

# Hurricane

## DISASTER AWARENESS



### Hurricane Safety Guide

Hurricanes are one of nature's most powerful forces, turning warm ocean waters into violent winds capable of mass destruction. Heavy rains brought by hurricanes not only threaten coastal areas, but they also affect areas kilometres inland. The following is a list of helpful tips that you can use before, during and after a hurricane strikes your area.

#### *Before the Hurricane:*

- Prepare a family emergency plan.
- Know emergency routes and locations of shelters.
- Have several days supply of food and water for each family member.
- Make sure you have plenty of fuel for your vehicle.
- Make sure all your tools, supplies and first aid kit are available for use.
- Remember to stock the first aid kit with prescription medication for any specific ailments.
- Protect windows with  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch plywood boards, or storm shutters.
- Secure outside objects.
- Store all official documents in waterproof bags or containers.
- Pay attention to local weather reports on radio, television or the Internet.
- If called to evacuate, do so immediately, leave low-lying areas.
- Secure all pets.

#### *During the Hurricane:*

- Stay away from windows.
- Do not use the phone, candles or unnecessary electrical appliances.
- Monitor the weather by radio, television or the Internet.
- Have supplies on hand.
- Remain indoors when the eye moves over your area because the storm will resume shortly.

#### *After the Hurricane:*

- Make sure that all is definitely clear outside, and the storm has completely passed before going out.
- Call T&TEC to report any downed power lines, and stay away from them.
- Check your home for structural damage.
- Use stored water and food.
- Be patient. Things will take a while before they get back to normal.

**Damage to life and property can be reduced if you take precautions.  
Be prepared.**

### CATEGORIES

Hurricanes are classified into five categories, based on their wind speeds and potential to cause damage.

#### Category One

Winds 120.70 - 152.88 kilometres per hour.

#### Category Two

Winds 154.40 - 177.02 kilometres per hour.

#### Category Three

Winds 178.63 - 209.21 kilometres per hour.

#### Category Four

Winds 210.82 - 249.44 kilometres per hour.

#### Category Five

Winds greater than 249.44 kilometres per hour.

**A public message courtesy  
the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission**



**T&TEC**