

# Preparing Your Business, Boats and Pets

## Businesses

- Understand your risk, develop a preparedness, mitigation and business continuity plan.
- Conduct an employee awareness campaign including who will need to evacuate and who will shelter. Make sure emergency supplies are on hand.
- Conduct periodic severe weather/hurricane drills to practice the plans.
- Review insurance coverage including flood and injury policies.
- Evaluate surroundings, make sure any loose objects are secured.
- Evaluate risk including awareness of local flood plains and any flood walls or levees. Elevate structures if feasible, necessary, otherwise consider building levees or flood walls to repel floodwaters. Locate critical contents within the structure to at least one foot above Base Flood Elevation.
- Make sure any chemicals onsite are safeguarded.
- Keep any critical systems maintained, including communications, power, electrical, water, etc. Have a backup if possible (e.g. generator, UPS, etc).
- Make sure the structure is strong enough to withstand a hurricane and its effects; have it evaluated by a professional engineer.
- For more information click on [ready.gov/business](https://www.ready.gov/business)

## Boat Owners

- Plan to secure or move your boat ahead of a storm. Check with your marina and boat manufacturer for best ways to do this. Plan ahead of season where you would move your boat.
- Purchase necessary hurricane materials such as additional mooring lines, crew anchors, fenders, fender boards, chafing gear, and anchors.
- Safe storm moorings should consist of good condition ropes of sufficient diameter and length, with at least three or four substantial anchor points. Do not moor parallel to bank. Receding tides often capsize boats in this type of anchorage.

## Pet and Farm Animals

- Make sure pets and animals have enough food and water.
- If staying be sure animals have a safe, secure location to ride out the storm, clear of hazards such as tools, debris or toxic products.
- If evacuating make sure you have an appropriate pet carrier or vehicle and have identified a shelter or location ahead of the season.
- Keep an emergency kit for your pet complete with food, water, medicines, basic first aid, collar or harness with ID tag (to be worn at all times), favorite toys, treats.
- Keep a picture of you and your pet together.
- Have newspapers and trash bags for sanitation.
- Always plan to bring pets inside, take them with you if evacuating. Never keep a pet chained, whether indoors or outdoors.
- For more info on preparing your pet click here: <https://www.ready.gov/pets>  
<https://www.fda.gov/animal-veterinary/animal-health-literacy/taking-care-your-pets-during-hurricanes-and-floods>