



# DURING A HURRICANE WATCH / WARNING Checklist

## When a Watch Is Issued:

- Monitor radio and TV broadcasts for information regarding the storms.
- Follow the City website, [www.southportnc.org](http://www.southportnc.org) or the **Southport NC Emergency Information** Facebook page to get timely updates. <https://www.facebook.com/SouthportNCEmergency/>
- Refill prescriptions for your family and pets, ensuring at least a 2-week supply.
- Store valuable papers in a safe place or in a container to take with you in event of evacuation.
- Clear yard and deck of all potential flying debris. Anchor items that cannot be brought inside.
- Prepare to cover windows and doors.
- Check food and water supplies. Replenish as necessary.
- Plan for several days after the hurricane, and stock up on things like bottled water, non-perishable foods, and batteries to use in case there is no electric power.
- Get cash since ATMs and banks may not be operating following the storm.
- Check generator and fuel supplies.
- Check additional tanks for gas grill.
- If you have a propane gas tank, make sure it is securely strapped down to prevent it from becoming a potential “bomb” in the event it is washed away.
- Listen to local radio and television stations for storm reports.
- Plan where you will stay if an evacuation is ordered. The nearest public shelter may be South Brunswick High School. (Note: Hotel/motel space is limited, and hotels may close, depending on the severity of the storm as it approaches.)
- Plan how to care for pets. (Pets are only allowed at certain public shelters.)

## When a Warning Is Issued:

- Board up windows and doors if appropriate. Note that many homeowners do not do this. Once factor in deciding what to do is the nearness of your home to other structures that might be damaged and thus create debris that could break a window in your home.



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When a Warning Is Issued, *continued*:

- Make sure your windows are securely locked. Many "hurricane veterans" place a rolled-up towel around windows to absorb some of the water that may enter in the cracks. Others roll up area rugs near the threshold of each door to do the same.
- Keep in mind that wind will blow the rain vertically along your home outside walls and water will potentially enter under the eaves of your home and pass into the attic. Roof vents are another location where water may enter.
- If you have deadbolt locks on your doors, lock them before you evacuate the house. If you don't have deadbolt locks, consider installing them. This will help deter intruders at other times, as well as provide protection during high winds.
- Secure outside items like chairs, swings, grills, toys and especially the 90-gallon garbage container so that are not blown away, creating "missiles" of damage.
- Many homeowners shut off water, propane gas and electricity to their homes when they leave. When you shut the water off, do so only at the shut-off valve installed BETWEEN the Town meter and your home. Do not tamper with the Town's meter.
- Turn off LP Gas at tank.
- Close damper in the fireplace.
- Gas up your vehicles, pack flashlights, radios, blankets, first aid items, medications you may need, food, water and anything else you may want to take with you.
- Buy ice.
- Get cash, ATMs and banks may not be operating after a storm.
- Monitor radio and TV broadcasts, including Channel 8, for storm advisories and evacuation announcements.
- Store drinking water in clean bathtubs, jugs and bottles. Water in tub and washer also may be needed for flushing.
- Turn freezers and refrigerator to coldest settings. Then open only when necessary and close quickly.