



SOUTH CAROLINA
HURRICANE GUIDE



HURRICANE.SC

2024

KNOW

WATCHES & WARNINGS...

Making outdoor preparations becomes increasingly challenging once the wind speed reaches tropical storm level. The National Hurricane Center issues watches and warnings for specific areas of danger. Local National Weather Service offices may issue additional watches and warnings to provide detailed information on specific risks like flash floods and tornadoes.

	ISSUED 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF ANTICIPATED ONSET	ISSUED 36 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF PREDICTED ONSET
	WATCHES	WARNINGS
STORM SURGE:  <i>Life-threatening flooding from rising water moving inland from the shoreline.</i>	STORM SURGE WATCH <i>danger is possible</i>	STORM SURGE WARNING <i>danger is expected</i>
TROPICAL STORM:  <i>An organized system of powerful thunderstorms with a defined circulation and maximum sustained winds of 39-73 mph.</i>	TROPICAL STORM WATCH <i>conditions are possible</i>	TROPICAL STORM WARNING <i>conditions are expected</i>
HURRICANE:  <i>Winds that have reached a constant speed of 74 mph or above and blow in a large spiral around a relatively calm center known as the "eye".</i>	HURRICANE WATCH <i>conditions are possible</i>	HURRICANE WARNING <i>conditions are expected</i>

HURRICANE HAZARDS

Hurricanes and tropical storms threaten **ALL areas of South Carolina**. **ALL South Carolinians** need to prepare for hurricane season.

ACTION:

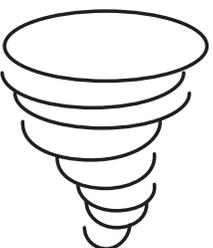
- Prepare your home and review your plan for evacuation in case a Tropical Storm or Hurricane Warning is issued.
- If directed by state or local officials, finish storm preparations and leave the threatened area immediately.

ACTION:

- If directed by state or local officials, finish storm preparations and immediately leave the threatened area.
- Have a plan for where you will stay, such as with family or friends, at a hotel or at a shelter.



- **HURRICANES** and tropical storms often produce widespread, torrential rains over 6 inches, which may result in deadly and destructive flooding. Flooding is a significant threat from tropical cyclones for people living inland.



- **WINDS** from a hurricane can destroy buildings and manufactured homes and turn outdoor items into dangerous projectiles.
- **TORNADOES** can accompany hurricanes and tropical storms. It is on record that in 2004, Tropical Storm Frances caused 47 tornadoes in South Carolina.

EXTREME WIND WARNING

**extreme sustained winds of a major hurricane, usually associated with the eyewall, are expected to begin within an hour.*

ACTION:

- Take immediate shelter in the interior portion of a well-built structure.

DON'T ZONE OUT!

IF YOU'RE NOT IN A HURRICANE EVACUATION ZONE, it means your immediate area is determined to be at a lower risk of storm surge **only**. It's essential to remember even if you're not in a designated evacuation zone, you may still experience other impacts from a hurricane, such as high winds, tornadoes, heavy rainfall, flash flooding, and power outages.

Here are some important points to consider if you're not in an evacuation zone:

- **Stay Informed:** Stay informed about weather updates and advisories issued by local authorities, even if you're not in an evacuation zone. Hurricanes can be unpredictable, and conditions can change rapidly.
- **Prepare Your Home:** Take steps to prepare your home for the potential impacts of a hurricane, such as securing loose outdoor items, trimming trees and bushes, and reinforcing windows and doors.
- **Create a Family Emergency Plan:** Develop a family emergency plan that includes communication methods, evacuation routes, and a designated meeting place in case you need to evacuate or separate during a hurricane.
- **Stock Up on Supplies:** Ensure you have an emergency supply kit stocked with essential items such as non-perishable food, water, medications, flashlights, batteries, and first aid supplies.
- **Consider Flood Insurance:** Even if you're not in an evacuation zone, consider obtaining flood insurance if you live in a coastal area or an area prone to flooding. Standard homeowners' insurance policies typically do not cover flood damage.
- **Stay Connected:** Stay connected with neighbors and community members. Offer assistance to those who may need help preparing for or recovering from a hurricane.

Remember, while being outside of an evacuation zone may reduce your immediate risk during a hurricane, it's still crucial to remain prepared for the potential impacts of a major storm.

EMERGENCY ALERTS

Everyone should have several ways of receiving emergency alerts to ensure you are informed of the latest situation and actions to take. Some ways to receive emergency alerts include Wireless Emergency Alerts on mobile devices, NOAA Weather Radios, and local broadcast TV or radio. Do not rely on just one method of receiving emergency information.

If you would like additional public safety notifications, sign up for **CodeRED** alerts. You can choose the type of alerts you want and how you want to receive them, including text messages, voice phone calls, or emails.

You can register for CodeRED alerts for free through the SCEMD website by visiting scemd.org.



IMPORTANT CONTACTS

S.C. Emergency Management Division (SCEMD)
scemd.org

Public Information Phone System (PIPS)
1-866-246-0133 *FOR ALL INFORMATION
Only activated as needed / Spanish interpreters available

S.C. Department of Public Safety
scdps.sc.gov/hurricane

National Hurricane Center (NHC)
hurricanes.gov

The Official Website of the State of S.C.
sc.gov

S.C. Department of Insurance
doi.sc.gov ▪ 803-737-6160

American Red Cross
redcross.org ▪ 1-866-438-4636

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
fema.gov ▪ ready.gov

SC CareLine
1-855-472-3432

S.C. Salvation Army
salvationarmyusa.org ▪ 704-522-4970

S.C. Department of Transportation
scdot.org ▪ 855-GO-SCDOT ▪ 855-467-2368

PREPARE

PREPARE FOR THE WIND... The **Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale** estimates the potential property damage caused by a hurricane's sustained wind speeds. Category 3 and higher hurricanes are major, with the potential for significant loss of life and property damage. Category 1 and 2 storms are also dangerous and require preventative measures.



STORM LEVEL



DAMAGE



WINDS

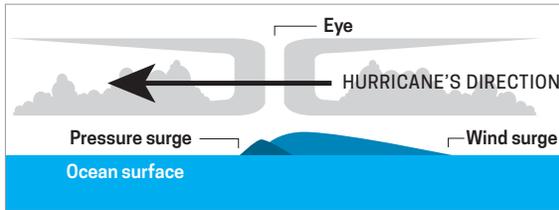


POWER OUTAGES

STORM LEVEL	DAMAGE	WINDS	POWER OUTAGES
CATEGORY 1	MINIMAL <ul style="list-style-type: none">Some damage to roofs, siding, gutters, and trees.	74–95 MPH	Could last several days .
CATEGORY 2	MODERATE <ul style="list-style-type: none">Material damage to buildings.Trees with shallow roots will be snapped or uprooted.	96–110 MPH	Near total power loss that could last several days to weeks .
CATEGORY 3	EXTENSIVE <ul style="list-style-type: none">Extensive structural damage to houses.Trees will be snapped and uprooted.	111–129 MPH	Outages can last for several days to weeks .
CATEGORY 4	EXTREME <ul style="list-style-type: none">Buildings will sustain major structural damage.Affected areas will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.	130–156 MPH	Outages could last for weeks to possibly months .
CATEGORY 5	CATASTROPHIC <ul style="list-style-type: none">Many framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse.Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.	157+ MPH	Outages will last for weeks to possibly months .

RUN FROM THE WATER

Storm surge inundation is the abnormal rise of water above predicted tide levels. It is produced by a storm's winds and pressure pushing the water onto normally dry ground and is expressed in terms of feet above ground level. *During a hurricane, storm surge flooding and inland flooding are a greater threat to life and property than high winds.*



Storm surge 1-3 feet above ground level:

- Could knock you off your feet
- Can cause cars to stall or be swept away
- Not passable to light vehicles

Storm surge 4-6 feet above ground level:

- Move to higher ground if predicted
- Can enter homes
- Floating cars and debris

Storm surge 7-9 feet above ground level:

- Move to higher ground if predicted
- Fills first floors of homes and business
- Can't see what's in the water

Storm surge 10 feet above ground level:

- Deadly and destructive
- Can overwhelm whole coastal cities and towns
- Covers one-story homes

POWER POINTERS

- Start preparing for a power outage now.
- Visit scemd.org for a list of all South Carolina power utilities, complete with their outage reporting information.
- **Power lines:** If you see a downed power line, do not touch it. Do not touch tree limbs or other objects touching a power line.
- **Generators:** Do not attempt to tie generators into the house circuit without prior, professional installation. This can be dangerous to you, your neighbors, and to linemen. Plug appliances directly into the generator.
- **Cooking:** Should the power go out while cooking, turn the stove off and remove any cookware from the cooking surfaces and the oven.
- **Refrigerators/freezers:** Do not open refrigerators or freezers during an outage unless necessary. Repeated openings cause the cold air to escape and the food inside to thaw more quickly.
- **Gas:** If you smell gas, leave your home immediately and call 9-1-1 and the gas company.



START PREPARING FOR A POWER OUTAGE NOW.

VISIT SCEMD.ORG TO FIND A LIST OF ALL POWER UTILITIES SERVING SOUTH CAROLINA, COMPLETE WITH THEIR OUTAGE REPORTING INFORMATION.

HURRICANE NAMES

2024

Alberto (al-BAIR-toe)

Beryl (BEHR-ril)

Chris (kris)

Debby (DEH-bee)

Ernesto (er-NES-toh)

Francine (fran-SEEN)

Gordon (GOR-duhn)

Helene (heh-LEEN)

Isaac (EYE-zik)

Joyce (joyss)

Kirk (kurk)

Leslie (LEHZ-lee)

Milton (MIL-ton)

Nadine (nay-DEEN)

Oscar (AHS-kur)

Patty (PAT-ee)

Rafael (rah-fah-ELL)

Sara (SAIR-uh)

Tony (TOH-nee)

Valerie (VAH-lur-ee)

William (WILL-yum)

If there are more than 21 named storms in the Atlantic Ocean during a hurricane season, additional storms will take names from a supplemental list.

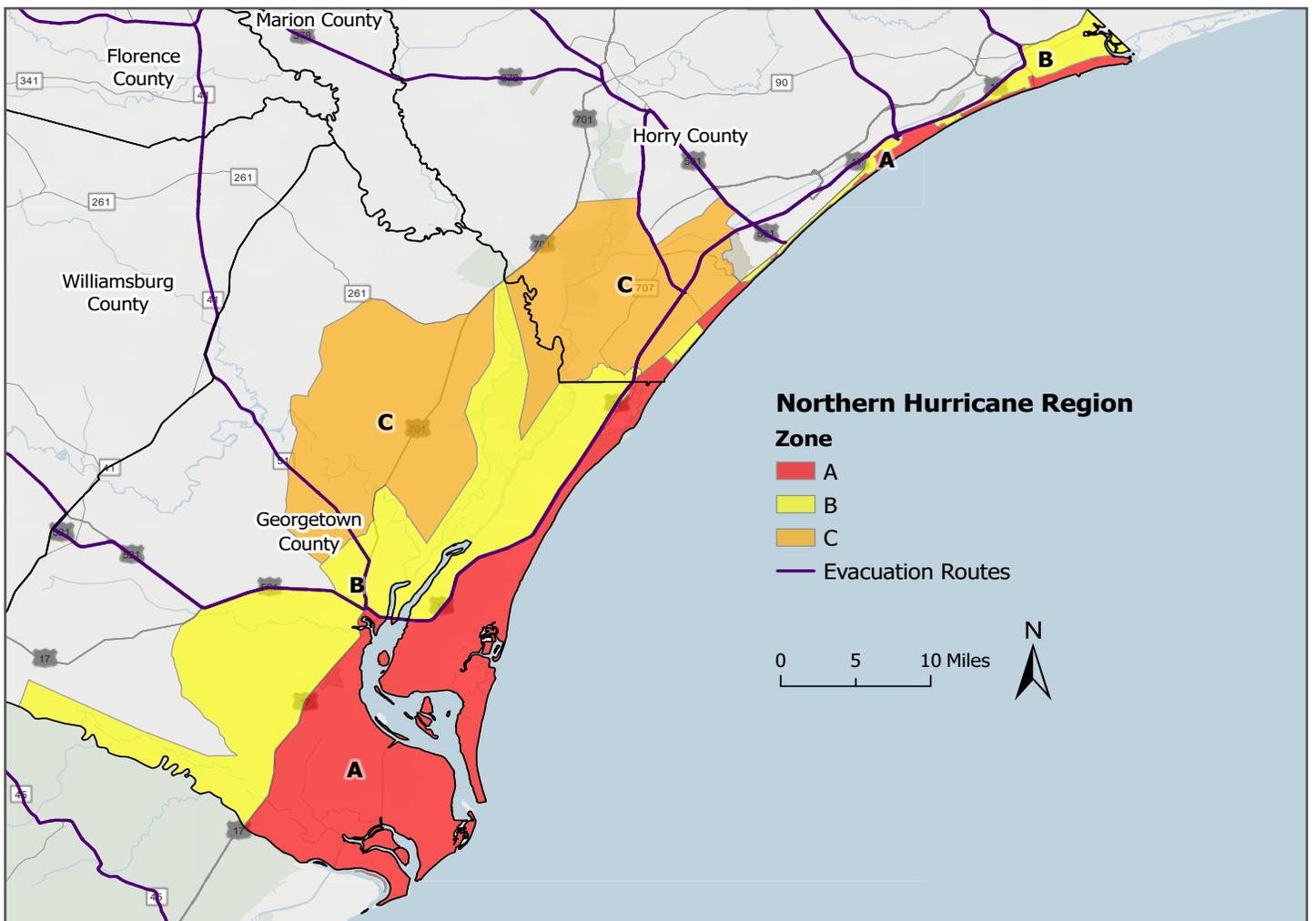
KNOW YOUR ZONE

PLAN ■ PREPARE ■ EVACUATE

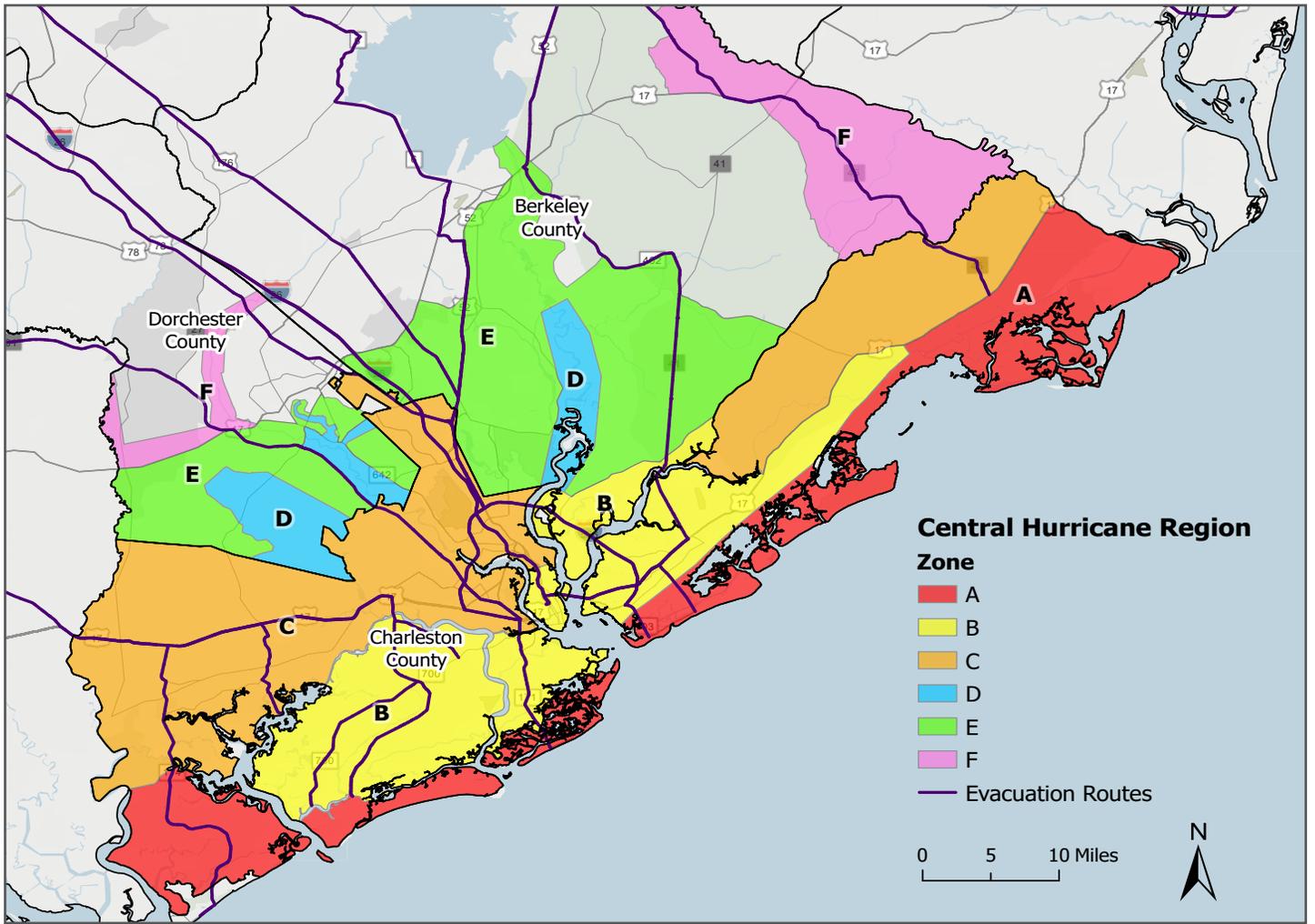
Residents in South Carolina should check if they live in an evacuation zone, especially this year, as there have been changes based on updated storm surge model data from the National Hurricane Center. Recent hurricanes, such as Matthew in 2016, Irma in 2017, and Ian in 2022, have influenced these changes. Use the maps available on hurricane.sc to identify your designated zone and include it in your evacuation plan. For more information, visit the KNOW YOUR ZONE page at hurricane.sc.

Some areas may be inaccessible even after the official evacuation order is lifted. Keep tuned to your local TV and radio stations and continue to monitor social media for recovery information.

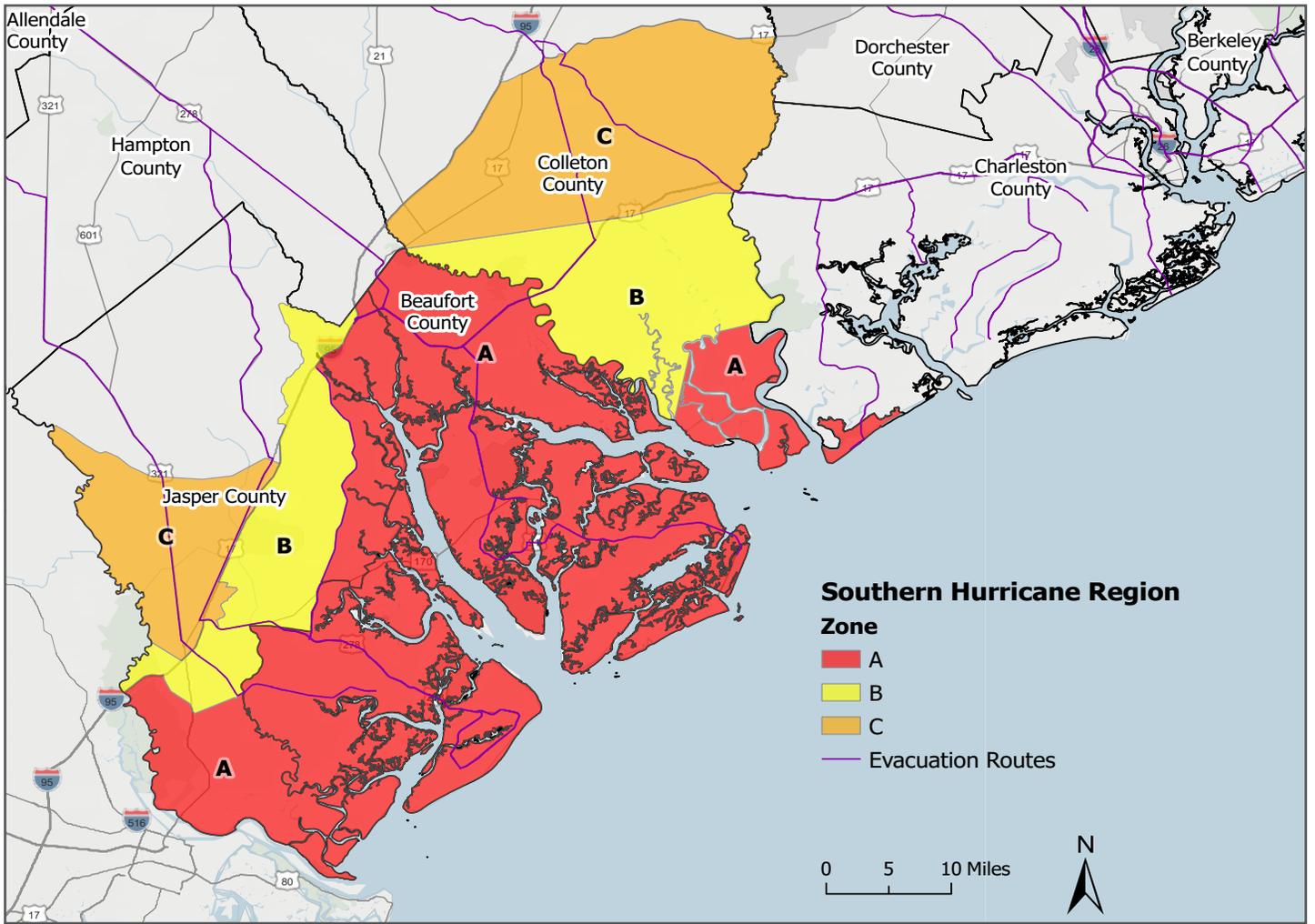
NORTHERN COAST



CENTRAL COAST



SOUTHERN COAST



EVACUATE

 INTERSTATE
  U.S.
  S.C.
  SECONDARY

 INTERSTATE ROUTES

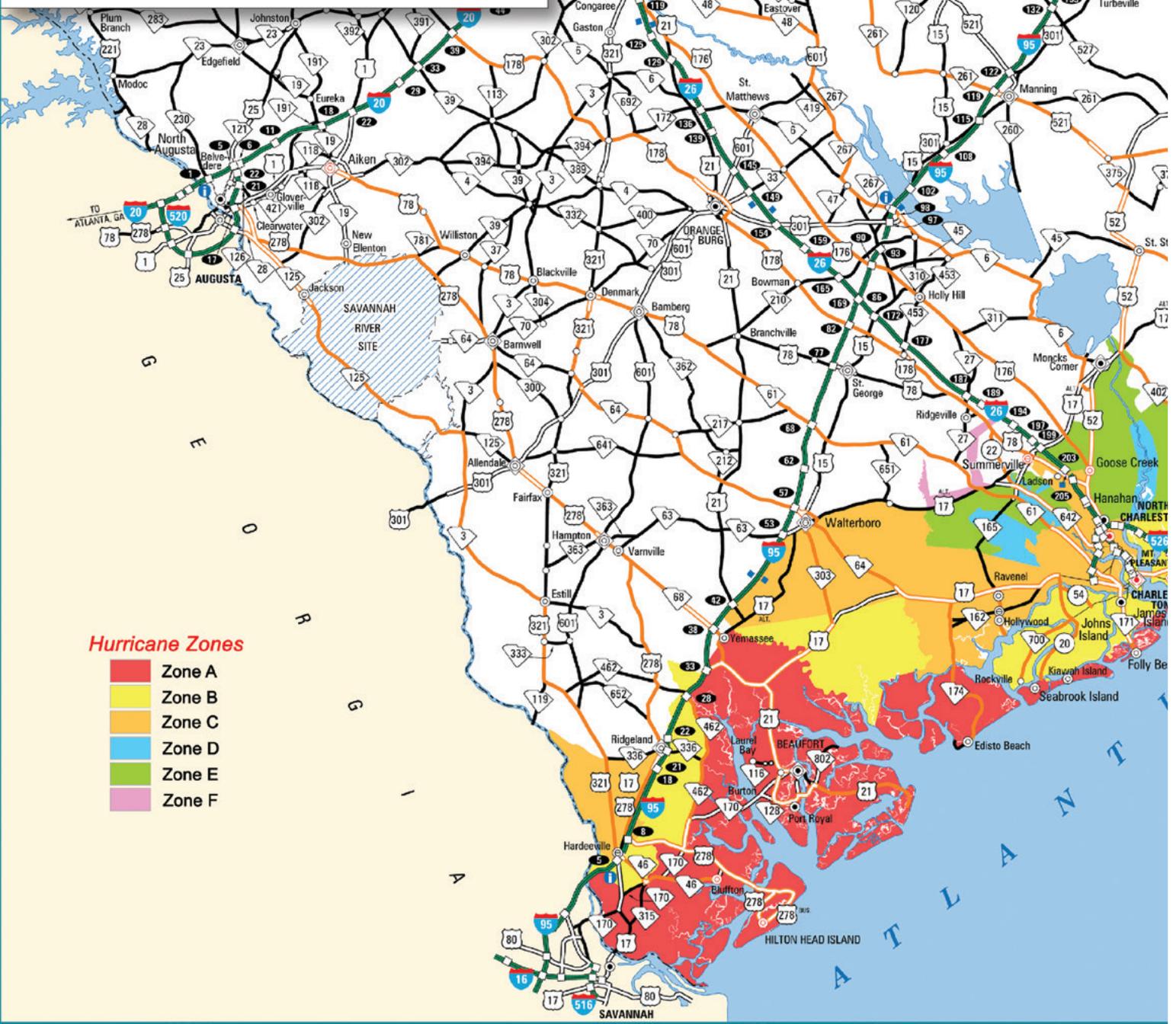
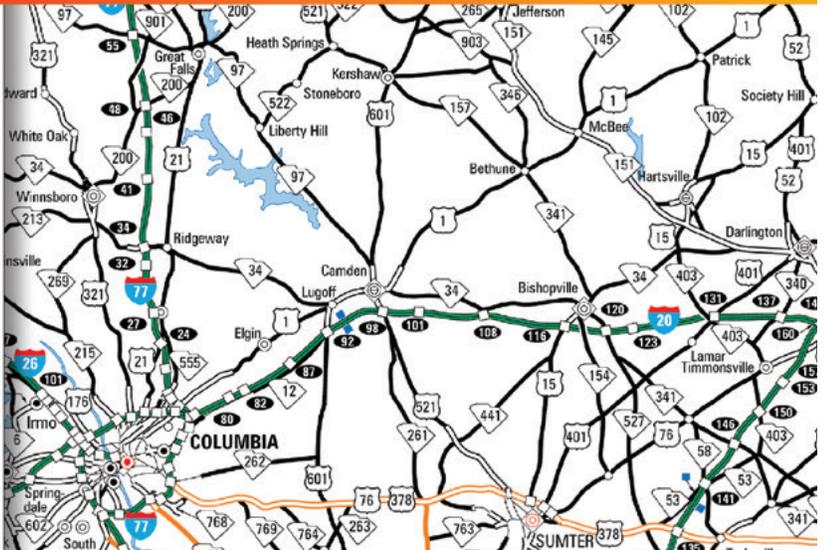
 EVACUATION ROUTES

 OTHER ROUTES

EXIT NO.  FULL INTERCHANGE

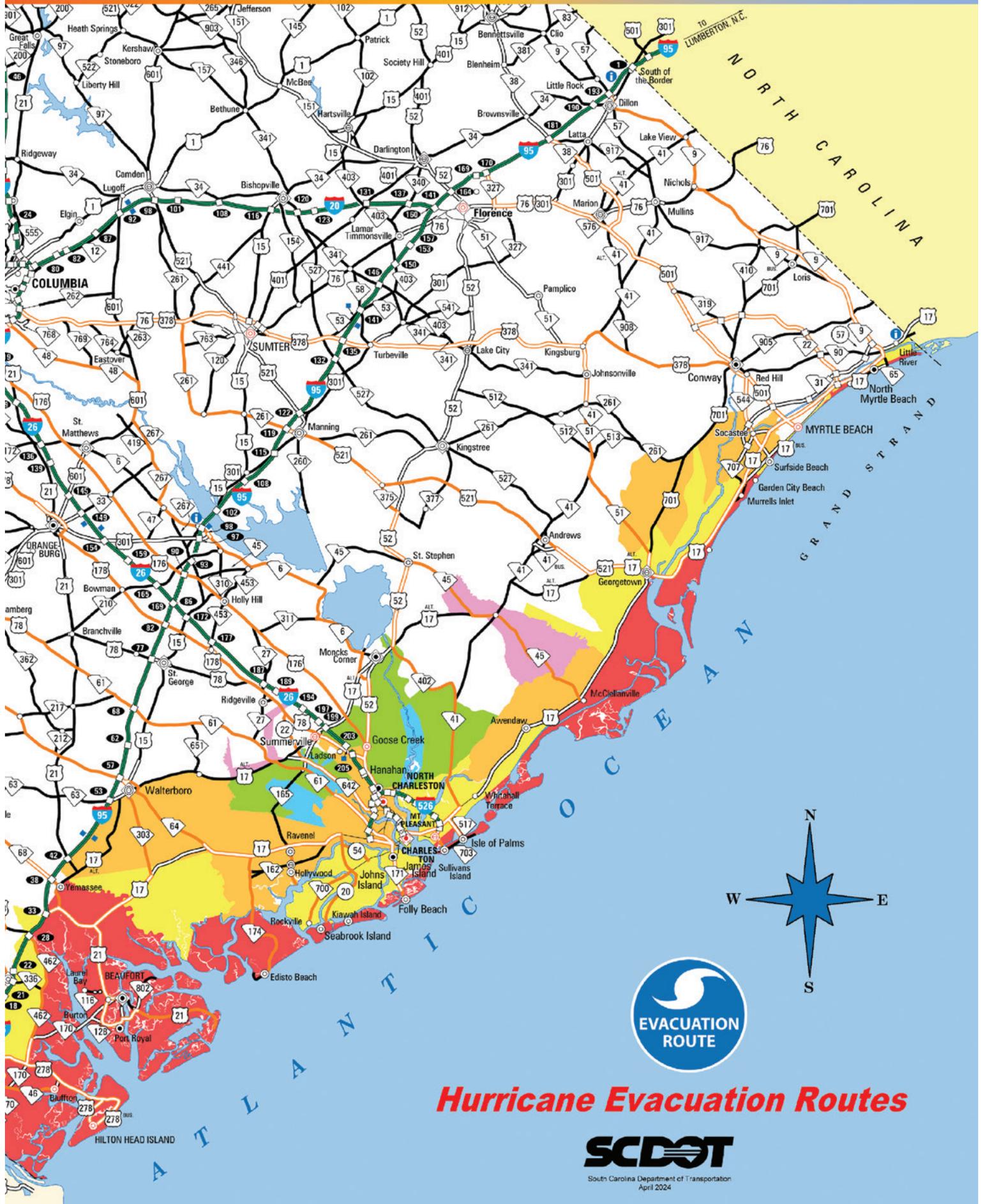
 WELCOME / TRAVEL INFO. CENTER

 REST AREAS



Hurricane Zones

-  Zone A
-  Zone B
-  Zone C
-  Zone D
-  Zone E
-  Zone F



Hurricane Evacuation Routes

EVACUATION ROUTES & LANE REVERSALS

CHARLESTON AREA

Edisto Island, Adams Run

- Evacuees will take **SC 174** to **US 17**. They will then take **US 17** south to **SC 64**. This will take them to Walterboro, and then to Aiken and **I-20**.

Yonges Island, Meggett, Hollywood, Ravenel

- Use **SC 165** to **US 17**, then **US 17** south to **SC 64** where they will go to Walterboro, then to Aiken and **I-20**.

Johns Island, Kiawah Island & Seabrook

- Use **SC 700** to Main Road (**S-20**) to **US 17**.
- Evacuees will then take **US 17** south to **SC 64** where they will go to Walterboro, then to Aiken and **I-20**.

James Island & Folly Beach

- Use **SC 171** to **US 17**.
- Evacuees should then travel south on **US 17** to **I-526** to the normal lanes of **I-26**.

Awendaw & McClellanville

- Evacuees will take **SC 45** to **US 52** where they will be directed right onto **US 52** to **SC 375** to **US 521** to **SC 261** to **US 378** to Columbia.

City of Charleston

- The west side of the city (West Ashley) will use **SC 61** to **US 78**, and continue towards Aiken.
- Downtown will use the normal lanes of **I-26**.

North Charleston

- Evacuees will take **US 52** (Rivers Avenue) to **US 78** to **US 178** to Orangeburg then to **I-20** or continue on **US 52** to **US 176** or continue north on **US 52**.
- The right lanes of **US 52** at Goose Creek will continue on to Moncks Corner. In Moncks Corner, evacuees will be directed onto **SC 6**, where **SC 6** will take them toward Columbia.
- The left lanes of **US 52** at Goose Creek will go onto **US 176** to Columbia.
- Evacuees using **SC 642** will travel west toward Summerville and take road **S-22** (Old Orangeburg Road) to **US 78** west.

East Cooper

- Evacuees leaving Mount Pleasant will take **I-526** or **US 17** south to **I-26**.
- Those leaving Sullivan's Island will use **SC 703** to **I-526 Business** to access **I-526**, then **I-26**.
- Evacuees from the Isle of Palms will use the Isle of Palms connector (**SC 517**) to go to **US 17**, where the right lane will turn north on **US 17**, then proceed to **SC 41**, to **SC 402**, then to **US 52** to **SC 375**, then to **US 521**, to **SC 261** to **US 378** to Columbia.
- Evacuees using the left lanes of the Isle of Palms connector will turn left to go to **I-526** and then on to **I-26**.
- Evacuees on **I-526** approaching **I-26** from East Cooper will be directed to the normal lanes of **I-26**.

Daniel Island

- Use **I-526** or Clements Ferry Road as conditions warrant.

EVACUATION ROUTES & LANE REVERSALS

HILTON HEAD ISLAND & BEAUFORT AREAS

Hilton Head Island

- Hilton Head Island evacuees will use both the William Hilton Parkway (**US 278 Business**) and the Cross Island Parkway (**US 278**).
- As these two roads merge, a third lane will be formed by reversing flow on the inside eastbound lane of **US 278**. This lane will carry traffic to the three-lane section beginning on the mainland.
- **LANE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:**
 1. The right lane on **US 278** westbound will exit onto **SC 170**, proceed to **SC 462**, then be directed to **I-95** northbound at **I-95 exit 28**.
 2. The center lane on **US 278** westbound will become the right lane at **SC 170** which will be directed to **I-95** northbound at **exit 8**.
 3. The left lane on **US 278** westbound at **SC 170** will continue on **US 278** to Hampton and eventually to North Augusta.

Beaufort

▪ **TWO-LANE EVACUATION:**

Evacuees will use the two present northbound lanes on **US 21** to **US 17**. Upon reaching **US 17**, the right lane will be directed to **US 17** north to **SC 303** to Walterboro. The left lane will be directed to **US 17** south, then to **US 17 Alt / US 21** to Yemassee and then ultimately to North Augusta.

▪ **THREE-LANE EVACUATION:**

Under certain conditions, a third northbound lane will be formed by reversing flow in the inside southbound lane of **US 21** at **US 21 Business** west of Beaufort, accommodating traffic from **US 21**. This reversed lane will be directed to **US 17** southbound and eventually **I-95** northbound at **exit 33** (Point South). The remaining two lanes will be used as described above for the two-lane evacuation.

GRAND STRAND AREA

North Myrtle Beach & Northward

- Use **SC 9** to proceed to **I-95**.

Myrtle Beach

- 10th Avenue North and northward to Briarcliff Acres use **SC 22** (Conway Bypass) to **US 501**. Motorists using **SC 31** (Carolina Bays Parkway) or the Grissom Parkway will be directed north to **SC 22**.
- South of 10th Avenue North southward to the Myrtle Beach Airport use **US 501** toward Marion and beyond.
- Under certain conditions, **US 501** will be converted to four lanes northbound from **SC 22** to **SC 576**.
- Myrtle Beach Airport southward through Surfside Beach use **SC 544** to **US 501**.
- Under certain conditions, **US 501** will be converted to four lanes northbound from **SC 544** to **US 378**. The reversed lanes will carry **SC 544** traffic onto **US 378** where it will travel westbound to **I-95** or Columbia.

Garden City Beach South to Winyah Bay, & Georgetown

- Take **US 17** south through Georgetown, then take **US 521** to **SC 261** to **US 378** to Columbia.
- Under certain conditions, an alternate route from Georgetown will be Black River Road to **US 701** to **SC 51** to **SC 41** to **US 378** at Kingsburg.

ACCESS & FUNCTIONAL NEEDS



Digitize your medical records and identification to keep them safe and easily accessible, as paper documents can get lost or damaged during emergencies.



Put your **name and contact information** on your belongings in case they get lost during an emergency evacuation, sheltering, or consolidation.



Ask for help if you need it. Some of your local emergency management offices may have a list of community members who require additional assistance.



Know your plan and inform others. Leave early to reach your destination safely ahead of storms.



Check the hurricane preparation list in this guide. Consider **additional items** you may need, like medical equipment backups, batteries for hearing aids, oxygen tanks, and special diets.

INSURANCE



FOR QUESTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, VISIT DOI.SC.GOV OR CALL THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE OF CONSUMER SERVICES (toll-free): **1-800-768-3467**

From the S.C. Department of Insurance:

- Review your insurance policy to ensure that you have adequate coverage. Understand the difference between **REPLACEMENT COST** and **CASH VALUE**.
- Make sure to know your policy's deductibles and the steps to take when property is damaged. Contact your insurance company ASAP.
- **A standard homeowners' or renters' policy does not cover flood damage. To protect your property from flood damage, you need to purchase a separate flood insurance policy.** For more information, please visit floodsmart.gov.
- Make a **property inventory list** of valuables, furniture, electronics, etc. Take pictures of your property to have a visual record of your belongings.
- If you do evacuate, be sure to carry your important documents with you.
- When a hurricane is imminent, **remove outdoor objects** like lawn furniture and garbage cans that the wind may blow. Protect window openings with storm shutters.

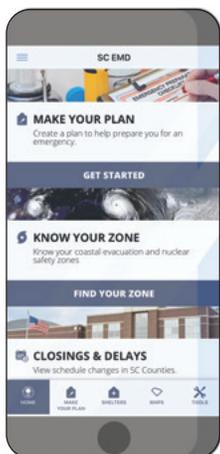
Ways to Save on Insurance Costs:

- **Catastrophe Saving Accounts:** Homeowners can open state-income tax-free savings accounts to pay for qualified expenses like deductibles.
- **Insurance Premium Discounts:** Available for homes that have been made more storm-resistant.
- **State Income Tax Credits:** Homeowners who purchase supplies to retrofit their properties for hurricane and severe storm resistance can apply for assistance.

GET THE APP

Use the South Carolina Emergency Management Division's official app to prepare for emergencies.

Available to download from the Apple App Store or Google Play (iPhone and Android compatible).



- **View Know Your Zone** evacuation maps
- **Customize and build a personal emergency plan**
- **Share your locations with emergency contacts**
- **Keep track of your disaster supplies kit**
- **Use the emergency alert whistle and strobe light**
- **Document storm damage**

PETS

Including your pets in your family emergency plan is crucial, and your veterinarian can help you prepare for emergencies.

IMPORTANT TIPS:

> BEFORE

- Keep a disaster “GO KIT” for each of your pets in a location that is easily accessible. The kit should contain a cage or carrier that is large enough for your pet to stand and turn around in, a leash and harness, food and water bowls, enough food and water for 3 days, medications, health records and care instructions, microchip numbers, and a litter box with litter and clean-up supplies.
- Keep your pets’ immunizations up to date, especially for rabies. Make sure to keep copies of all important documents also.
- Choose animal identification methods, such as microchipping or ID tags on their collar. **Keep photos of yourself with your animals to prove ownership if you become separated.**
- Evacuate with your pets outside of the evacuation zone. Only use emergency temporary shelters as a last resort. Consider boarding facilities, veterinary clinics, pet-friendly hotels, or the homes of friends and family instead.
- Counties may have temporary shelters for pets. Open shelters will be listed on the South Carolina Emergency Manager mobile app and scemd.org.

> DURING

- In the immediate post-landfall period, extreme damage from winds or flooding may occur. The primary focus of emergency workers during this time will be the safety of human lives.
- When circumstances allow, there will be personnel trained in animal emergencies to assist emergency workers and citizens with animal needs. These may include rescuing displaced animals, ID, treatment, temporary shelter, care, and reunifying with owners.
- Information about options for assistance with animals will be provided as soon as possible from SCEMD through news briefings and telephone hotlines.



ANIMAL RESCUE MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY AFTER A HURRICANE.

> AFTER

- If your pet is lost, contact your veterinarian, animal control organization, or county and state emergency managers for assistance searching lists and databases of found and sheltered animals during the hurricane.
- Familiar landmarks and scents may be unrecognizable after a hurricane, causing your pet to become lost and confused.
- Monitor your pets carefully after an emergency. Even pets that are normally calm and friendly may become defensive or aggressive. Be sure to leash dogs and keep them in a fenced yard with access to water and shelter.

OTHER RESOURCES:

Clemson Livestock-Poultry Health:
803-788-2260
clemson.edu/LPH

South Carolina Department of Agriculture:
803-734-2210
agriculture.sc.gov

Charleston Animal Society:
843-747-4849
charlestonanimalsociety.org

S.C. Association of Veterinarians:
1-800-441-7228
scav.org

EVACUATION ACTIONS

> BEFORE

BE PREPARED

Contact your local emergency management office to assist in determining your vulnerability to a hurricane. Hurricanes bring high winds, tornadoes, heavy rains, and flooding to inland areas, in addition to storm surges that may extend beyond coastal areas.

If you live in a vulnerable area, be sure to plan an evacuation route. Consider staying with family and friends or in a hotel outside the vulnerable area. Learn safe routes inland. Be ready to drive at least 20 to 50 miles inland to locate a safe place.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME

- **KNOW** where you will go.
- **STAY** tuned to your local TV or radio stations for emergency information.
- **CHARGE** your mobile devices and bring extra chargers.
- **TURN** off gas, electricity, and water.
- **MAKE** arrangements for pets. Although many shelters allow pets, it's best to make your own arrangements for them.
- **FUEL** up and service family vehicles.



IN ADDITION TO THE ITEMS LISTED IN YOUR BASIC DISASTER SUPPLIES KIT, ALSO CARRY ROAD MAPS, JUMPER CABLES, AND A TIRE REPAIR KIT.

> ON THE ROAD

LEAVE EARLY, TAKE YOUR TIME

The SC Emergency Response Team has collaborated with the petroleum industry to increase fuel availability at selected gas stations along major evacuation routes.

Rest areas along I-26 will be equipped with additional facilities to accommodate drivers efficiently. Weigh stations managed by the SC Department of Public Safety will also be available as comfort stations. A GPS may misdirect you to closed roads. Stay on official evacuation routes.



A GPS may misdirect you to closed roads. Stay on official evacuation routes.

> DURING

PROTECT YOURSELF

- During a power outage, it's important to stay informed by tuning into local TV and radio stations. Make sure to have a battery-operated, solar-powered, or hand-crank-operated radio or TV.
- Stay inside a well-built structure, away from windows and doors, even if covered. Find an interior room, closet, or space under the stairs on the first floor.
- Be alert. Tornadoes are very often spawned during hurricanes. If the "eye" of the storm passes over your area, be aware that severe conditions will quickly return with winds from the other direction.
- Limit non-emergency calls. Be sure to keep calls brief to minimize any network congestion. Wait at least 10 seconds before redialing a call. For non-emergencies, try sending text messages.

SEEKING SAFETY

Be prepared for an evacuation by having a plan in place. Consider staying with family or friends or at a hotel far inland. If those options are unavailable, the SC Department of Social Services and the American Red Cross will provide a safe place to stay as the hurricane makes landfall.

These emergency shelters may not have cots, blankets, and other amenities for every person until well after hurricane conditions subside. Although some food may be provided, specialty foods for infants and people on restricted diets may not be available. If you plan to go to a shelter for safety, bring all the items in your disaster supplies kit: sleeping bags, pillows, and cots.



EMERGENCY SHELTERS ARE PLACES OF LAST RESORT. COTS AND BLANKETS MAY NOT BE PROVIDED.

Remember, text "shelter" and your zip code to 43362 to receive a list of nearby shelter locations. This has been made possible through partnerships with FEMA and the American Red Cross.

RETURNING HOME

RETURN HOME ONLY AFTER LOCAL AUTHORITIES ADVISE IT IS SAFE TO DO SO. ←



SOME AREAS MAY BE INACCESSIBLE DUE TO THEM BEING UNSAFE.

KEEP TUNED TO YOUR LOCAL TV AND RADIO STATIONS AND MONITOR SOCIAL MEDIA FOR RECOVERY INFORMATION.

Avoid downed and sagging power lines

- Report them immediately to power companies, police or fire departments.

Be alert for driving restrictions

- Avoid flooded roads and washed-out roads and bridges.
- Follow directions provided by local public safety officials.

Enter your home with caution

- Open doors and windows to ventilate and dry your home.
- Use flashlights to inspect for damage.
- Use the telephone only for emergency calls.
- Check refrigerated foods for spoilage.
- Beware of snakes, insects, and other animals that may be seeking higher ground during a flood.

Take pictures

- Photos of damage will help in filing insurance claims.
- Contact your insurance claims agent immediately to report the incident.

Inspect the utilities in your home

- Check for gas leaks.
 - > If you smell gas or hear a hissing or blowing sound, open a window and quickly leave the building. If you can, turn off the gas at the outside main valve. From a safe place, call 9-1-1 and your utility provider to report a gas leak. Only a professional should turn it back on.
- Look for electrical system damage.
 - > If you notice any sparks, frayed or broken wires, or a burning smell, it's crucial to turn off the electricity at the main fuse box or circuit breaker. If water is around the access to the fuse box or circuit breaker, call an electrician for advice first.
- Check for damage to the water and sewage line.
 - > Avoid using the toilets if you suspect the sewage lines are damaged. Instead, call a professional plumber. In case of damaged water pipes, contact the water company and refrain from consuming or using tap water.

Monitor radio, TV, and social media

- Learn how to receive further information from officials and apply for assistance.

Let a relative know you are home

- Tell family or friends how to contact you, especially if phone service is out.



LOCAL OFFICIALS WILL PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW YOU CAN PROPERLY DISPOSE OF STORM DEBRIS AND DAMAGED PROPERTY.



NEVER TRY TO MOVE OR DRIVE AROUND BARRICADES.

BASIC DISASTER SUPPLIES KIT



- **“South Carolina Hurricane Guide”**



- **Bottled water**
(2 gallons per person per day)



- **Non-perishable food**
(for at least 3 days)



- **Portable radio with extra batteries**



- **Plastic dishes, eating utensils**



- **Pet supplies**
(food, leash, carrier, vaccination records)



- **First Aid Kit**
(including prescription medications)



- **Bedding & clothing for each family member**



- **Soap, shampoo, other personal hygiene items**



- **NOAA Weather Radio**



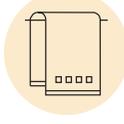
- **Rain jackets, pants, boots**



- **Sunglasses, mosquito repellent, sunscreen**



- **Flashlight(s) with extra batteries**



- **Blankets, towels**



- **Important documents**
(driver's license, Social Security card, proof of residence, insurance policies, wills, deeds, birth and marriage certificates, tax records, medical records, family pictures, etc.)



- **Cash**
(enough to fill up a vehicle with gas)



- **Baby supplies**
(food, diapers, medication)



- **Mobile device chargers**



- **Hand sanitizer**



- **Toothbrush, toothpaste**

2024 S.C. HURRICANE GUIDE

This Hurricane Guide was compiled and created by the S.C. Emergency Management Division as a public service in partnership with various state, local, federal, and volunteer agencies. Some of these agencies include the South Carolina Department of Transportation, South Carolina Department of Public Safety, National Weather Service, South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs, Clemson University Extension Service, South Carolina Department of Insurance, Federal Emergency Management Agency, American Red Cross, and others.

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Visit hurricane.sc to learn about your updated hurricane evacuation zone and get started on your hurricane safety plan. Find all the information in the South Carolina Hurricane Guide and more at hurricane.sc, whenever you need a quick, online resource to prepare for a hurricane in South Carolina.

Rely on verified sources such as scemd.org and hurricane.sc to make informed decisions about your safety and avoid misinformation, rumors, and malicious information.