

## Informal guide and employee rights about Emergency Action Plans (Emergency Plans)

Florida Institute of Technology is committed to supporting the welfare of its students, faculty, staff and visitors. In the event of an emergency all individuals should be aware of the proper response procedures. The links on this page will help you view several emergency related documents.

These Emergency Plans are designed to maximize human survival and preservation of property, minimize danger, restore normal operations of the University, and assure responsive communications with the University, surrounding neighborhoods and the city. These Plans are set in operation whenever a natural or induced crisis affecting the University reaches proportions that cannot be handled by established measures. A crisis may be sudden and unforeseen, or there may be varying periods of warning. These Plans are intended to be sufficiently flexible to accommodate contingencies of all types, magnitudes, and duration.

Emergency Plans fall under Title 29 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 1910.38: Emergency action plans.

**29CFR1910.38(a)**-Application. An employer must have an emergency action plan whenever an OSHA standard in this part requires one. The requirements in this section apply to each such emergency action plan.

**29CFR1910.38(b)**-Written and oral emergency action plans. An emergency action plan must be in writing, kept in the workplace, and available to employees for review. However, an employer with 10 or fewer employees may communicate the plan orally to employees.

## **OSHA and Hurricanes**

## **Employer Responsibilities**

Each employer is responsible for the safety and health of its workers and for providing a safe and healthful workplace for its workers. Employers are required to protect workers from the anticipated hazards associated with the response and recovery operations that workers are likely to conduct. For additional information on Workers' Rights, Employer Responsibilities, and other services OSHA offers, visit OSHA's Employers Page, Workers Page and Publications.

The <u>Preparedness</u> page outlines the warnings and watches used for hurricanes, including the five categories used to rate the strength of a hurricane. The page also contains information on creating evacuation plans and supply kits.

The <u>Response/Recovery</u> page features a link to OSHA's Hurricane eMatrix, which features information on hazard exposures and risk assessments for hurricane response and recovery work. The information in the matrix is organized based on the types of activities performed so that it is easy for workers to identify the precautions they should take based on the tasks they will be performing.

OSHA and <u>NOAA</u> are working together on a public education effort aimed at improving the way people prepare for and respond to <u>severe weather</u>. This page is designed to help businesses and their workers prepare for <u>hurricanes</u>, and to provide information about hazards that workers may face during and after a hurricane.

## Hurricane season

Important information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

You can't stop a tropical storm or hurricane, but you can take steps now to protect you and your family.

If you live in areas at risk, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) encourages you to begin preparing for hurricane season. The Atlantic hurricane season is June 1 through November 30 each year.

Please follow these important hurricane preparedness tips from CDC:

- <u>Preparing for a Hurricane</u>: Take basic steps now to ensure your safety should a storm hit.
- <u>Emergency Supplies You Will Need</u>: Stock your home and your car with supplies.
- <u>Make a Plan</u>: Create a family disaster plan.
- <u>Avoid Flooded Areas</u>: Take precautions before, during, and after a flood.
- <u>Prepare to Evacuate</u>: Never ignore an evacuation order.
- <u>Protecting Older Adults</u>: Understand older adult health and medical concerns.
- <u>Protecting Pets</u>: Ensure your pet's safety before, during, and after an emergency.
- <u>Prevent carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning after the storm</u>: Ensure your CO detector has working batteries. Place generators outside at least 20 feet from any door, window, or vent.
- <u>After a hurricane</u>: Learn how to avoid injuries, make sure your food and water are safe, and clean up mold safely.

After you have read these tips, please review the other resources available on the <u>CDC</u> <u>Hurricanes</u> website. You can also check out CDC's new reference document that contains key messages on hurricane and flood related health threats.

The <u>Preparedness and Safety Messaging for Hurricanes, Flooding, and Similar Disasters Cdc-pdf</u> can help local responders quickly create and adapt health communication products for affected communities. The document contains messages on various topics including food safety, carbon monoxide poisoning, waterborne diseases, and mold.

https://www.cdc.gov/features/hurricanepreparedness/index.html