



# BEFORE THE HURRICANE

## Checklist

### Before the Hurricane:

- Make sure you have some proof of residency or property ownership to be able to re-enter after the storm, such as a valid and current driver's license, property deed or utility bill. If access to the town is limited after a storm, you must have proof of residency or property ownership to gain access.
- Check the status of your flood and wind insurance policies.
- Follow the City website, [www.cityofsouthport.com](http://www.cityofsouthport.com) or the **Southport NC Emergency Information** Facebook page to get timely updates.  
<https://www.facebook.com/SouthportNCEmergency/>
- If you are handicapped or have special needs, please register with Brunswick County Emergency Services. <https://fs19.formsite.com/ubwatts/form165290145/index.html>
- You may register for Brunswick County's emergency/alert notification at <http://www.brunswickcountync.gov/codered/>.
- Decide where you will go during an evacuation.
- Identify important papers and other items you do not want to lose (like family photos and insurance policies). Make sure you will have access to your insurance no matter where you are after a storm.
- Take inventory and gather supplies so your family can endure an evacuation or home confinement. Store these items in a container that could be easy to carry in the event of evacuation.
- Take pictures of everything in the house and garages. For insurance purposes, it will be easier to identify items lost in the storm.
- If you plan to "board up," ensure you have the items needed (wood, nails, screws and a good battery-powered drill). If you hire a person to do the work, confirm that this will be done every year.
- Plan for several days after the hurricane and stock up on things like bottled water and non-perishable foods.
- If you have a propane gas tank, make sure it is securely strapped down to prevent it from becoming a potential "bomb" in the event it washed away.



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### Your Boat:

Additional preparation and planning are required if you have a boat. Whether you trailer, moor, or anchor, additional equipment will be needed. Early preparation and planning are the key. Here are a few tips to help boaters develop their own hurricane preparedness plan:

- Purchase and stow line specifically for hurricane use. As a general rule, line should be twice the diameter of your normal line.
- Monitor National Weather Service marine broadcasts (162.550 MHz). Pay close attention to local TV and radio for information on how the hurricane will affect our area. Be ready to act if an evacuation order is given.
- All boat hurricane preparations should be completed 48 hours before a hurricane arrives. This will allow you to concentrate on your family and home.
- Secure all hatches and tape all windows from the inside.
- Check the batteries for a full charge and make sure bilge pumps are working.
- Shut off all fuel lines and close through hull fittings.
- Remove all electronics to prevent destruction or theft.
- If you have a trailerable boat, remove the boat from the water and secure both boat and trailer to high land. Trailer should be firmly anchored to prevent or minimize damage.
- If you have a boat at a dock, do not stay on your boat. Remove all articles on deck including Bimini top, side curtains, sails and dinghies. Store these items ashore.
- If possible unstep the mast and secure it ashore. Double up lines including spring lines. Use several cleats to distribute the load on the boat. Allow as much line as possible for tide and storm surge.
- Attach chafing gear such as reinforced radiator hose where lines will rub.
- Disconnect electric, water, and other connections from the dock.
- If you will be anchoring out, do not stay on your boat. Have a pre-planned "hurricane hole." Avoid shoal areas and look for areas with high embankments. Consult responsible marine literature for best anchorage and anchoring methods.
- In all cases, make sure your insurance is up to date and adequate for your needs.