairfield Beach Road west to the end of the road, and Reef Road east to Beach Road. The FBRA aims to: Represent and implement the interests and desires of the membership in maintaining and improving Fairfield Beach and vicinity; promote cooperation among the owners and renters; represent

the common interests of the membership in relation to governmental authorities; and provide for the mutual assistance, enjoyment, and quality of life for all people residing in the Fairfield Beach area.

Visit us at [www.fbra.org](http://www.fbra.org) to renew your membership