

## **Campus Closing & Re-Opening Announcements**

An official notice regarding the time and date of the closing will be announced by some or all of the following means:

- Email
- Local area media
- [www.poly.usf.edu](http://www.poly.usf.edu)
- USF emergency and main phone lines
- Public Address System
- Voice/text broadcasting system to phones

Check with local media or the school website for reopening information. The best place to determine if the campus will be open or closed is directly through the website or emergency phone number:

863.667.7777

or

1.866.USF.7333

## **Important Websites and Telephone Numbers**

**NWS hurricane links, forecasts, assessments:**

[www.weather.gov/os/hurricane](http://www.weather.gov/os/hurricane)

**NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards:**

[www.weather.gov/nwr](http://www.weather.gov/nwr)

**National Hurricane Center:**

[www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov)

**Central Pacific Hurricane Center:**

[weather.gov/cphc](http://weather.gov/cphc)

**NOAA Hurricane Website:**

[hurricanes.noaa.gov/](http://hurricanes.noaa.gov/)

**American Red Cross:**

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

**Federal Emergency Management Agency:**

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

**Polk County's Citizen's Information Line**

**863.534.0321**

**Polk County Emergency Management**

**863.534.5600**

**American Red Cross**

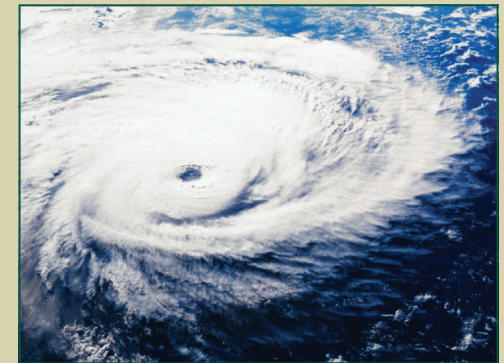
**863.294.5941**

**Animal Services**

**863.499.2600**



## **Hurricane Preparedness A Student Guide**



**The Counseling Center**

**863.667.7701**

*[poly.usf.edu/CounselingCenter](http://poly.usf.edu/CounselingCenter)*

# Preparing For a Hurricane

## General Hurricane Information

A **Hurricane** is an intense tropical weather system with a well defined circulation and maximum sustained winds of 74mph or higher. (NOCCA)

### Saffir/Simpson Hurricane Scale

Tropical Storm	39-73mph
Category 1	74-95mph
Category 2	96-110mph
Category 3	111-130mph
Category 4	131-155mph
Category 5	155+ mph

**What is the difference between a watch and a warning?**

\* **Hurricane WARNING:** Hurricane conditions are expected in the specified area of the WARNING, usually within 24 hours. Complete all storm preparations and evacuate if directed by local officials.

\* **Hurricane WATCH:** Hurricane conditions (74mph to over 155mph winds) are possible in the specified area of the WATCH, usually within 36 hours. During a hurricane WATCH, take immediate action to protect your family and property in case a hurricane Warning is issued.

USFP/PCC is **not** a designated shelter. A list of shelters in Polk County is available by request through the Polk County's Citizen's Information Line at 863-534-0321.

## Before The Storm

- \* Learn location of official shelters.
- \* Make emergency plans for pets.
- \* Check emergency equipment, such as flashlights, generators and battery-powered NOAA Weather Radios and cell phones.
- \* Fuel and service your vehicles.
- \* Buy food that will keep and store drinking water.
- \* Buy plywood or other material to protect your home.
- \* Repair loose and clear clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- \* Secure outdoor items (potted plants, chairs, tables, BBQ grills, etc.)
- \* Trim trees and shrubbery.

### Hurricane Supply Kit

- ✓ Drinking Water (2-3 gallons per person per day)
- ✓ Non-perishable foods (canned or packaged)
- ✓ Non-electric can opener
- ✓ First-Aid-Kit (prescriptions)
- ✓ Fire extinguisher
- ✓ Portable cooler
- ✓ Matches or lighter
- ✓ Battery powered radio (NOAA or weather radio)
- ✓ Flashlights
- ✓ Extra batteries
- ✓ Cash

## During The Storm

**When in a Warning area...**

- \* Closely monitor radio, TV or NOAA Weather Radio for official bulletins.
- \* Follow instructions issued by local officials.
- \* Turn refrigerator to maximum cold and keep closed.
- \* Turn off propane tanks.
- \* Unplug small appliances.
- \* Fill bathtub and large containers with water in case tap water is unavailable (Use for flushing).

**Be Alert for...**

- \* Tornadoes– they often develop during hurricanes.
- \* The calm “eye” of the storm.
- \* Storm surge flooding.

## After The Storm

- \* Keep listening to radio, TV or NOAA Weather Radio.
- \* Wait until an area is declared safe before entering.
- \* Watch for closed roads.
- \* Stay on firm ground. Moving water only 6 inches deep can sweep you off your feet. Standing water may be electrically charged from power lines.
- \* Check gas, water and electrical lines and appliances for damage.
- \* Use flashlights to inspect for damage.
- \* Do not drink or prepare food with tap water until officials say it is safe.