Safety Procedures During the Hurricane

Follow the instructions of University Police, Fire Marshals, and emergency personnel.

Resident students, follow the instructions of campus residence staff.

- Stay indoors until advised to exit.
- Stay in interior hallways and keep doors closed.
- Do not open windows or doors to see what is happening outside.
- Beware of the “eye” of the storm. The “eye” is the center of the hurricane, which may bring a temporary period when the air may be calm. Do not leave your safety or shelter until advised by emergency personnel. Residential students will be notified by campus residence staff.
- When the “all clear” is given, exit your location with extreme care. Beware of electrical wires, broken glass, and falling or fallen objects.
- Do not enter structures, vehicles, or areas that are damaged; many people are electrocuted after a storm.
- For information about Stony Brook University re-opening, call the University “Alert” Hotline at (631) 632-5378.
- Enter Stony Brook property only after permitted, and follow safety instructions.

Reopening Information

University staff members and students should visit the Stony Brook website and tune into radio and television stations for a status report as to when the University will reopen.

Keep a portable radio and plenty of spare radio batteries on hand.

Campus website: SB Alert messages will be posted on Stony Brook’s home page: www.stonybrook.edu, with details on the Emergency Management website: https://www.stonybrook.edu/emergency/alerts

Campus Cable TV: SB Alert messages will be displayed on the campus cable TV Channel 8.

WUSB 90.1 FM: The station will broadcast live messages concerning the emergency.

External Media: The following external media sources are used, as appropriate, to broadcast emergency information about Stony Brook: TV - News 12; FM Radio - WALK 97.5.

For more information contact:

Colby Rowe
Director of Emergency Management, Training, and Outreach
Main Office: (631) 632-3046
Hurricane

A hurricane is a severe tropical cyclone originating in the equatorial regions of the Atlantic Ocean or Caribbean Sea traveling north, northwest, or northeast and usually involving heavy rains. A tropical storm becomes a hurricane when winds reach a speed of 75 miles per hour. NOTE: The speed that a hurricane travels across land or sea is usually 10 to 20 miles per hour.

Hurricane season normally extends from June 1 to November 30 each year.

Hurricane Preparation

A number of hurricanes reach land each year, causing death and massive destruction of property.

Safety is the most important element in your hurricane plan.

Awareness of the hurricane location, intensity, and direction of travel can be obtained from local news and weather stations (see links below).

Preparedness is the key to survival both during and after a hurricane. Preparedness means having and implementing a sound hurricane plan. Preparation for a hurricane involves knowing when to secure property and when to evacuate the threatened area. Surviving a hurricane is possible, if one considers that property is not worth risking life.

Evacuation is the best precaution for surviving any hurricane. Hurricanes usually travel over sea or land masses at a speed that will allow people to evacuate. Any preparation plan should include the possibility of evacuation.

Important Links:
National Hurricane Center (NOAA):
www.nhc.noaa.gov
The Weather Channel:
www.weather.com/newscenter/hurricanecentral

Hurricane Watches and Warnings

A hurricane watch is a governmental agency announcement issued when there is a threat of hurricane conditions, generally to strike within 36 hours.

A hurricane warning is an announcement issued for an area when hurricane conditions are expected to strike within 24 hours.

When a hurricane warning is received, all protective preparations should be implemented, with the expectation that the hurricane will strike.

Hurricane Watch: In the event of a hurricane watch, the Emergency Management Team will evaluate the storm in collaboration with State and local emergency management agencies, and will advise University Administration of hurricane preparation and protection activities.

Members of the University community should prepare facilities and equipment for hurricane protection, and begin plans for evacuation, if ordered.

Hurricane Warning: If a hurricane warning is issued, the Stony Brook University President will decide if the University will be evacuated.

Note: Only the Governor of the State of New York may close the Stony Brook campus.

For more information about evacuation and sheltering procedures during an event, visit our website at:
www.stonybrook.edu/sb/emergency/alerts.shtml

Closing Preparation Office and Classroom

- Prepare office and/or work space for wind, water damage, and flooding.
- Clear desk tops completely.
- Protect books, computers, and property with plastic sheeting and masking tape, which may be obtained from Campus Operations & Maintenance.
- Secure glass, heavy, and sharp objects—carefully store items so that they will not fall.
- Take phone lists, books, and diaries with you.
- Disconnect all electrical equipment.
- Clear any laboratory tables and areas of all apparatus and glassware and place items into secure storage.
- Ensure that computers are protected and information backed up and/or saved on disks or memory cards.

Campus Residences

- Pull all furniture, electronic items and loose articles away from windows and place onto closet shelves and in dresser drawers. Expect water damage and flooding.
- Students who reside in rooms with bathtubs are requested to clean the tub and fill it halfway with water. Fill several small containers with clean, fresh water for drinking purposes.
- All windows must be closed tightly. If window blinds are provided, the blinds should be down and closed.
- Each student should provide his or her own flashlight and extra batteries.
- CANDLES ARE NOT ALLOWED. Do not use candles—they are a fire hazard.
- Residents should provide themselves with an adequate supply of nonperishable foods and water to last two or three days.