

ARE YOU READY FOR HURRICANE SEASON 2016?

Prepare in advance to keep your loved ones safe.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Each tropical system is unique. Some storms are predictable and others continue to be challenging to forecast, especially when they are interacting with other weather features such as cold fronts.
- A tropical storm wind speed ranges from sustained 34-63 knots, only one knot more and it becomes a hurricane.
- Please be alert. Just because we have had several direct hits in the last couple of years does not mean we are any less at risk this year.
- Each tropical system is different and frequently they merge with other weather systems in the Bermuda area. This complicates the weather forecast and the dynamics of the tropical system. In some cases the storm's strength could be reduced, yet in others it could strengthen or cause embedded tornadoes. It is vital to continually monitor all official media sources for updates.
- No matter how active or not the seasonal forecast is projected to be, it only takes one storm to make it a busy season for Bermuda
- Closest Point of Approach (CPA) forecast updates indicate the closest point of approach of the centre of the tropical cyclone to Bermuda within 72 hours. This will change every six hours with each weather update to incorporate current details which include movement and track changes of the storm.
- Many people mistake the CPA as the CPA of the entire forecast or life of the storm, but it is only a three day position forecast, ie. within 72 hrs from when the forecast is issued.
- The National Hurricane Center provides storm specific forecasts including track and intensity guidance, BWS provide the official watches, warnings and forecasts for Bermuda on the authority of the Bermuda Government.



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA
Ministry of National Security

**OFFICIAL
HURRICANE
UPDATE
SOURCES**

www.gov.bm
www.weather.bm
[Facebook.com/governmentofbermuda](https://www.facebook.com/governmentofbermuda)
[Facebook.com/bermudaweatherservice](https://www.facebook.com/bermudaweatherservice)
Local radio and television stations
Emergency Broadcast Station – 100.1FM

HELPFUL TIPS

- Meet with your family and plan ahead of time what you will do in the event of a hurricane. Be sure you incorporate lessons learned from previous hurricane seasons into your preparedness plan.
- It is not enough to know a watch or warning is in place, make sure you check the wind strength and direction details and then apply this information to your property. Know your home's vulnerabilities. Are you elevated and exposed? Are you on the shore and exposed to the possibility of water damage?
- Be sure to stock up on all medications.
- Check that your home, boat, car, contents insurance is up to date.
- Buy non-perishable goods that can sustain you and your family for up to three days. This should include sufficient drinking water.
- Check on elderly neighbours to make sure they are safe and have their supplies before a storm.
- Secure all outdoor furniture so it doesn't blow around during a hurricane and cause damage.
- Continually monitor weather conditions before, during and after a hurricane. Based on how the weather pattern changes, your preparations timetable may need to change.
- Create a hurricane supplies check list and replace items like used batteries, empty gas canisters for portable stoves and first aid kits.
- Invest in an analogue phone – one that does not need electricity to work.
- If you have a generator do not operate it in the house. Keep gasoline in a well marked container in a safe location.
- If you have a BBQ grill (gas or charcoal) do not operate it in the house.
- Be sure to have sufficient pet supplies for your animals and ensure they are safe during a hurricane.
- Stock up on games and books to stay occupied during a storm.
- Stay inside during a hurricane, do not venture out to have a look around. Depending on the storm system, the eye could pass over Bermuda. This is a time when there is reduced wind activity; the storm is still active during this period. Remain indoors.
- Stay indoors until emergency services indicate it is safe to move around the island again. Give emergency personnel time to clear the roads.

MOST OF ALL USE GOOD COMMON SENSE BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER A STORM.