

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST PROTECTED WATERS



1. GENERAL HURRICANE PLAN INFORMATION

- Persons/business to receive a copy
- Define stages of plan (e.g. storm watch, vessel preparations, vessel securing)
- Determine when each stage should be enacted. This will change depending on vessel type, location, and any storage contracts

2. PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Name
- Addresses
- Phone and pager numbers (include e-mail address as a secondary mode of communication)

3. VESSEL INFORMATION

- Year, make, model, length
- Hull Identification Number (HIN)
- Motor serial number(s)
- Reg#/DOC# and boat name
- Boat present location (address, phone number, and information of key contacts)
- Insurance carrier
- Hurricane Club information (if any)

4. ALTERNATE INFORMATION

- Name
- Address
- Phone and pager numbers

5. DOCKMATE/NEIGHBOR INFORMATION

- Name
- Address
- Phone and pager numbers
- Boat year, make, model, HIN
- Exchange copies of hurricane plan

6. VESSEL PREPARATION

- Complete vessel inspection (hull, deck, hardware, rigging, ground tackle, machinery, and electronics)
- Make copies of all vital paperwork (title, registration, insurance policy)
- Take images of vessel
- Create list of electronics equipment to be removed from boat
- Create list of windage and portable gear to be struck and lashed to the deck or stowed below and create a plan of stowage:
 - Deck gear
 - Portable gear
 - Radio antennae
 - Outriggers
 - Fishing chairs

6. VESSEL PREPARATION (CONT.)

- Deck boxes
- Bimini tops
- Sails
- Dinghies

7. EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS (ALL EQUIPMENT OF PROPER SIZE AND WEIGHT FOR YOUR VESSEL)

- Extra line and chafing gear
- Anchors, chains, and rode
- Ground tackle, shackles, and swivels
- Plugs, duct tape, and sealant
- Fenders and fender boards
- Battery-operated weather radio
- Tie-downs and bungies

8. VESSEL LOCATION (PROTECTED WATERS OR HURRICANE HOLE)

- Define location with good depth (center or narrow river, channel, or mangrove)
- Portion of plan should be enacted 48-72 hours before storm's estimated time of landfall
- Determine if there is any flotilla plan for the area through local USCG/Auxiliary or other agency and make arrangements prior to storm season
- Trace route to location and log any bridge information or other obstacles requiring special consideration
- Transportation off of boat (dinghy or tender)
- Contact information for land transportation from hurricane hole
- Before you leave the dock:
 - Inspect boat and ensure all needed equipment is on board
 - Ensure batteries are fully charged
 - Ensure bilge pumps are fully functional
 - Check cockpit drains to make sure they are free and clear of debris
 - Remove any electronics or portable equipment not needed for navigation to hurricane hole
 - Ensure you have conveyance to land and from site once at the selected location
- Once at protected water location:
 - Set line and anchors for and aft to ensure boat remains in mooring location
 - Strike remaining windage/portable equipment list and stow according to plan
 - Remove remaining electronics and stow or place in dinghy
 - Secure and tape shut all hatches, ports, doors, and lazarettes
 - Lash down tillers, wheels, rudders, and booms
- Take photos of final preparations and place images with vessel paperwork

9. FIVE QUESTIONS BEFORE YOU LEAVE YOUR BOAT

- Have I safeguarded against environmental or sewage concerns?
- Have I removed or secured all projective items and safeguarded against loss or theft?
- Have I provided enough line and chafing gear to secure my vessel from wind, waves, and surge?
- Have I protected my vessel from taking on water?
- Have I chosen the best location that appears to be the best option available for my vessel?