

# 2020 Hurricane and Flood Guide

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Preparation is the best way to keep you and those you love safe during an emergency. Use the information in this guide as a resource before, during, and after a hurricane or other disaster. Visit [www.jupiter.fl.us/STORM](http://www.jupiter.fl.us/STORM) for more information. Through this website, you can access the Jupiter flood zone map, supply lists, evacuation zones and shelter locations. In the event of a storm, this website and our social media sites listed below will also provide helpful information such as FPL updates and lists of grocery stores and gas stations with power.

## Protecting Properties from Flood Water and Wind Storms

The Town of Jupiter Building Department (561-741-2286) and Stormwater Utility Division (561-741-2705) provide information to residents and neighborhoods on flood and wind protection methods. Members of these departments will also visit a site to review concerns and offer property improvement advice, if requested. The Building Department can assist you with information about flood-proofing solutions, such as elevating structures, installing flood panels, berms, flood walls and implementing other flood-proofing techniques. The Building Department can also provide information about types of financial assistance that may be available for implementing property protection techniques.

## **Building Code Protections for Wind and Water Damage**

All construction requires a permit to ensure that new development and “substantial improvements” to existing structures conform to the wind and flood regulations of the Town’s building codes. An improvement to a structure located in a flood zone is a “substantial improvement” when the cost of the work equals or exceeds 50% of the structure’s market value. These “substantial improvement” projects must include all the improvements needed to bring the structure into compliance with current code regulations.

## **Watches, Warnings and Local Communication**

Palm Beach County has a community notification system to alert its cities and towns of hurricanes and floods. This system uses TV Channels 5, 12, 25, 29 (Comcast channels 03, 09, 10 and 11) and all local radio stations. During major storms, as conditions permit, the Town is patrolled by police officers and staff from Stormwater, Public Works, Water Utilities and other departments to identify safety hazards and areas of flooding. For emergency information, call the Town’s Resident Information Line at 561-743-7013, or check for updates on the Town’s Facebook (@TownofJupiter and @JupiterPolice) and Twitter (@TownofJupiter) pages.

## **Natural Areas and Stormwater Management**

Jupiter, with all its water assets – the ocean, the inlet, and the Loxahatchee River – is vulnerable to flooding. Jupiter also has amazing land assets that reduce the possibility of flooding. The area’s nine largest parks and designated natural areas total 1,126 acres of open land. This land is part of our stormwater management system – natural areas that store rain water, help protect the community from flood damage and recharge the groundwater aquifer. Residents can help protect the natural floodplain functions of our parks and natural areas by following the drainage maintenance tips listed in the next section.

## **Drainage Maintenance**

To protect against flooding, it is important to maintain the water carrying capacity of the Town’s drainage system. This maintenance program is managed by the Stormwater Utility. Stormwater staff also inspect private drainage systems upon request. If a public or private drainage system is not functioning properly, please call the department at 561-741- 2705 Always remember: It is illegal to dump or throw debris in ditches – even grass clippings. If you see anyone dumping trash or vegetation in ditches, contact Stormwater at 561-741-2705.

Keep the banks of ditches along your property clear of brush and debris.

Check with the Building Department before you build, alter, re-grade, or bring fill onto your property to see if a permit is needed and to ensure that projects do not cause problems to

neighboring properties. If you see building or filling and a permit is not posted, contact the Building Department at 561-741-2286.

## **Flood Safety Measures**

You can protect yourself from flood hazards by taking the following measures to ensure the safety of life and property before, during, and after a flood:

- Do not walk through flowing water. Drowning is the number one cause of flood deaths. Currents can be deceptive; six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet. If you walk in standing water, use a pole or stick to see how deep the water is.
- Do not drive through a flooded area. More people drown in their cars than anywhere else. Do not drive around road barriers; the road or bridge may be washed away and canals may not be distinguishable from roads.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. The number two cause of flood-related deaths is electrocution.
- Report downed power lines. Contact Florida Power & Light (1-800-468-8243) or dial 911 immediately.

## **How You Can Help**

Problem – Areas of Flooding call – Stormwater Utility 561-741-2705

Problem – Safety concerns, such as washed out roads call – Police Department 561-799-4445

Problem – Downed Power Lines call – FPL 1-800-468-8243

## **Palm Bach County Hurricane Evacuation Zones**

Zone A: Category 1 and higher

Zone B: Category 2 and higher

Zone C: Category 3 and higher

Zone D: Category 4 and higher

Zone E: Category 5 and higher

Zone A and category 1 or higher evacuate if you live in a manufactures/mobile home; have substandard construction; or live in a flood prone zone

To find out more information about your zone please call 561-712-6400 or TDY/TTY: 561-712-6342.

## **Hurricane Shelter Information**

Palm Beach County North Area Shelters (Jupiter to Palm Beach Gardens)  
Independence Middle School, 4001 Greenway Drive, Jupiter  
Palm Beach Gardens High School, 4345 Holly Drive, Palm Beach Gardens

Pet friendly shelters are designated on an as needed basis. Either pet-friendly and special needs shelters can be found by calling 561-712-6400 or TDY/TTY: 561-712-6342.

## **Jupiter's Flood and Hurricane Vulnerabilities**

With the Loxahatchee River running through Town and the Jupiter Inlet and open Atlantic Ocean to the east, Jupiter and the surrounding areas are vulnerable to flooding from seasonal rains and hurricanes. If you live in a low-lying area, an area along canals or lakes, or near the coastal areas prone to tidal surges, then your property is the most vulnerable to flooding. However, since Jupiter's flood hazard areas are quite scattered, every property has the potential to experience flooding. Your flood zone designation can help to inform you about the potential of your property to experience flooding. In early 2020, FEMA updated flood zone maps, and your flood zone designation may have changed. You can access flood zone map information through the Town's website at [www.jupiter.fl.us/STORM](http://www.jupiter.fl.us/STORM). The Town's Building Department (561-741-2286) can help you understand your flood zone designation, your vulnerability to stormwater drainage problems, natural floodplain functions, and historical flooding information for your property.

## **Flood Insurance**

Most people consider their home and its contents their largest investment. Whether you live in a designated flood hazard area or not, you should consider protecting this investment financially with flood insurance. Information for the National Flood Insurance Program can be accessed through FEMA's website ([www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)). There you'll find information on flood protection and insurance policies. Call the Building Department (561-741-2286) to see if there is an elevation certificate on file for your property, which includes flood insurance rating data. For most new policies, there is a 30- day waiting period for flood insurance coverage to begin. The Town of Jupiter is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System. The Town works diligently to maintain a 20% reduction in flood insurance premiums for residents and businesses while carrying out flood management measures designed to protect life and property from future flooding. This reduction applies to all properties located in "special flood hazard areas." The Town continues to work to achieve even greater flood insurance premium discounts in the future.

## Town Services After a Storm

Residents should plan for the following Town services to remain suspended for at least 3 business days following a major storm event: Garbage & Recycling, Building Permits, and Occupational Licensing. The actual length of time services are suspended depends largely on the severity of the storm. Check the Town's Resident Information Line at 561-743- 7013, Comcast Channel 18, and [www.jupiter.fl.us](http://www.jupiter.fl.us) for status updates.

If a storm disrupts the Town's ability to provide updates by phone, television and website, important information bulletins will be posted daily at 25 sites.

1. Pinetree & Toney Penna
2. Pinetree & Maplewood
3. Egret Landing Entrance at Central Boulevard
4. Indian Creek - Don Schaaf Park (Imagination Station)
5. Jupiter Village & Toney Penna (Jupiter Village Park)
6. Bush Road & Timberwalk Trail
7. North Pennock & Anglers Way (Fisherman's Landing)
8. The Shores Entrance
9. Daily Park - Douglas Drive
10. The Bluffs - Marcinski & US 1
11. Riverside - RIA Clubhouse, 25 Van Road
12. Delaware & Cherokee Street
13. Heights Boulevard & Donald Ross Road
14. New Haven Boulevard & Frederick Small Road
15. Pine Gardens South Park - Loxahatchee Drive
16. Jupiter River Estates Park - Pawnee & Mohican
17. US 1 & Ocean Way
18. Indiantown & A1A (Maltz Theater)
19. Frederick Small Road & Valencia Boulevard
20. Frederick Small Road & Greenway Drive
21. Heights Blvd & Linton Street
22. Greenway & Dakota Drive
23. South Orange Ave & 2nd St
24. North Orange Ave & Venus St
25. Indian Creek Parkway & Military Trail

## **Local Jupiter Info**

Visit our Website: [www.jupiter.fl.us/STORM](http://www.jupiter.fl.us/STORM)

Jupiter Resident Info Line: 561-743-7013

Watch Comcast: Channel 18

Follow Us on Facebook @TownofJupiter and @JupiterPolice

Follow Us on Twitter: @TownofJupiter

Follow Us on Instagram: @TownofJupiterFL