# DURING & AFTER THE STORM

*in this section*

- *Stay safe during the storm*
- *Survive after the storm*
- *Re-entry*

A catastrophic hurricane could make portions of Pinellas County virtually uninhabitable for weeks or even months. Utility outages could be long-lasting and widespread.

## STAY SAFE DURING THE STORM

- Stay tuned to local news for updates.
- Close interior doors. Secure and brace external doors.
- If power goes out, use your weather radio for alerts. For light, use flashlights, battery-operated lanterns or chemical light sticks.
- Stay indoors and stay calm. Do not be fooled if there is a lull; it could be the eye of the storm and winds may pick up again.

- Parents should be patient with children struggling to cope with the situation. For more suggestions for children, see page 12.

### If your home is breached…

- Take refuge in your safe room, an interior room, closet or hallway on the lowest level of your home. Remember, the center of your house is the safest.
- Lie on the floor under a table or other sturdy object if you cannot make it to a safe room.
- Consider leaving your home ONLY if remaining poses an imminent threat to your life.
- Wait until the storm has passed to tend to any damage.

## SURVIVE AFTER THE STORM

The RECOVER section of this guide has valuable advice for living without power and other utilities in the aftermath of a disaster. It may take awhile for emergency crews to clear roads of debris and restore basic services. Heed any advisories issued by local authorities and make use of your survival kit to meet your everyday needs.

## RE-ENTRY

After an evacuation, many parts of Pinellas County may be inaccessible due to damage, flooding or debris blocking major roadways. Coming home is not a guarantee. Get the latest news for information on damage before heading home.

**Considerations:**

- Be prepared with proper ID that identifies you and the address of your residential or business property for re-entry after a storm.
- Barrier island residents need a special emergency access permit.
- Call your municipality.
- Call the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Public Relations Bureau at **(727) 582-6221**.
- Visit: ***www.pcsoweb.com/emergency-access-permit***
- Pinellas County's Re-Entry Plan: ***www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/PDF/Re-entry-Plan.pdf***

### Get help

The Citizens Information Center is activated during times of emergency. Staff will be available to answer questions. Call **(727) 464-4333**.

# FAMILY DISASTER PLAN

Fill out the information in this plan and share it with your family and loved ones.
An online version is available at ***www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/familydisasterplan.pdf***

## ALL-HAZARDS DISASTER INFORMATION

Central Family Contact: _____

Doctor: _____

School(s): _____

_____

Day Care: _____

Other Important Contacts: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Do I have everything I need for my survival kit? ❑ Yes ❑ No

Have I signed up to receive *Alert Pinellas* emergency notifications? ❑ Yes ❑ No

Do I have a battery-powered radio for emergencies? ❑ Yes ❑ No

Does my family have a central meeting place if we're separated in an emergency?

❑ Yes ❑ No Location: _____

Are important papers – and copies – stored with valuables in a waterproof, safe place?

Originals: _____

Copies: _____

**Insurance Policy Information**

Home: _____

Health: _____

Flood: _____

Auto: _____

Renters: _____

## HURRICANE PREPARATION

Evacuation Level: _____

Where we'll go if/when we need to evacuate: _____

_____

Evacuation location, address and phone (host home, hotel, shelter):

_____

_____

Does my employer provide a special shelter for me and my family?

❑ Yes ❑ No If Yes, list address and phone: _____

_____

_____

Does my evacuation location allow pets? ❑ Yes ❑ No

My pet(s) name/type of pet(s): _____

_____

_____

What will I do with my pet(s) if I evacuate? _____

_____

If required, have I registered for Special Needs Evacuation Assistance?

❑ Yes ❑ No

Can I be a host home? ❑ Yes ❑ No

If yes, how many/who will I host? _____

_____

What preventative measures will I take to safeguard my home?

_____

_____

_____

_____

Are my windows and doors protected? ❑ Yes ❑ No

Where is my safe room? _____

How will I secure my boat? _____