BEFORE THE STORM

A hurricane watch is declared when hurricane conditions are possible within the next 36 hours.

A hurricane warning is declared when hurricane conditions are expected within the next 24 hours. Some services may be impacted depending on the weather conditions.

Once a hurricane warning is declared, most of your home preparations should be completed and your emergency plan is in place.

Secure your home inside and out, including windows, doors, boats, and patio areas. Charge all mobile phones and keep a corded phone handy. Withdraw cash from the bank. Get fuel for your car, generator and other gas-powered tools. Protect your electronics with surge protectors and waterproof coverings. If you own a boat, use double lines at a marina or consider dry-dock storage.

DO NOT begin any tree pruning or household cleanup activities.

Remember these important dos and don’ts:

DO NOT: prune trees or dispose of any bulky waste on the right-of-way. If you must dispose of tree trimmings, take them to a Neighborhood Trash & Recycling Center instead.

Visit http://embrevard.com/resources.cfm for updates on County services. Depending on the conditions, bus, rail, trash, and recycling services as well as airport and seaport operations could be affected.

Secure your garbage and recycling bins inside a utility room or garage so that they do not become airborne. (You’ll need your bins to insure you get service after the storm.)

Take down any tents, awnings or fabric covers over patios or porches.

DURING THE STORM
When a hurricane threatens, there is a right way to watch and wait.

Here’s how:

When a Hurricane WARNING is issued, an evacuation of the barrier island will be ordered.

However, If you choose to stay:

REMEMBER: essential services (police, fire and ambulance) will not be available after winds reach 35 MPH!
If you do stay, **STAY INDOORS** until the storm has passed. Listen to **local news**, on your radio, for weather updates. **Turn off circuit breakers**, but leave one on so you know when power is restored. **Use flashlights, not candles** or kerosene lamps, as your light source. **Stay in your safe room. Keep children informed** about what is happening and **look for signs of stress**. **Keep animals in their carriers**. Use the phone **only for urgent calls**. Go to a lower floor if you live in a tall building. **Get in the tub or under a mattress** if your home begins to come apart.

**AFTER THE STORM**

Studies show that many disaster related injuries occur after the disaster.

**Keep your guard up even after a storm** has passed with these tips:

**Listen to media announcements** for information on when your waste collection service will resume. Place large piles of debris on the right of way of your property – away from fences, mailboxes, drains, power lines and low hanging wires. **Don’t place debris on a vacant lot**. Don’t place debris in front of commercial properties. **Check local media** advisories for information about waste collection services. If your garbage or recycling bins are lost or damaged during a hurricane, it is your responsibility to ask for a replacement.

**Be patient. Be careful.** Clean up after a storm can take time.