

# Hurricane Safety Tips

## BEFORE HURRICANE SEASON STARTS:

- Create a family disaster plan & review all insurance policies.
- Store valuables, papers, and photos in a dry and secure place.
- Trim tree branches close to home.
- If plywood shutters are needed for your home, purchase and cut to fit the plywood to the windows.
- Stock up on canned or prepacked food, water, and other essential items.

## BEFORE THE STORM:

- Prepare your home for the storm. Secure outdoor material and put up or close window shutters if needed.
- Fuel vehicles early and get extra cash.
- Plan to evacuate if you live on the coastline, in a mobile home, or a flood plain.
- Notify relatives of your evacuation plan and leave early.

## AFTER THE STORM:

- Respond to emergency officials. Be prepared to be away from your residence as long as a couple of weeks or more!
- Once allowed to re-enter area, beware of any remaining debris or flooded areas.
- Most post-hurricane related injuries or fatalities are caused by cleanup or carbon monoxide poisoning from generators.

# Terminology

- **TROPICAL DEPRESSION** is a tropical cyclone with maximum sustained surface wind speed (1-minute average) of 33 knots (38 mph) or less.
- **TROPICAL STORM** is a tropical cyclone with maximum sustained surface wind speed (1-minute average) ranging from 34 knots (39 mph) to 63 knots (73 mph).
- **HURRICANE** is a tropical cyclone with maximum sustained surface wind (1-minute average) of 64 knots (74 mph) or more.
- **MAJOR HURRICANE** is a tropical cyclone with maximum sustained surface wind (1-minute average) of 96 knots (111 mph) or more.
- **TROPICAL STORM/HURRICANE WATCH** is issued when these conditions are POSSIBLE within 48 hours.
- **TROPICAL STORM/HURRICANE WARNING** is issued when these conditions are EXPECTED within 36 hours.
- **STORM SURGE** is the abnormal rise in sea level before and during a tropical or post-tropical cyclone approach and/or landfall.
- **STORM SURGE WATCH** is issued when these conditions are POSSIBLE within 48 hours.
- **STORM SURGE WARNING** is issued when these conditions are EXPECTED within 36 hours.

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<https://www.weather.gov/lch/>

This publication can be obtained at:  
<http://www.weather.gov/media/lch/tropical/LCHHurricaneTrackingChart.pdf>

# National Weather Service

# 2024

## Hurricane Tracking Chart

## Storm Names

Alberto	Helene	Oscar
Beryl	Isaac	Patty
Chris	Joyce	Rafael
Debby	Kirk	Sara
Ernesto	Leslie	Tony
Francine	Milton	Valerie
Gordon	Nadine	William



**Weather Forecast Office**  
**Lake Charles, LA**



