



# FIU

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
*Miami's public research university*

Dear Housing Student:

One of the challenges of living in beautiful South Florida is that we annually endure a hurricane season from June 1 to November 30. I want to take this opportunity to inform you about some important procedures that will affect you and our residence halls should Miami-Dade County be placed under a hurricane watch.

Should Miami-Dade County be placed under a hurricane watch (this means that hurricane conditions are possible within 48 hours), we will ask you to take immediate action and prepare to execute your hurricane plan. Your plan must address the following priorities:

- Determine where you will be seeking shelter
- Communicate your plan to your parent or guardian
- Inform your resident assistant or fraternity house director of your plan

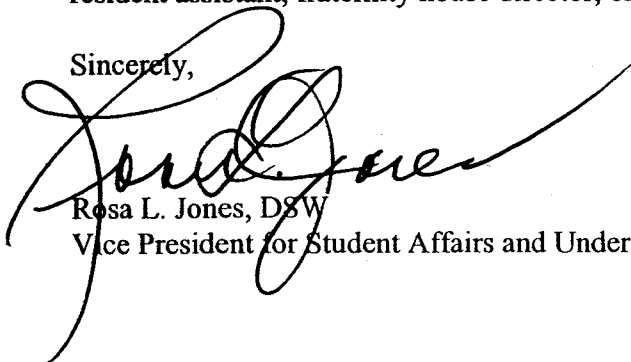
Once a hurricane warning is issued for Miami-Dade County, classes will be cancelled and the residence halls and fraternity houses will be closed. Due to space limitations, resident students who live in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties will be asked to evacuate to their primary residence.

If you are from outside these three counties and you do not have access to safe shelter off campus, you will be relocated to a university-operated shelter located on the UP campus. Your residence hall staff and fraternity house director will work with you regarding the evacuation process. Students residing at the Biscayne Bay Campus will be evacuated (via bus) to the University Park Campus.

Those staying within the university emergency shelter must bring three days supply of food and water. In addition you must be prepared to sleep on the floor in a common area lounge or corridor. It is important that you understand this is an emergency shelter and accommodations are basic. It is vitally important that you notify your parents and/or guardian of your evacuation plans.

Should you have questions regarding the university's hurricane procedures, please contact your resident assistant, fraternity house director, or member of the Housing and Residential Life staff.

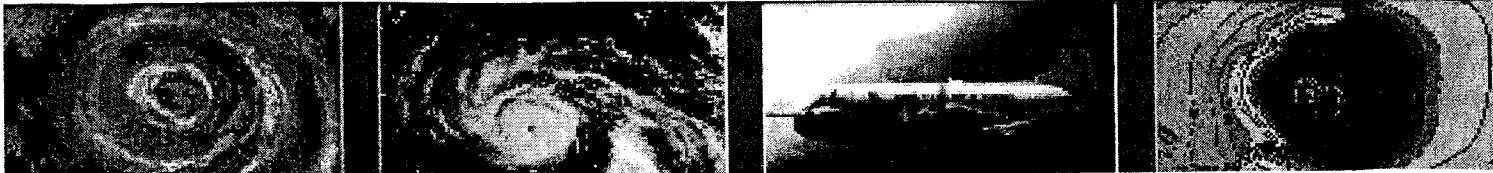
Sincerely,



Rosa L. Jones, DSW

Vice President for Student Affairs and Undergraduate Education

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# HURRICANE SUPPLY KIT

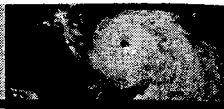
- ✓ **Water** - at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 5 days
- ✓ **Food** - at least enough for 3 to 5 days
  - non-perishable packaged or canned food / juices
  - snack foods
  - non-electric can opener
  - paper plates / plastic utensils
- ✓ **Blankets / Pillows, etc.**
- ✓ **Clothing** - seasonal / rain gear/ sturdy shoes
- ✓ **First Aid Kit / Medicines / Prescription Drugs**
- ✓ **Toiletries /Hygiene items**
- ✓ **Flashlight / Batteries**
- ✓ **Cash** - Banks and ATMs may not be open or available for extended periods.
- ✓ **Keys**
- ✓ **Books and Games**
- ✓ **Important documents** - in a water proof container
  - Insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.
- ✓ **Vehicle fuel tanks filled**

**Don't forget  
to notify your  
RA of what  
your plans will  
be!**

## Hurricane Shelter Policies and Expectations for Housing Residents Florida International University

- Follow all directions of staff and University Police, who will be responsible for managing the operations of the shelter.
- **ONLY FIU residents and approved staff are permitted in the shelter.** Guests and pets will not be permitted in the shelter.
- No possession or consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs (regardless of age of student) will be permitted in the shelter. This pertains even if the shelter is held in a residence hall. Shelter policies supersede residence hall alcohol policy.
- All other University and Housing and Residential Life policies must be adhered to while in the shelter.
- For your safety, it is required that you remain in the shelter. Should you elect to leave the assigned shelter area (if even for a brief time), you will be ineligible to return.
- A count of all students will take place periodically. Be prepared to participate and cooperate during these times. Direction will be provided as to when and where these counts will occur.
- Carry your FIU Identification at all times.
- Keep wristband on and visible for the duration of the shelter.
- Just as in the residence halls, 24 hour courtesy hours are in effect. Please be respectful if asked to quiet down by another student or a staff member.
- Adhere to the designations for assigned sleeping areas, and those spaces identified for meals and social activities. Residents must remain in designated areas at all times.
- Utilize stairwells for travel between floors. Elevators should only be used by students with special needs.
- Once residents' rooms are evacuated, students will not be allowed to access them until staff provides clearance to do so.
- Aside from Hurricane Kit items, leave all other personal belongings in room.
- Keep the shelter clean. Please dispose of all trash and pick up behind yourself.
- The University assumes no responsibility for your personal items; your belongings are your responsibility—keep track of them at all times.
- Seek out staff for assistance. Please let us know how you and/or those around you are doing.
- Balance your individual needs with those of the community. This means sharing, being cooperative, respectful and sensitive to the needs of others.

# Hurricane Preparedness



## WHAT IS A HURRICANE?

Hurricanes are tropical cyclones in which wind speeds reach a constant of a least 74 miles per hour with a string of thunderstorms, torrential rains and storm surges of up to 20 feet. Other tropical cyclones include:

### Tropical Depression

An organized system of clouds and thunderstorms with maximum sustained winds of 38 mph or less

### Tropical Storm

An organized system of strong thunderstorms with maximum sustained winds of 39-73 mph

## WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A WATCH vs. WARNING

### A HURRICANE WATCH

Indicates the possibility that you could experience hurricane conditions within 36 hours. This watch should trigger your action plan, and protective measures should be initiated.

### A HURRICANE WARNING

Indicates that sustained winds of at least 74 mph are expected within 24 hours or less. Once this warning has been issued, you should be in the process of completing protective actions and deciding the safest location to be during the storm.

For more information visit the National Hurricane Center at <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

## WHAT TO EXPECT IF YOU ARE EVACUATED

All resident students are strongly encouraged to establish an evacuation plan in the event the University or Dade County issues an evacuation order. Upon the issuance of an evacuation order, all residents will be directed to seek shelter. Students from Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties (the tri-county area) will be instructed to return home to their families or relatives or a safe place off campus, for the duration of the hurricane event.

Plan on notifying your RA immediately of your plans. If you are from outside the tri-county area and you don't have a safe shelter off campus, you will be sheltered on campus. You will need to register for the shelter, pack your hurricane kits and watch for email and flyer up-dates distributed throughout the community. Students who seek shelter on-campus will be required to bring a three day (minimum) supply of water and food.

The Bay Vista housing complex will be closed and all remaining students who require shelter will be evacuated to the University Park campus. Bay Vista Housing students will be transported to the UP campus by bus.

## DEVELOPING AN ACTION PLAN

In the event of a Hurricane, staff will provide you with updates. If you have questions, please seek out residence hall staff for assistance. It is advisable that all residents develop an ACTION PLAN so that you are prepared should the weather in our area become severe enough to warrant an evacuation of the residence halls.

### YOU SHOULD CONSIDER:

Where you will seek shelter in the event of an evacuation and replenishing your hurricane kits.

### TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

If you are able to go home or seek shelter with family or a friend, you should plan to do so.

Have 3-5 days of non-perishable food & water available.

Have a reliable flashlight and batteries.

Make sure you have an ample supply of your prescription medication and any other medicines you might need.

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

No guests or pets are allowed in the FIU shelter. Alternative shelter information is available at your front desk.

Please share your plans with family and friends.

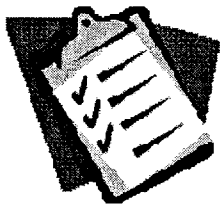
### FOR FIU HURRICANE UPDATES:

Call FIU-HELP (348-4357)

Access

<http://www.fiu911.org/hurricane/>

## Preparing your room for evacuation...



- ◆ All items considered valuable, should be covered with plastic and stored off the floor to avoid water damage
- ◆ All windows and blinds must be closed
- ◆ All electrical appliances must be turned off and unplugged
- ◆ Notify your parent and/or guardian of your evacuation plan