Know the Difference

A HURRICANE WATCH, issued for your part of the coast, indicates the possibility that you could experience hurricane conditions within 36 hours.

This watch should trigger your disaster plan, and protective measures should be initiated, especially those actions that require extra time such as packing your computer equipment, evacuating, etc.

A HURRICANE WARNING, issued for your part of the coast, indicates that sustained winds of at least 74 mph are expected within 24 hours or less.

Once this warning has been issued, you should be in the process of completing protective actions and deciding the safest location to be during the storm.

Hurricane Basics

Hurricane hazards come in many forms: storm surge, high winds, tornadoes and flooding. This means it is important for you to have a plan that includes all of these hazards. The first and most important thing anyone should do when facing a hurricane threat is to use common sense.

Hurricanes are classified based on their wind speed with the Saffir Simpson Scale. This scale is commonly used to rate the damage potential of a hurricane.
The categories are:

- **Tropical Storm—Winds 39–73 mph**

- **Category 1 Hurricane—winds 74–95 mph (64–82 kt)**
  No real damage to buildings. Damage to unanchored mobile homes. Some damage to poorly constructed signs. Also, some coastal flooding and minor pier damage.
  Examples: Irene 1999 and Allison 1995

- **Category 2 Hurricane—winds 96–110 mph (83–95 kt)**
  Some damage to building roofs, doors and windows. Considerable damage to mobile homes. Flooding damages piers. Small craft in unprotected moorings may break their moorings. Some trees blown down.
  Examples: Francis 2004, Bonnie 1998, Georges (FL and LA) 1998 and Gloria 1985

- **Category 3 Hurricane—winds 111–130 mph (96–113 kt)**
  Some structural damage to small residences and utility buildings. Large trees blown down. Mobile homes and poorly-built signs destroyed. Flooding near the coast destroys smaller structures with larger structures damaged by floating debris. Terrain may be flooded well inland.
  Examples: Ivan 2004, Jeanne 2004, Keith 2000, Fran 1996, Opal 1995, Alicia 1983 and Betsy 1965

- **Category 4 Hurricane—winds 131–155 mph (114–135 kt)**
  More extensive curtainwall failures with some complete roof structure failure on small residences. Major erosion of beach areas. Terrain may be flooded well inland.
  Examples: Katrina 2005, Charley 2004, Hugo 1989 and Donna 1960

- **Category 5 Hurricane—winds 156+ mph (135+ kt)**
  Complete roof failure on many residences and industrial buildings. Some complete building failures with small utility buildings blown over or away. Flooding causes major damage to lower floors of all structures near the shoreline. Massive evacuation of residential areas may be required.
  Examples: Andrew (FL) 1992, Camille 1969 and Labor Day 1935

Check the following Web sites for additional information:

- www.noaa.org (storm information)

- www.redcross.org/services/disaster (preparations/safety tips)

- www.fema.gov (relief information)

2005 Hurricanes

NAME	CATEGORY
Cindy	1
Dennis	4
Emily	5
Irene	2
Katrina	5
Maria	3
Nate	1
Ophelia	1
Philippe	1
Rita	5
Stan	1
Vince	1
Wilma	5
Beta	3
Epsilon	1
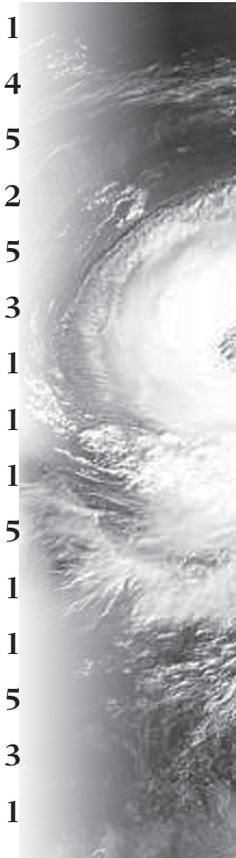
Florida Institute of Technology

Counseling & Psychological Services
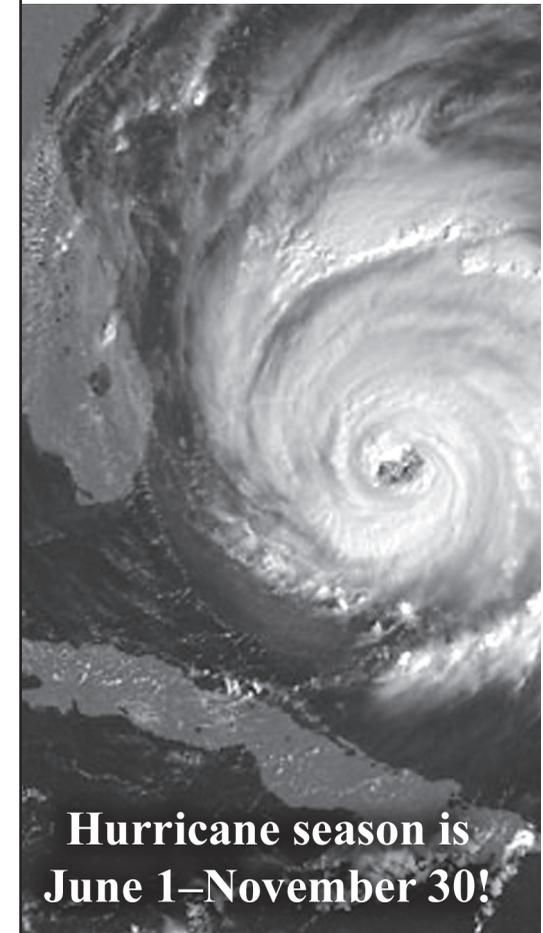150 W. University Blvd.
Melbourne, FL 32901-6975
Phone (321) 674-8050
www.fit.edu/caps

Dean of Students
150 W. University Blvd.
Melbourne, FL 32901-6975
Phone: (321) 674-8080
Fax: (321) 728-3041
E-mail: dnolder@fit.edu

Hurricane Season 2006:

What Florida Tech Students Should Know to be Prepared

Hurricane season is June 1–November 30!

Preparation is your first step to SAFETY

Florida Institute of Technology
High Tech with a Human Touch

You should be able to answer the following questions before a hurricane arrives:

- What are the hurricane hazards?
- Where will I go?
- How will I get there?
- What actions should I take to be prepared?
- Do I have the necessary preparation supplies?

When a hurricane is expected to make landfall in Brevard County, it is important to have a hurricane emergency supply kit. Your kit should include the following:

- Water to last for three days—one gallon per person per day
- Nonperishable foods to last for three days—canned soup and vegetables, ready-to-eat fruit, peanut butter and crackers
- Canned juices
- Nonelectric can opener
- Paper cups, plates and utensils
- First aid supplies
- Medications
- Clothing
- Personal hygiene items—soap, toothbrush
- Bedding, in case you go to a shelter—blankets or sleeping bags

- Flashlight
- Battery-operated radio
- LOTS of batteries—make sure you have the right sizes for flashlights, radios, etc.
- Cash—enough to last for several days

How will I find out if I need to evacuate?

The university will be communicating hurricane related information through the Florida Tech Web site, Residence Life staff and the campus e-mail system. If unclear, contact Security or the Residence Life staff with questions.

What should I do if Florida Tech is evacuated?

- Evacuate early, don't wait.
- First, try to find a family or friend with whom to stay; it's more comfortable.
- If you can't stay with family or friends, go to a local shelter.
- The shelter for Florida Tech students living on campus is Riviera Elementary School— 351 Riviera Drive NE located behind Albertson's on Palm Bay Road.
- Other shelters will open if Riviera Elementary School is full, so watch the news or listen to the radio if the power is out.
- If the Florida Tech campus is evacuated and you do not have transportation, limited shuttle service will be provided by the Dean of Students Office. Shuttle schedules will be posted at Evans Dining Hall, the residential facilities and Campus Security.

What items should I bring to the shelter?

- Bedding—pillows, blankets
- Entertainment—books, magazines, games
- Keep important documents with you— passport, birth certificate, inventory of valuable goods

When should I return to Florida Tech? When will classes resume?

You can find this information by:

- Listening to the radio (WFIT 89.5FM is the official radio station for Florida Tech hurricane information) and/or watching the local TV stations for announcements on when Florida Tech will reopen.
- Calling Security at (321) 674-8111 or calling toll-free (800) 676-9250.
- Going to the Florida Tech home page, www.fit.edu.

What about meals? Will Evans Dining be serving food during the hurricane?

- No. Evans Dining will serve the last meal a minimum of 12 hours before the expected hurricane land fall. With a category 1 or higher hurricane, "survival bags" of snack food and water will be issued during the last meal service.
- Again, be sure to have bottled water and nonperishable food.

For additional information on preparations before, during and after the storm, contact your Resident Assistant, check the student handbook available online at www.fit.edu/studenthandbook or call the Dean of Students Office at (321) 674-8080.

Normal Grief Reactions After the Hurricanes

- Unable to concentrate and/or remember things
- Unable to motivate yourself
- More irritable than usual
- Change in sleep habits
- Anger erupts without warning and can be directed at anyone/anything
- Experiencing bouts of anxiety/panic attacks
- Wanting to talk about experience over and over again
- Daily activities seem an intolerable burden
- Depression comes from nowhere and is magnified at night
- The world seems cold and frightening
- Sense of helplessness
- Fears are often close to the surface and difficult to control
- Stress may place a strain on relationships
- Past unpleasant experiences may surface
- New insight may be experienced

If you are concerned about these symptoms, contact CAPS!