

After the **HURRICANE**



Assist the members of the Emergency Services as much as possible if asked to do so.

Help to take the injured requiring treatment to the nearest First Aid Post, Polyclinic or Hospital.

Report deaths to the Police Station.

See that the injured are inoculated against tetanus.

Assist by removing the smaller pieces of debris from outside houses particularly if you live in the Bridgetown area or on the main road.

DO NOT touch fallen electric wires.

DO NOT congregate in thoroughfares.

DO NOT throw garbage, waste food or dead animals in the street. Help protect health in your community.

DO NOT use a car unless there is an urgent job to be done.

DO NOT overcrowd relief centres needlessly.

DO NOT go sightseeing.

DO NOT drink water without first boiling it unless the HEALTH AUTHORITIES have declared that the water supply is safe.

DO NOT waste water.



Department of Emergency Management,
#30 Warrens Industrial Park, Warrens, St. Michael,

Tel: (246) 438-7575 Fax: (246) 421-8612

E-mail: cero@caribsurf.com
deminfo@barbados.gov.bb

Additional information can be found at
Website: www.dem.gov.bb



HURRICANE HINTS for households



Weather WORDS

- Bulletin** is issued when a significant weather system is detected in the area.
- Advisory** is issued at regular intervals when a tropical storm or hurricane is first detected in the area.
- Watch** is issued when the hurricane continues its advance and hurricane conditions are a real possibility; it does not mean that they are imminent.
- Warning** is issued when it is established that hurricane conditions are expected within 24hrs.

What is a HURRICANE?

A hurricane is an intense, rotating oceanic weather system that possesses maximum sustained winds exceeding 119 km/hr (74 mph). It forms and intensifies over tropical oceanic regions.

What to do before the Hurricane Season

Windows and Doors

Make sure that all fasteners for outside doors and windows are in order. Wherever possible, windows should be reinforced with shutters and doors with bars.

The Roof

Make sure that the roof covering is properly fixed to the rafters. Roof sheeting must be properly fixed to support, preferably with long drive screws. Spaces between the roof and the supports should be sealed off during hurricane periods. A high wind will lift a roof if it gets into the air space between the roof and the supports.

Frames of Wooden Houses

Wooden corner posts of houses should be secured to stone blocks by fixing stakes to the posts and driving them well into the ground. If the posts are resting on concrete blocks they should be firmly fixed to the blocks with iron strips embedded in the concrete. Houses should be protected against wood ants. Houses infected by these termites very often collapse in a hurricane.

Useful Supplies

Try to ensure that there is a reserve supply of tinned milk and other tinned food as emergency rations in the home. Keep one or two hurricane lanterns filled with kerosene. Keep matches in readiness also. A small quantity of first aid supplies may be useful. Keep supplies of clean drinking water to hand. Make sure that drinking water tanks are kept securely covered. Have a can opener.

Trees

Any trees or branches which hang directly over a house or which look as if they might damage it in a hurricane should be trimmed.

Shelter

Know where your Emergency Shelter is located.

What to do on the approach of a hurricane

ON HEARING 'HURRICANE ADVISORY'

Listen carefully for other messages which follow the advisory.

ON HEARING 'HURRICANE WATCH'

Continue normal activities, but stay tuned to radio or television for further messages.

ON HEARING 'HURRICANE WARNING'

See that all livestock have plenty of water and food, and fasten them securely in suitable buildings, if not leave them untethered.

Fill as many clean receptacles as possible with drinking water.

Shut, fasten and barricade all windows and outside doors if possible, prepare buckets of sand for use in case a fire breaks out



Take cover in as secure a shelter as possible. Certain churches, schools and public buildings will be opened for those needing to shelter. It would be wise to take a small supply of food to the shelter. Take your medication with you.

If shelter is taken in a house that shows signs of collapsing, then the best place to take a cover is under stairs or under a sturdy table or bedstead.

All fishing boats should be drawn up well above high water mark.



DO NOT go outdoors until the all-clear has been given.

What to do during the hurricane

DO NOT leave your house or shelter during the hurricane.

DO NOT open windows and barricades until hurricane has passed.

DO NOT shelter in gullies or low-lying areas that are likely to flood.

DO NOT leave the shelter if there is a sudden lull in the hurricane. This may be the centre of the hurricane, and the wind will start up again very violently from the opposite direction.

DO NOT go outdoors until the all-clear has been given.

