

DURING AND AFTER THE STORM

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW AND EXPECT IF YOU STAY

- Residents with emergency housing needs will remain in their individual halls until the storm has passed.
- The Village residents with emergency housing needs will be relocated to vacant women's residence halls.
- Fraternity Row residents with emergency housing needs will be relocated to vacant men's residence halls.
- Students remaining in the halls during the storm **MUST** sign the building's "warm body count" form so that staff will have an accurate number of those staying.
- Expect a four-to six-hour wait in the hallways (safe zone).
- Expect a possible lack of air conditioning, water and limited electricity.
- Sack lunch will be provided.
- Residents are encouraged to ration their food and water accordingly, making it last through the next day.
- Avoid standing or sitting near windows and doors. In the event that the roof of the structure is damaged or blows off, go to a secure room, lie on the floor and cover yourself with a mattress.
- If the center of the "eye" passes directly overhead, there may be a lull in the wind lasting from a few minutes to half an hour or more. **DO NOT** venture out during this time. Remember that the wind may return suddenly from an opposite direction with even greater force.
- It is not uncommon for buildings to take in water or for windows to break during a storm. All we can do is clean up to the best of our ability and wait for the storm to be over. Never put yourself in danger trying to clean up a mess.

DURING AND AFTER THE STORM

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW AND EXPECT IF YOU STAY *(continued)*

- Remain Inside – **DO NOT** leave the building during the storm, unless it is an emergency.
- **DO NOT** play in any standing water around the buildings due to potential downed power lines.
- Power Outages – residents may **NOT** use candles or other flammable types of lighting under any circumstances. Flashlights are recommended in the event of a power failure. *Emergency generators will supply emergency lighting in the hallways and stairwells, fire alarm systems and access card system.
- Listen for tornado sirens – we could expect to receive several tornados from the hurricane. If you hear the tornado siren, please leave your room immediately and go to the safe zone in your building (first floor).
- Once the storm has passed, all residents may be relocated to the Thad Cochran Center.
- Campus Curfew (strictly enforced) – In the event a curfew is placed in effect by the police department, residents will not be permitted to leave the building and will be **ARRESTED** for doing so. This is for the safety of the student, hall staff and emergency response teams.

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HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS for ON-CAMPUS RESIDENTS **GUIDE**

WATCHES AND WARNINGS

A **watch** means that tropical storm or hurricane conditions are a possible threat within 36 hours in the specified region. You should begin preliminary preparations to protect your life and property.

A **warning** means that tropical storm or hurricane conditions are expected in a specified region within 24 hours.

All of your preparations should be complete at this time!

INSIDE:

Residence Life Evacuation Information Form

Before the Storm

During and After the Storm



RESIDENCE LIFE EMERGENCY EVACUATION INFORMATION FORM

Name

Hall/Room

Cell Phone

Other Phone Where You Can Be Reached

Place You are Evacuating To

Date Leaving

Date Returning

EMERGENCY CONTACT PERSON:

Name

Relationship

Phone Number

YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN
TO THE FRONT DESK PRIOR TO LEAVING.

Make sure you sign out with hall staff at the desk and
sign back in when you return.

If you have any questions or for more information,
contact the desk assistant or RA.

BEFORE THE STORM

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

- Check the University's Web site, www.usm.edu. The most immediate release of information regarding the storm and related procedures will come from the University's Web site.
- Sign up for Eagle Alert to receive time sensitive emergency messages (via text, phone and email). To sign up, go to www.usm.edu and click on the EAGLE ALERT icon and follow the instructions. Questions? Ask an RA staff member for assistance.
- Plan to Go Home Early – Know where you will be going, whether it is home, to a friend's house or to a designated shelter. *Parents may NOT relocate to the residence halls. Refer them to the Red Cross shelters in the area. The University is not an emergency shelter and cannot accommodate a large number of extra people.
- Fill Out the Emergency Evacuation Information Form (attached) and give it to the hall staff at the desk before you leave. The purpose of the form is to let university officials know what your evacuation plan is.
- Pack an Emergency Bag – Residents staying on campus during the storm should also pack a bag, as you may be relocated to the Thad Cochran Center once the storm has passed. Items you may want to include in your bag:
 - a. Your university ID and driver's license, or appropriate identification documents
 - b. Important papers
 - c. Basic toiletries (i.e. soap, wash cloth, towel, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste and other personal hygiene supplies)
 - d. Small first-aid kit and your medicine supply
 - e. Several changes of clothing and a bag to store dirty or used clothing
 - f. Your charged cell phone
 - g. Cash
 - h. Pillow, blanket, sleeping bag
 - i. Things to entertain you (i.e. books, magazines)
 - j. Non-perishable food and snacks and dining supplies (i.e. napkins, plastic forks/spoons, can opener)
*DO NOT depend on Food Services
 - k. Water (plan on one gallon per person, per day)
 - l. Flashlight with batteries
- Park on High Ground – McCarty, Bond, Scott and Vann Halls have a history of flooding during heavy rain falls. In addition, DO NOT park near trees, street lights or other items that may cause damage if knocked over. Be sure to set your emergency brake.
- Move Bicycles – We recommend that you bring them into your individual rooms. DO NOT store bikes in stairwells, lobbies or handicapped-accessible areas.
- Prepare Your Room
 - a. Close your windows tightly and place towels underneath to help prevent water from soaking the entire room (due to the potential for strong winds and rain).
 - b. Move items away from the window.
 - c. Remove everything of value from the floor and place in closet or on shelving in the room.
 - d. Cover important items with a garbage bag.
 - e. Remove perishable food from your refrigerator.
 - f. Take an inventory of your room (take a picture).
 - g. Fill your bath tub (if you have one) so there is water available for flushing toilets, etc.
*The University is not responsible for any water damage to property due to the storm.