



City of Long Beach Hurricane Preparedness Guide

Summer 2013

Stronger, Smarter, Safer

www.longbeachny.gov

In this issue...

A Message from Council President Mandel

How to Get Prepared

Where to Call

Where to Get Updates

SWIFT911™ Alert System

What You Can Do Today

Before the Storm

During the Storm

After the Storm

Plans for Pets

Family Emergency Plan

Senior Citizens and Persons Requiring Assistance

Hurricane Season Emergency Checklist

Evacuation Routes



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The City of Long Beach
1 West Chester Street
Long Beach, NY 11561
(516) 431-1000
www.longbeachny.gov

A MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT MANDEL

Hurricane season is officially upon us, and the City of Long Beach is committed to keeping its citizens more informed, prepared, and protected than ever before. With this guide, and future updates over the next several months, you can make yourself and your family ready in the event of a hurricane. Together, we can all do our part to make our community STRONGER, SMARTER, AND SAFER.



HOW TO GET PREPARED

FEMA Emergency Preparedness: www.ready.gov
American Red Cross: www.redcross.org
NOAA National Weather Service: www.weather.gov/safety.php
National Flood Insurance Program: www.floodsmart.gov

WHERE TO CALL

LB Police EMERGENCY	911
LB Fire Dept. EMERGENCY	516-889-7800
LB STORM HOTLINE	431-1000 PRESS 1
LIPA- Electric	800-490-0075
National Grid---Gas	800-930-0045

WHERE TO GET UPDATES

City of Long Beach website: www.longbeachny.gov
Facebook: www.facebook.com/longbeachnewyork
Twitter: [www.twitter.com/longbeach11561](https://twitter.com/longbeach11561)
SWIFT911™ alert system

SWIFT911™ ALERT SYSTEM

SWIFT911™ is an emergency phone call system implemented by the City that delivers warnings and other important information to every home and business before, during, and after hurricanes or other emergencies. By registering with the City of Long Beach, you will be alerted to helpful hurricane information or given instructions to evacuate.

You can sign up for alerts by visiting longbeachny.gov or calling 431-1000 ext. 7105.

MAKE A HURRICANE SEASON EMERGENCY KIT!

WHAT YOU CAN DO TODAY

- Plan your evacuation routes (see back page).
- Learn location of official Red Cross shelter (Nassau Community College).
- Purchase or maintain emergency equipment, such as flashlights, generators, radios, and cell phones.
- Keep trees and shrubbery well-trimmed.
- Plan an alternative location for your boat.
- Buy plywood or other material to protect your home.
- Create a Family Emergency Plan (see page 3).
- Make a Hurricane Emergency Kit (see back page).
- Review your insurance policy.
- Find pet-friendly locations along the evacuation route (see “Plans for Pets,” page 3).
- Consider installing hurricane shutters.
- Learn more about emergency preparedness by visiting “How to Get Prepared” web sites (see page 1).



BEFORE THE STORM



- Turn off utilities if instructed to do so. Otherwise, turn refrigerator to its coldest setting and keep the doors closed.
- Avoid using the phone except for serious emergencies (in order for information and updates to go through).
- Shut off gas valves on appliances.
- Secure windows with plywood or at least with tape to prevent the danger of flying glass due to wind or debris.
- Have working emergency supplies (e.g., fresh batteries).
- Move your car to higher ground; DO NOT leave your car in the street.
- Shut your breaker off.
- Install a gate valve or check valve on your sewer line to keep sewage from backing up into your home.
- Make sure your car has a full tank of gas.
- Secure outdoor objects such as garbage cans, garden tools, and lawn furniture.
- Follow instructions issued by local officials.
- Be prepared to leave immediately if ordered!
- Notify neighbors and family members of your evacuation plans.
- If in a high-rise building, be prepared to take shelter on lower floors (hurricane winds are stronger at higher elevations).

FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN BY CITY OFFICIALS

DURING THE STORM

- Stay indoors and away from windows.
- Close all interior doors.
- Keep curtains and blinds closed; any lull in the wind and rain could be the eye of the storm.
- Use battery-powered flashlights, NOT candles.
- Listen to local officials and police officers.



NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS THE PRE-DESIGNATED RED CROSS SHELTER FOR ALL LONG BEACH RESIDENTS.

THERE ARE NO RED CROSS SHELTERS IN THE CITY OF LONG BEACH! THE RED CROSS DOES NOT OPEN SHELTERS IN FLOOD-PRONE AREAS, AND LONG BEACH IS A CATEGORY 1 EVACUATION ZONE

AFTER THE STORM

- Return home ONLY when emergency officials tell you it is safe.
- If the power is out and it's dark, use flashlights, not candles.
- Limit opening the refrigerator or freezer – an unopened refrigerator will keep foods cold enough for at least a couple of hours; a freezer that is half full will stay cold up to 24 hours.
- Empty out sandbags at City-designated location and keep the empty bags on hand-- they can be reused.
- ONLY enter an area or building after it has been declared safe.
- If you come across a barricaded or flooded road, DO NOT attempt to cross.
- Stay on firm, dry ground (standing water may be electrically charged from power lines).
- DO NOT drink or prepare food with tap water until officials say it is safe to do so.
- Keep away from loose power lines and report them immediately to the power company.
- Check your house for loose power lines, gas leaks, and structural damage.
- Take pictures of any damage on your property for insurance purposes.
- NEVER use a generator indoors: deadly levels of carbon monoxide can build up quickly.
- If your car was flooded, DO NOT try to start your car; this can cause a fire.
- Check your refrigerator for spoilage. If in doubt, throw it out.



IF YOU ARE TOLD TO EVACUATE, DO SO IMMEDIATELY!



FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

- Choose an out-of-state location or official shelter to stay in the case of an evacuation.
- Post emergency telephone numbers by the phone.
- Ensure safety features in your house, such as smoke alarms, are functioning properly
- Have your family know how and when to turn off water, gas, and electricity in your home.
- Teach children how and when to call 911.
- Keep enough supplies, especially food and water, in your home for at least three days.
- Assemble an emergency supplies kit and store in easy-to-carry containers (see “Emergency Kit Checklist”).
- Keep copies of important documents in waterproof containers.
- Keep a smaller emergency supplies kit in the trunk of your car.

PLANS FOR PETS

- *With the exception of guide dogs and other certified companion animals, you cannot bring any animals into a public shelter or on public transportation.*
- Contact hotels and motels outside your local area to check their policies on accepting pets and if “no pet” policies can be waived in an emergency.
- Ask friends, relatives or others outside the affected area whether they could shelter your animals.
- Make a list of boarding facilities and veterinarians who could shelter animals in an emergency.
- Ask local animal shelters if they provide emergency shelter or foster care for pets during a disaster.
- Call the American Red Cross at (516) 747-3500 or visit www.redcross.org to learn about the PetSafe Program.

SENIOR CITIZENS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

- If you have special needs, please be certain to register with the Long Beach Fire Department by calling 516-431-2434.
- You can also get a copy of “Disaster Preparedness for People with Disabilities” from the American Red Cross by visiting www.redcross.org/prepare

LEARN MORE ABOUT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AT WWW.READY.GOV

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HURRICANE SEASON EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST

- Photo ID and proof of address
- Insurance policies
- Health insurance ID
- Bank and credit card ID
- Emergency contact information
- One week of non-perishable food
- Bottled water—3 gallons per person
- Manual can opener
- Flash light with extra batteries
- Crank or battery-powered radio
- Multi purpose tool (Swiss army knife, etc.)
- Pet supplies
- Extra batteries
- First aid kit

- Sanitation and personal hygiene items
- Blankets and pillows
- Extra clothing, shoes
- Emergency cash (in case ATMs are down)
- Camera (for photos of damage)
- Cell phone with spare battery
- Eyeglasses, hearing aid, wheelchair, walker
- Baby supplies
- Medical alert bracelet
- Medicine supply with dosage information
- Deck of cards, books, other distractions
- Map of the area
- Rain gear
- Notebook and Pen



EVACUATION ROUTES

Western Long Beach
Nevada Ave. to Lindell Blvd.
By Car: Take West Beech Street to the Atlantic Beach Bridge to the Nassau Expressway.
Public Transportation: City Buses will leave from West School and will take you to the Nassau Community College Shelter.

Central Long Beach
Lindell Blvd. to Long Beach Blvd.
By Car: Take Park Avenue to Long Beach Blvd. to travel to points north of Sunrise Highway.
Public Transportation: City Buses will leave from City Hall to take you to the Nassau Community College Shelter.

Eastern Long Beach
Long Beach Blvd. to Maple Blvd.
By Car: Travel East on Park Avenue / Lido Blvd. to Loop Parkway to designated spots north of Sunrise Highway.
Public Transportation: City buses will be at East School to take you to the Nassau Community College Shelter.