

River Plantation Hurricane Preparedness Letter



Dear RP Residents:

Hurricane season begins June 1st and ends November 30th. Throughout the year and especially during weather events, the best way to receive the latest information is to visit www.rpcia.com. If you are a resident of River Plantation and have registered on the [RP Forum](#), you will receive emails of updates and warnings. Access to our website, even from your evacuated location will allow you to keep up with the latest developments in our community.

We cannot predict the severity of any storm, but we can set expectation levels and provide the best communication possible throughout a severe weather event. Please be advised that if our area is notified of a **hurricane watch** the RPCIA, County and our management team will prepare the community in anticipation of possible flooding. We strongly recommend that you also take proper precautionary action in accordance with recommendations and instructions from the local authorities.

Under a **hurricane warning**, it is important that you comply with recommendations and instructions, which may include evacuation issued by the local authorities. It is important to remember that hurricanes and all associated weather conditions are natural disasters. Given the potential for driving rain during a hurricane, please take the steps necessary to prevent damage within your home. In an effort to assist you in preparing for this hurricane season, we ask that all residents please read the following information thoroughly and be properly prepared in the event of a severe storm or hurricane.

During severe weather you can log onto <https://www.sjra.net> and <https://www.weather.gov/safety/hurricane-plan> and <https://mctxoem.org/preparing-for-hurricanes-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/>.

PRIOR TO THE HURRICANE:

- ❑ It is **IMPORTANT** to locate the drains on your property and clear them of any debris. If you have blocked culverts you will need to clear them of any obstruction.
- ❑ There are many homes that take in water during severe weather in River Plantation. If you are new to RP you can locate your home and identify if you are in a flood way, flood zone, etc. Simply visit <https://mctx.org/> and locate the Engineering section where you will find an Interactive [FEMA flood map](#). The map allows you to type in your address.
- ❑ Make arrangements for your pets.
- ❑ Clear off balconies, terraces and patios Use sand bags if they are available.
- ❑ Close all blinds to avoid shattering glass.
- ❑ Fill the bathroom tub with water. This water may be used for drinking should the water supply become interrupted or contaminated. It may also be poured into the toilet bowl to induce flushing.
- ❑ Stock up on daily necessities. Items such as the following are a must: non-perishable food, bottled water, first aid kits, blankets, can opener, batteries, battery-powered radio, prescriptions, diapers, baby food, extra eye glasses, hearing aids and battery-powered lanterns.
- ❑ Fill all vehicles with gas. In the event of loss of electricity, the gas pumps will not operate.
- ❑ Locate and review your insurance policies to ensure that you have adequate coverage for your home and personal property. Do not forget to include your insurance paperwork with other important papers to carry with you. Store this and other important documents in waterproof containers or in a waterproof safety deposit box.

- ❑ If you evacuate, take your valuables and pets with you. Turn off all electrical appliances.
- ❑ Listen to the County Warning System on the radio. Do exactly as advised. Make plans to relocate outside the affected area. Have current information on the location of the Red Cross shelters and directions to get there. If there are ill or disabled persons in your home, contact their doctor for instructions. If the County Warning System requires relocation, do so early to avoid traffic jams and dangerous winds. Be sure to take necessities such as prescriptions, bedding, enough food for 24 hours, flashlights and a battery-powered radio.

DURING THE HURRICANE:

- ❑ Continue to follow the County Warning System and do exactly as advised.
- ❑ If the electricity goes off, turn off or unplug all hazardous appliances. (i.e. stove, iron, curling irons, blow-dryers) Use flashlights instead of candles or kerosene lamps.
- ❑ Conserve refrigeration. Open the refrigerator/freezer door as little possible.

AFTER THE HURRICANE:

- ❑ If you vacated your home prior to the storm, before returning, please check with your local authorities to determine the condition of the roads and the surrounding area.
- ❑ If you flood, contact the RPCIA @ rpcia@consolidated.net with your phone number and address. We will contact you with any relief efforts that are available to you. All emergency numbers can be found at rpcia.com.
- ❑ Do not use water until authorities have issued the area to be a "safe water area." Use the emergency supply in the tub or boil water. Report broken sewer or water mains to the proper authority. Please limit usage of water and toilet facilities. Property may need to implement water restrictions.
- ❑ Notify your insurance carrier in the event of losses and where you may be reached.

Be patient. It takes a team effort to clean up after a storm. Responsibility for the cleanup falls to numerous local, state and federal agencies. We cannot be responsible for any resulting property damage, interruption of utilities/services, or bodily injury, but we are here to help in any way we are able.

In the aftermath of a hurricane, every community hopes for a smooth recovery. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation and patience during the aftermath of these storms. Knowing how to respond after a storm can make all the difference. Please take the time to be as prepared as possible. Please stay safe this storm season, and look to our website for information. As always, you can ask questions of the Board or myself on the Forum or email us at rpcia@consolidated.net.

Sincerely

Jamie Goodman
RPCIA President