



HURRICANE GUIDE



**We're ready for
hurricane season...
Are you?**

Today, Southwest Florida is more vulnerable
to the dangers of a hurricane. You must
have an emergency plan of action before
the next storm threatens.

This guide will help you get started!

WATCH

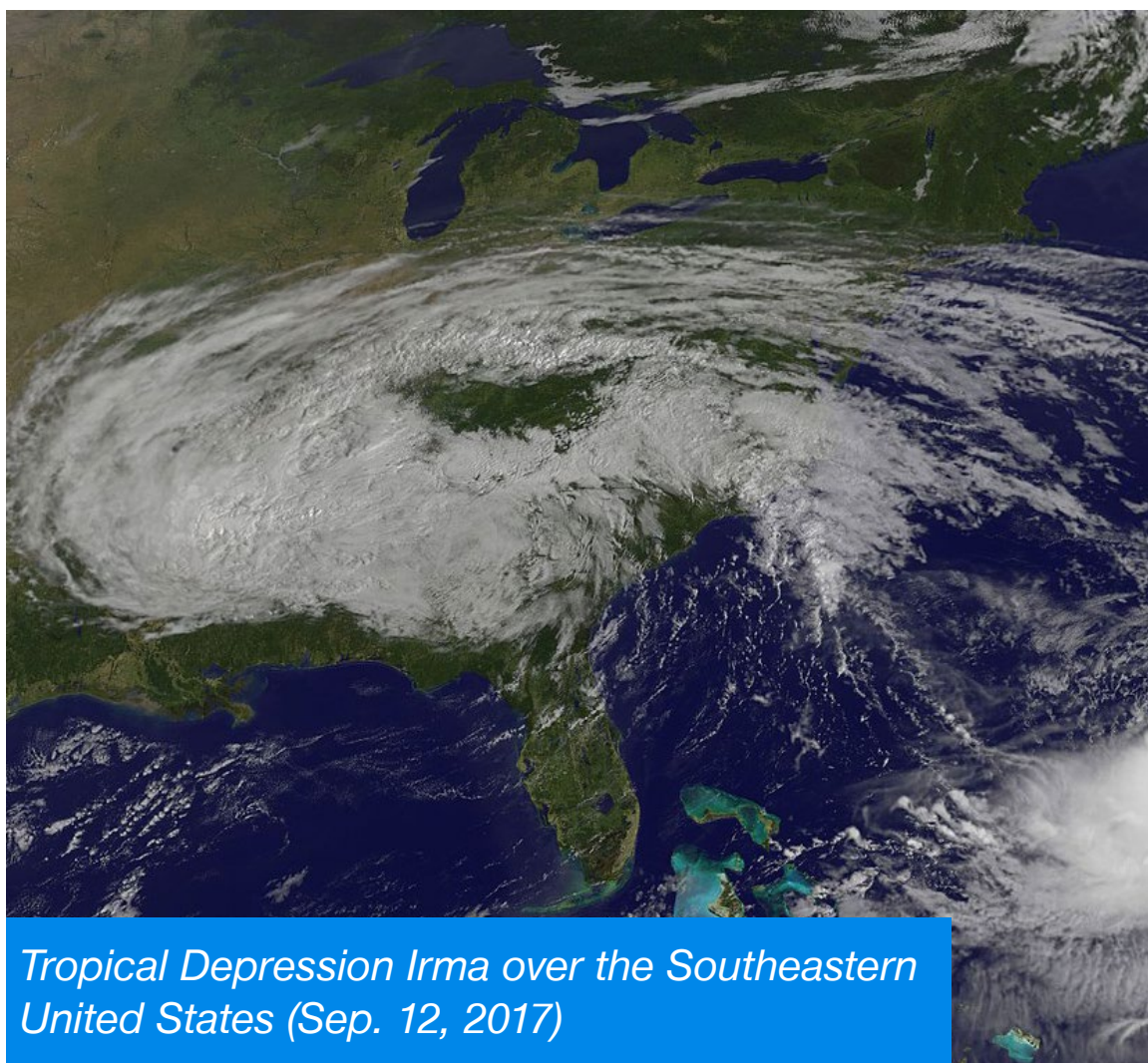
A hurricane watch means that hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are possible within the specified area. A hurricane watch is issued 48 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical-storm-force winds in an area.

VS

WARNING

Hurricane warnings indicate that hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are expected somewhere within the specified area. Because hurricane preparedness activities become difficult once winds reach tropical storm force (sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph), the hurricane warning is issued 36 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical-storm-force winds to allow for important preparation.

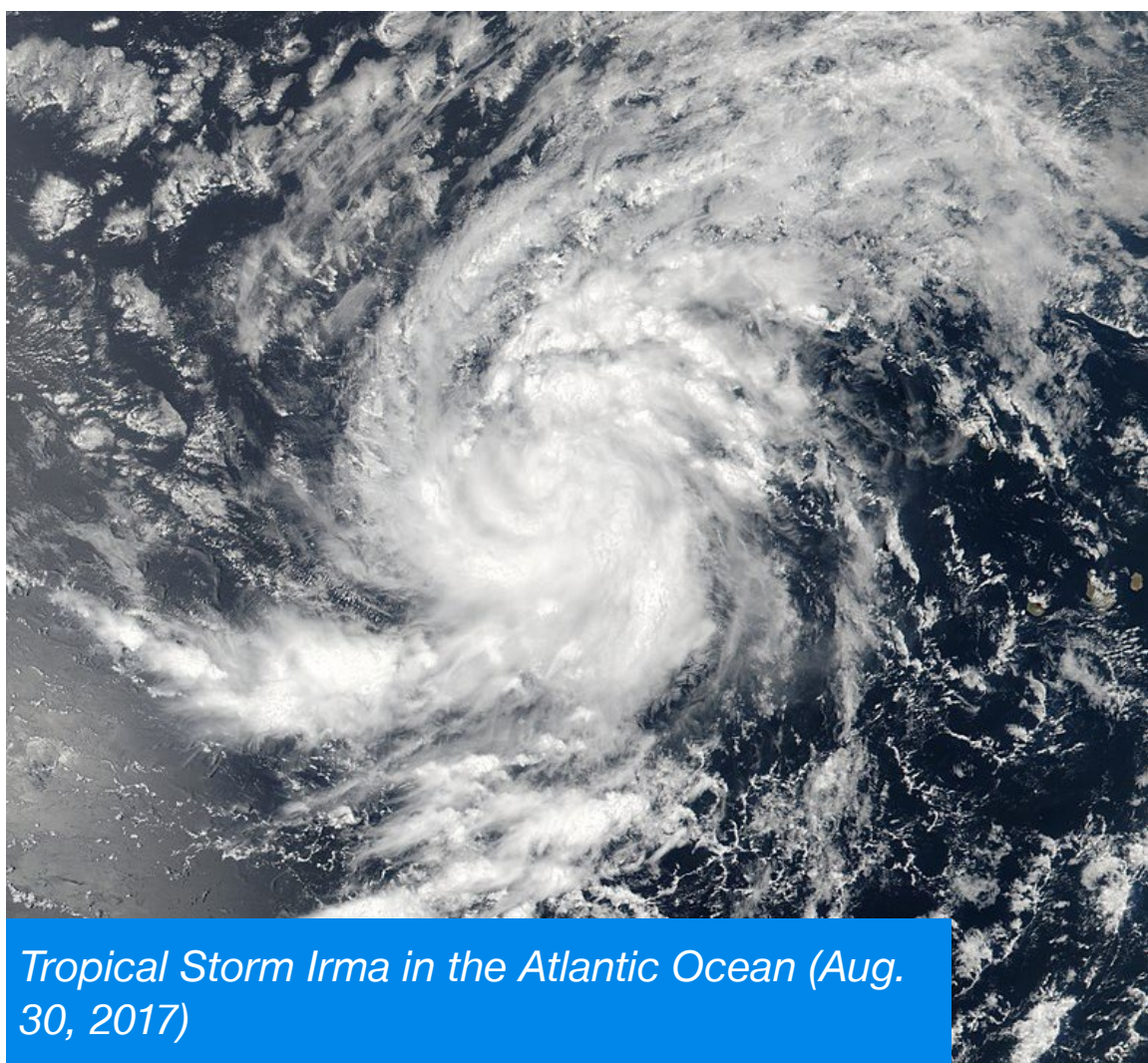
HURRICANE DEVELOPMENT



Tropical Depression Irma over the Southeastern United States (Sep. 12, 2017)

TROPICAL DEPRESSION

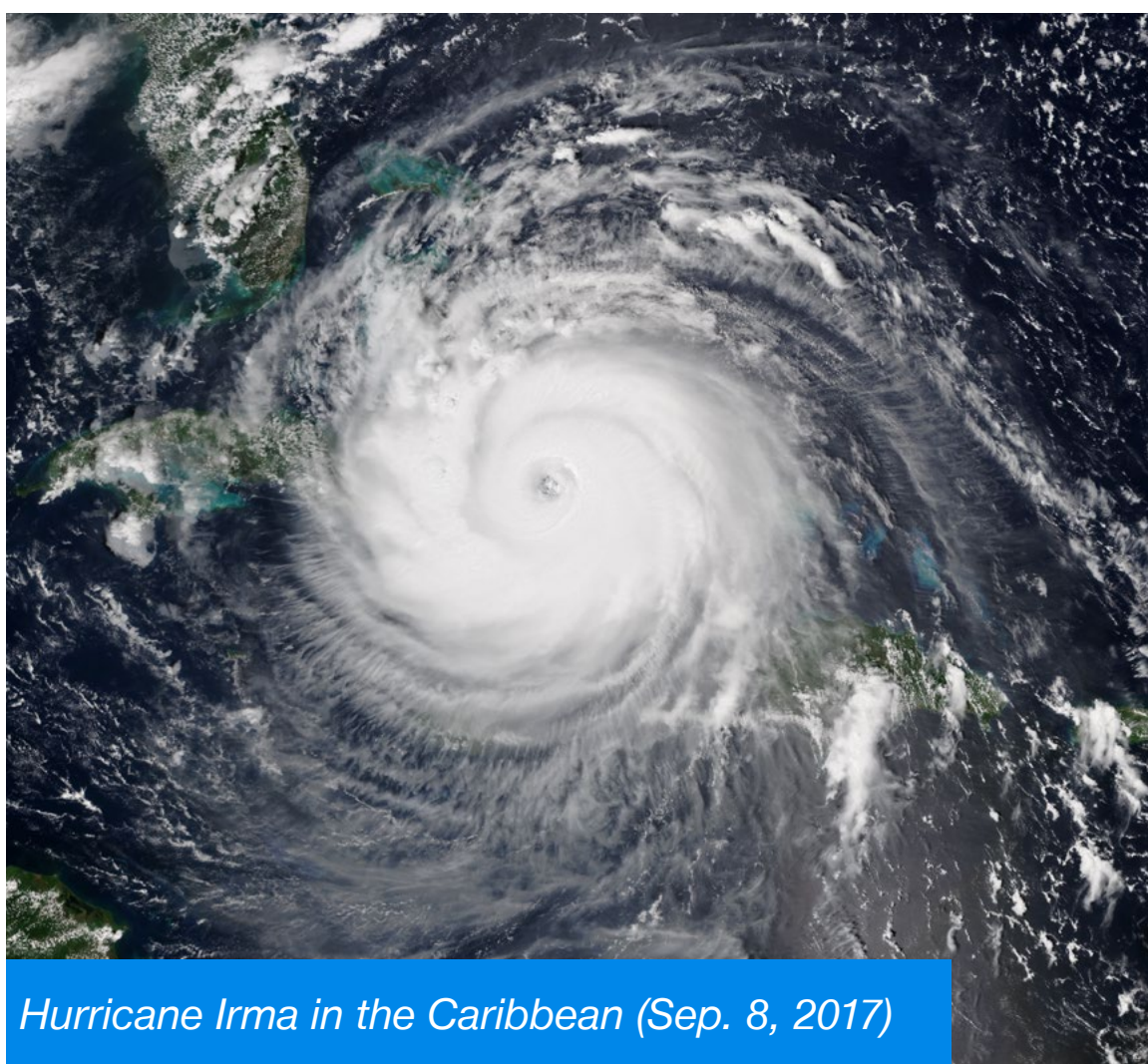
An organized system of clouds and thunderstorms with a defined, closed surface circulation and maximum sustained winds of less than 39 mph. It has no eye and does not typically have the organization of the spiral shape of more powerful storms. However, it is already a low-pressure system, hence the name depression.



Tropical Storm Irma in the Atlantic Ocean (Aug. 30, 2017)

TROPICAL STORM

An organized system of strong thunderstorms with a defined surface of circulation and maximum sustained winds between 39 mph and 74 mph. At this point, the distinctive cyclonic shape starts to develop, although an eye is not usually present.



Hurricane Irma in the Caribbean (Sep. 8, 2017)

HURRICANE

A system with sustained winds of at least 74 mph. A cyclone of this intensity tends to develop an eye, an area of relative calm (and lowest atmospheric pressure) at the center of circulation. The eye is often visible in satellite images as a small circular cloud-free spot. Surrounding the eye is the eyewall, an area about 9.9 mi to 50 mi wide in which the strongest thunderstorms and winds circulate around the storm's center.

PREPARATION TIMELINE

ASAP

Hurricane season starts June 1st, but the earlier you can prepare, the better.

- [Prepare your hurricane kit](#) ▶
- [Know your evacuation zone](#)
- [Know your evacuation route](#)

48 HOURS

Prepare your home

- Secure the outside of your home, including lawn furniture and other loose items. Board up or shutter windows to prevent shattering. Secure and wedge sliding doors to prevent them from lifting from their tracks
- Check your survival kit. Make sure all items are present and in working order.

- Check supplies from previous seasons to make sure nothing has expired.
- Establish a plan with your family for staying home or evacuating.

36 HOURS

Unless you have been advised to evacuate, stay home. It is a better place to ride out a storm than stuck in traffic, or in a crowded public shelter. Complete final storm preparations immediately and evacuate, if directed by local officials. And tune in to [NBC2 for First Alert Coverage](#).

STAYING HOME

- Be sure your home and your family is prepared and supplied.
- Board up or brace garage and porch doors
- Bring in pets
- Fill bathtubs and containers with fresh water
- Run refrigerator at maximum and do not open unless necessary
- Unplug small appliances
- Turn off propane tanks and utilities if told to do so by authorities

If you live in a mobile home, manufactured home, recreational vehicle or low lying area prone to flooding, you may need to evacuate.

EVACUATING

Florida law states that you **MUST** go when told to [evacuate](#). Here are some options:

- A friend or relative's home in a safer area
- A safer location outside of Southwest Florida
- [A designated public shelter](#)
Shelters will not allow alcohol, firearms, or animals (other than service animals)
- Notify family and friends of your evacuation plans
- Take a survival kit of essential items
- Turn off the utilities and seal your home as tightly as possible
- Pack small valuables and shelter items listed on safety checklist
- Secure your home and take recommended evacuation routes to the nearest designated shelter or safe area
- Do not leave your pets behind!

If you plan to evacuate, leave 2 to 3 days early. During the height of an evacuation, travel time to your destination could triple!

HURRICANE SAFETY KIT



- 1 gallon of water per person per day for 3-7 days.
1 gal × 4 family members × 3 days = 12 gallons of water
- Non-perishable food and a manual can opener
- Medications
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Other light sources such as a storm lantern with extra fuel or candles with matches
- Portable battery bank for cell phones
- Waterproof case for electronics & important documents
- Gloves for removing debris after storm
- Hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes
- Whistle in the event of an emergency
- First aid kit
- Think about getting a generator
- Fill gas cans & label them with the date they were filled
- Camping stove or gas grill with propane
- Cash if ATMs and card readers are out with the power
- Battery powered radio
- Important documents such as a list of family contacts and physicians, insurance documents, and passports

Don't forget extra items for children in your family.

- Non-perishable snacks
- Favorite stuffed animal, doll, or blanket
- Cards, games, books
- Vitamins and medications
- Diapers or pull-ups

Make sure you have supplies for your pets in your family.

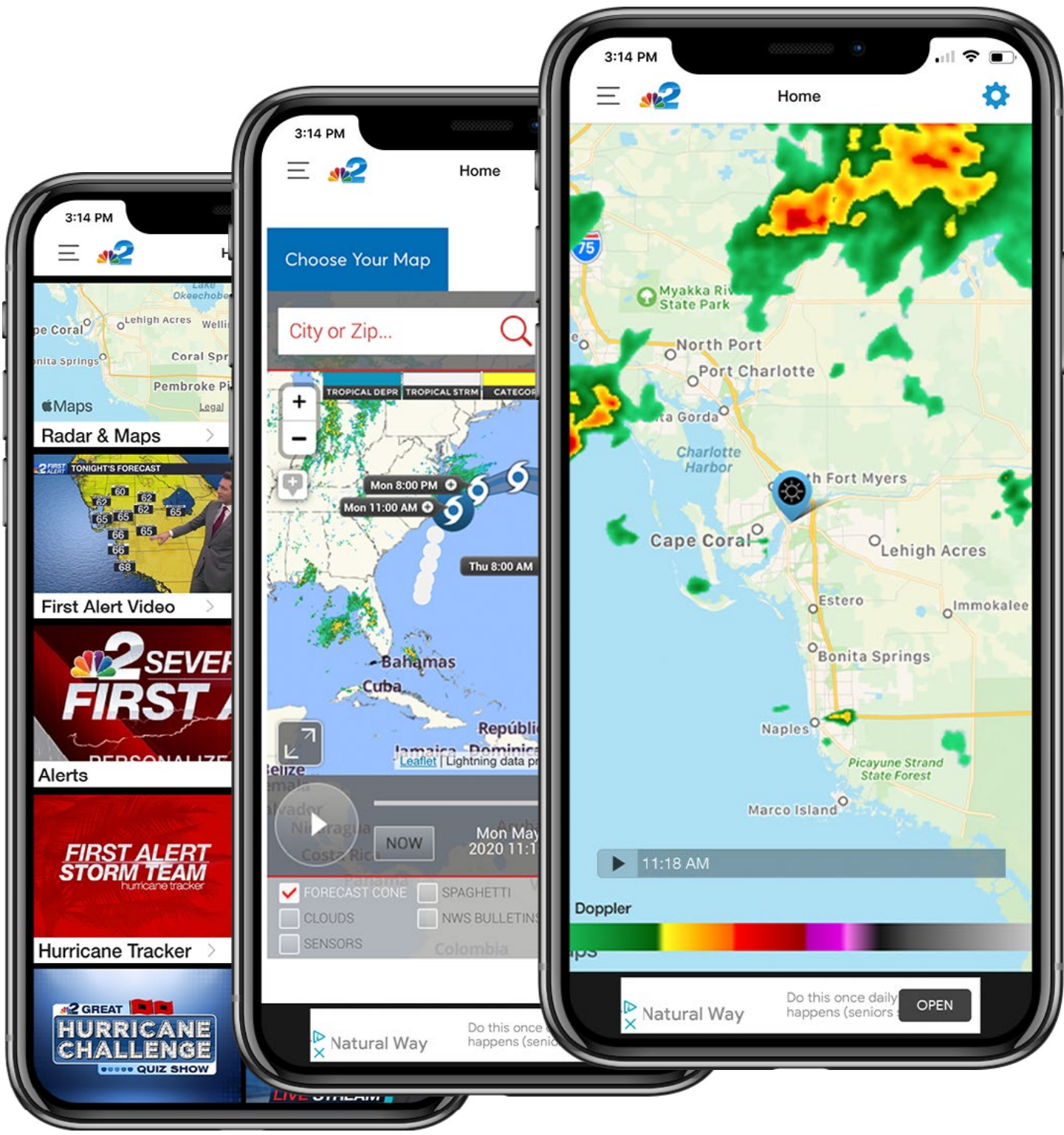
- Food and water for 3-7 days
- Sturdy crate
- Medical records and county tags
- Leash and collar
- Current photo of you with your pet in the event you are separated
- Comfort items like a bed, blanket, or favorite toy

[PRINT THIS PAGE](#)

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

COUNTY	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	AMERICAN RED CROSS
Charlotte	(941) 833-4000	(941) 629-4345
Collier	(239) 252-3600	(239) 596-6868
Desoto	(863) 993-4831	(863) 494-2348
Glades	(863) 946-6020	(239) 278-3401
Hendry	(863) 674-5400	(239) 278-3401
Lee	(239) 533-0622	(239) 278-3401
Dial 211 for information and referral		

FIRST ALERT WEATHER APP



Stay informed about the latest tropical systems in the Atlantic and Caribbean. Get the most recent maps and forecast details about active storms. Search NBC2 Wx

Southwest Florida’s most powerful only live doppler radar

The power to track storms live, right in the palm of your hand

First Alert detailed storm analysis
Detailed reports that break down the data, and give you everything you need to know!

Up to date hurricane tracker
Live updates with the latest storm coordinates, and the projected paths.

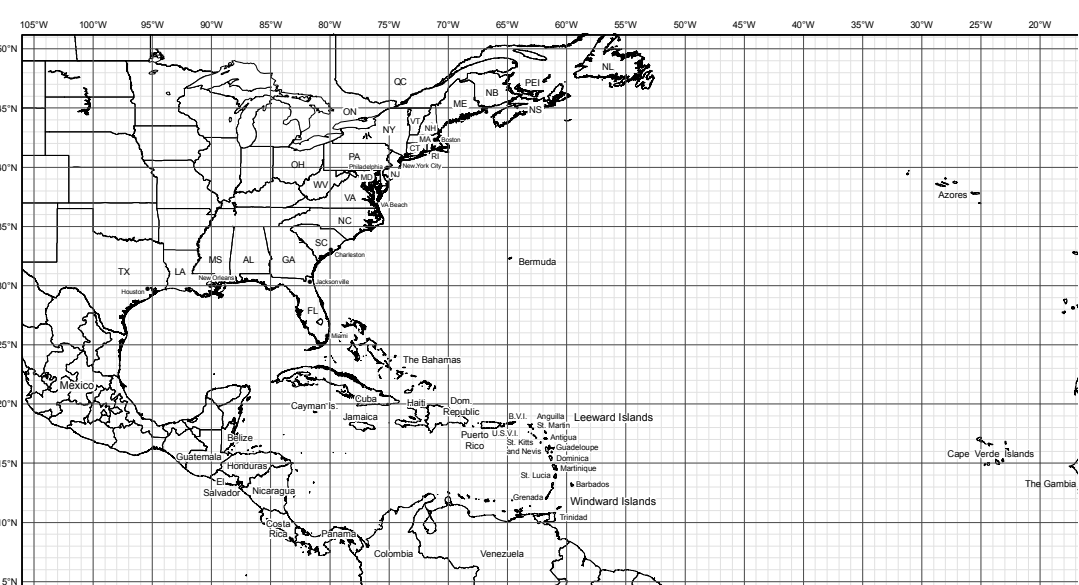


HURRICANE TRACKER

Interactive



Print





It's not just Smart...It's Genius.

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR WHAT'S AHEAD.

The leader in storm home protection in the State of Florida.



The National Weather Service predicts that 2020 will be an above-normal hurricane season with as many as 13 to 19 named major storms. Storm Smart wants you to be ready and make informed decisions in case Southwest Florida is threatened.

Turn to Storm Smart for how to prepare for what's ahead.



Hurricane
Tips



Our
Products



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Service



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StormSmartNBC.com



888-962-7283

Multiple locations serving you in the Southwest Florida area.

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FORT MYERS | CAPE CORAL | NAPLES