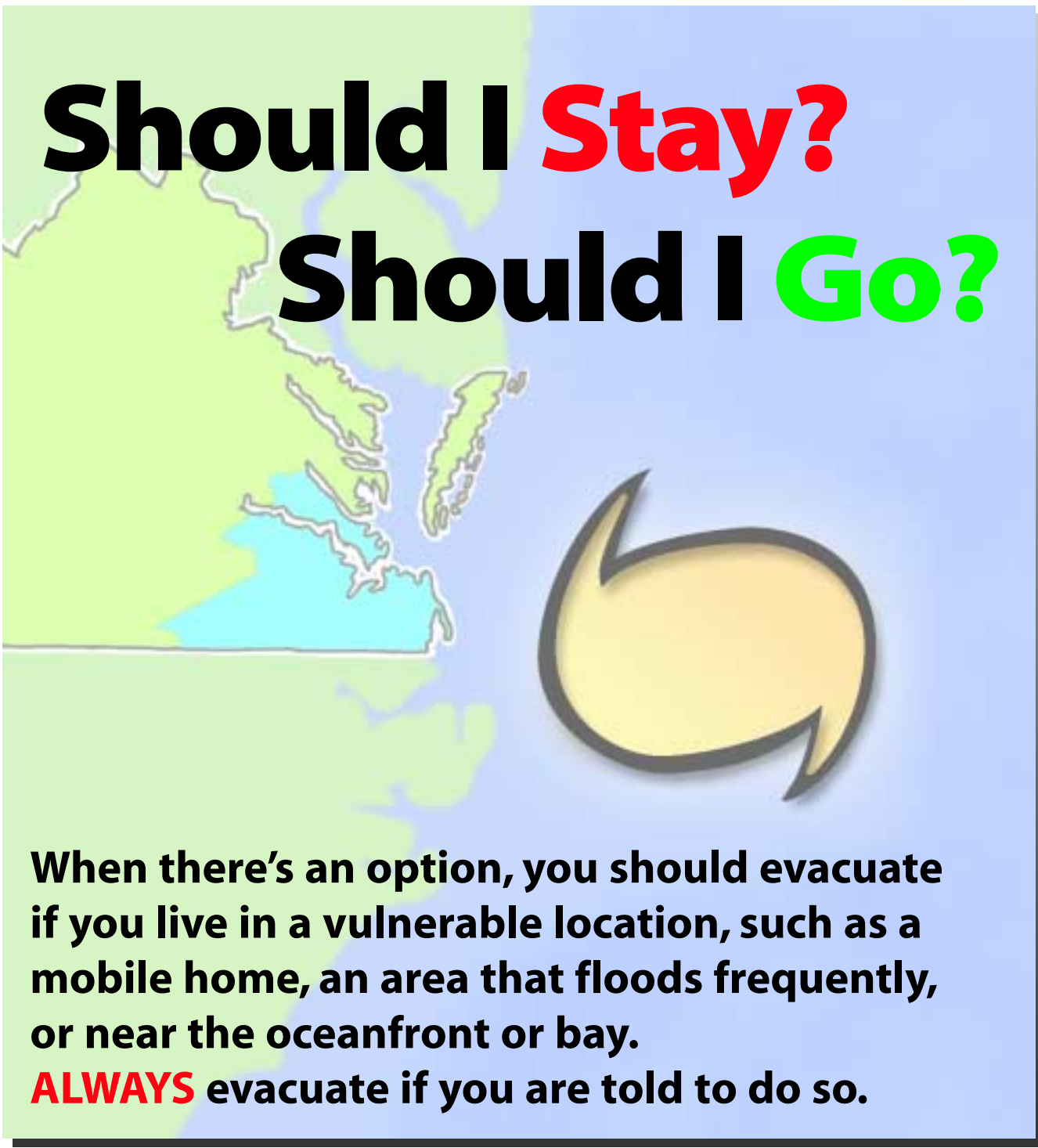


# EVACUATE EVACUATE EVACUATE



## Should I Stay? Should I Go?

**When there's an option, you should evacuate if you live in a vulnerable location, such as a mobile home, an area that floods frequently, or near the oceanfront or bay.**  
**ALWAYS** evacuate if you are told to do so.

- ### If You Stay Home:
- Enact a family disaster plan
  - Have a pet plan
  - Purchase a NOAA weather radio
  - Stay alert to storm advisories
  - Know the difference between a **WATCH** and **WARNING**
  - Keep a Disaster Supply Kit ready
  - Have enough food and water for at least 3-7 days
  - Protect valuable documents
  - Make your home more disaster resistant
  - Get cash
  - Fill your car's tank with gasoline
  - Avoid using candles or open flames for light
  - Help elderly neighbors or those with special needs
  - As the storm hits, gather your family in a safe room
  - After the storm, watch out for downed power lines
  - Listen to your radio or TV for official information

- ### If You Evacuate:
- Stay alert to storm advisories
  - Know the difference between a **WATCH** and **WARNING**
  - Enact your family disaster plan
  - Enact your pet plan
  - Map out your route
  - If possible, evacuate to the home of either family or friends in a non-vulnerable area. Next, try a hotel or motel; as a last resort, go to a shelter. Remember shelters are not designed for comfort and do not usually accept pets.
  - Get cash
  - Fill your car's tank with gasoline
  - Notify family and friends of your plans
  - Secure your home before leaving
  - Bring your Disaster Supply Kit

### What's your responsibility in hurricane survival?

Being prepared for hurricanes is everyone's responsibility. While government agencies will do everything in their power to help, the citizens of Hampton Roads are ultimately responsible for their own safety and welfare. Please remember that local government services during and immediately following a hurricane may be disrupted or delayed for a period of time. The basic role of government in a disaster is to amplify and localize emergency warnings, distribute public information, open shelters and provide other essential governmental services.

### If you are disabled or have critical medical needs:

There are no special needs shelters in the Hampton Roads area. Citizens with disabilities or special needs must make their own arrangements to ensure consistent care through a hurricane or other severe weather emergency. Long before a hurricane strikes, individuals who require special care should consult with their home care agency and service provider for guidance and advice. It is also helpful for citizens with special needs to develop support networks within and outside the hurricane risk area.

### Want to know more about being prepared?

**Visit these websites:**

- [American Red Cross Disaster Info](http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster)
- [FEMA National Flood Insurance](http://www.fema.gov/nfip)
- [Hampton Roads Emergency Management Committee](http://www.hremc.org)
- [National Weather Service Local Wakefield Office](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/er/akq)
- [National Hurricane Center](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov)
- [Project Safeside](http://www.weather.com/safeside/tropical/index.html)
- [VDOT Hurricane Evacuation Routes](http://www.vdot.state.va.us/traf/hurricane.html)
- [VA Dept of Emergency Management](http://www.vdem.state.va.us)



Together, we can save a life

American Red Cross  
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CHAPTERS

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[Home](#) > [Services](#) > [Disaster Services](#)

## Disaster Services



Each year, the American Red Cross responds immediately to more than 60,000 disasters, including house or apartment fires (the majority of disaster responses), hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, hazardous materials spills, transportation accidents, explosions, and other natural and man-made disasters.

### The Good News Is That We Can Help

Although the American Red Cross is not a government agency, its authority to provide disaster relief was formalized when, in 1905, the Red Cross was chartered by Congress to "carry on a system of national and international relief in time of peace and apply the same in mitigating the sufferings caused by pestilence, famine, fire, floods, and other great national calamities, and to devise and carry on measures for preventing the same." The Charter is not only a grant of power, but also an imposition of duties and obligations to the nation, to disaster victims, and to the people who generously support its work with their donations.

Red Cross disaster relief focuses on meeting people's immediate emergency disaster-caused needs. When a disaster threatens or strikes, the Red Cross provides shelter, food, and health and mental health services to address basic human needs. In addition to these services, the core of Red Cross disaster relief is the assistance given to individuals and families affected by disaster to enable them to resume their normal daily activities independently.

The Red Cross also feeds emergency workers, handles inquiries from concerned family members outside the disaster area, provides blood and blood products to disaster victims, and helps those affected by disaster to access other available resources.

### Spotlight

**Get Ready for Hurricane Season: Check Out Our Safety Tips Calendar**

[▶ more...](#)

**Safety Information for Rolling Blackouts**

[▶ more...](#)

**The Disaster Operations Center: The Hub of American Red Cross Disaster Relief**

[▶ more...](#)

**National Rapid Response Corps**

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**Disaster Media Slates Now Available for Download**

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**NATIONAL  
FLOOD  
INSURANCE  
PROGRAM**

**Federal Emergency Management Agency**

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Website visitors experiencing accessibility problems are encouraged to send email to [webmaster@fema.gov](mailto:webmaster@fema.gov)

## The NFIP Catastrophe Hotline


The Catastrophe Hotline will provide updates on the NFIP Flood Response Office locations, Adjuster Training, declared counties, and other program information. The number is (800) 316-4806.

### Quick Links

### Audience Type

- ◆ **Consumers**
- ◆ **Insurance Professionals**
- ◆ **Lenders**
- ◆ **State & Local Officials**

### Flood News

- ◆ [Steps For the Assignment of Coverage D - Increased Cost of Compliance Coverage](#) **NEW**
- ◆ [The October 1, 2001 Flood Insurance Manual is now available](#) **NEW**
- ◆ [Due to Overwhelming Response and Member Participation, the NFIP Co-op Advertising Program is Currently Full](#)
- ◆ [Use of Adjuster Preliminary Damage Assessment Form for Substantially Damaged Properties](#) 
- ◆ [Flood Alert Agent Training Station](#)

(If you need the Adobe Acrobat® Reader 5.0 with search and accessibility, you may download it from the [Adobe® web site](#).)

For more information about the National Flood Insurance Program call

[About the NFIP](#)  
[Ask the Expert](#)  
[Flood Insurance Library](#)  
[News & Events](#)  
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1-888-FLOOD29, TDD# 1-800-427-5593.

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Federal Emergency Management Agency



*Visit the Annual Hurricane Expo at Chesapeake Square Mall on March 24-25, 2001!  
Learn how to prepare for Hurricanes.*

## **The Region of Hampton Roads Commonwealth of Virginia**

**[How to be a Hurricane Survivor?](#)**

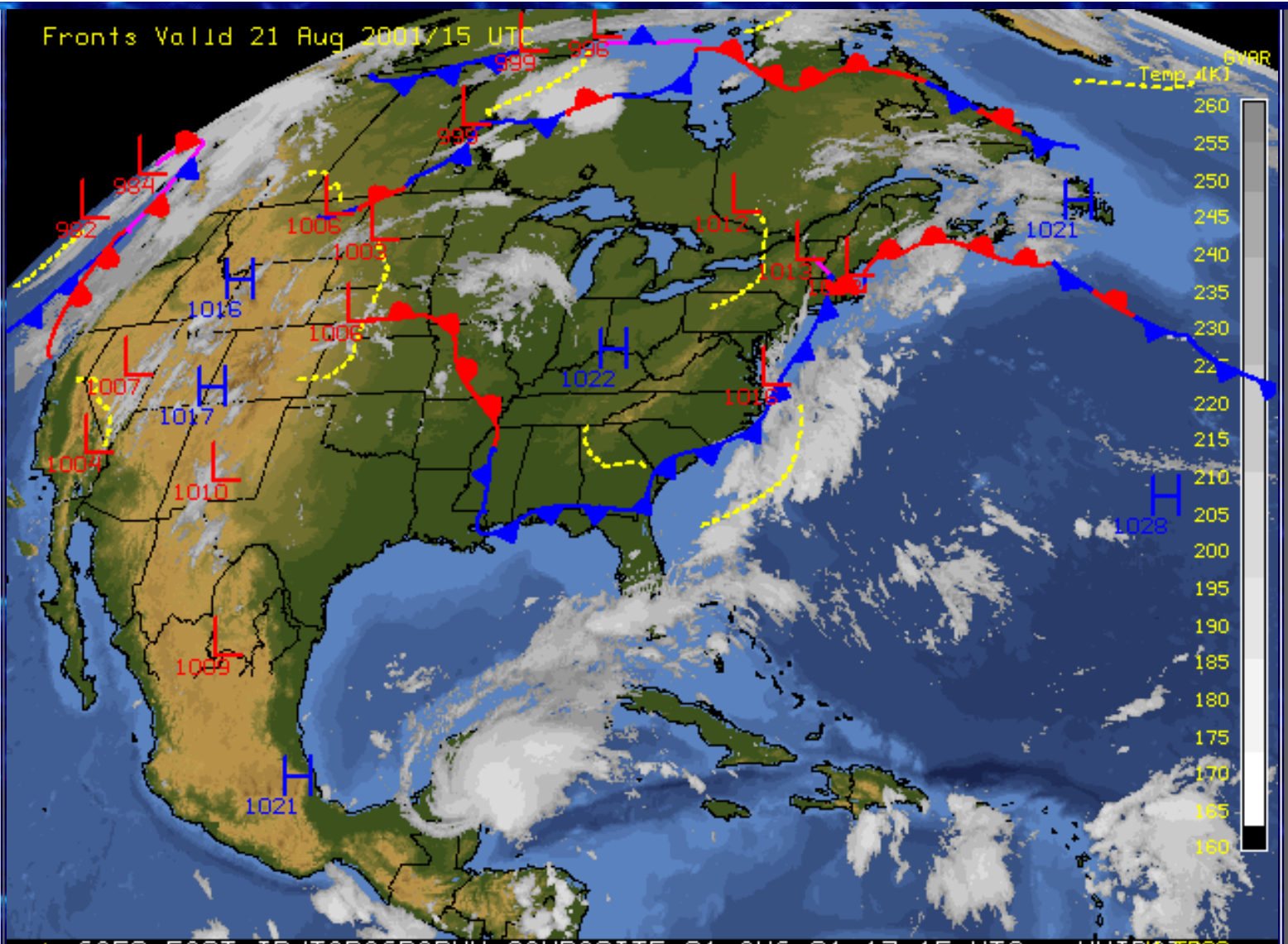
**[Atlantic Seasonal Hurricane Forecast](#)**

**[Should I Evacuate or Stay?](#)**

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Fun for Adults & Kids!

**INFOLINE (757) 640-5555 Category WIND (9463)**

This public safety website is maintained by the [Hampton Roads Planning District Commission](#), in support of local emergency management and in partnership with the city and county governments of Hampton Roads. It is intended to provide awareness and preparedness information from official government sources before, during and after a major emergency or disaster is caused by manmade or natural causes. The website is hosted complements of the [WHRO Center for Public Telecommunications](#), in cooperative agreement with the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission. See the [Web Site Recognitions](#).



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The National Weather Service and NOAA are within the U.S. Dept. of Commerce

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# National Hurricane Center Tropical Prediction Center

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**Our Mission:** To save lives, mitigate property loss, and improve economic efficiency by issuing watches, warnings, forecasts, and analyses of hazardous tropical weather.



## [Hurricane Awareness](#)

Learn about the hazards of hurricanes and what you can do to help protect yourself, your family, and your property.

### Storm Information

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- [US Weather Radar Images](#)
- [Aircraft Reconnaissance Reports](#)
- [2001 Advisory Archive](#)
- [NHC/TPC Wireless Web](#)
- [NHC Advisory E-Mail](#)

### Hurricane Awareness

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Fréquentment Posées](#)
- [NWS Hurricane Awareness](#)
- [NOAA Hurricane Awareness](#)
- [FEMA Tropical Storm Watch](#)
- [Como Preparar Para Un Huracán](#)
- [CDC Hurricane Guide](#)
- [Huracán - Centro Nacional de Salud Ambiental](#)
- [FEMA for Kids: HURRICANES](#)

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[Glossary](#)  
[Acronyms](#)  
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**Historical Information**[Storm Archives](#)[Climatology](#)**Deadliest:**[1492-Now \(Atlantic\)](#)[1900-Now \(USA\)](#)[Most Expensive](#)[Most Intense](#)[U.S. Strikes by Decade](#)[U.S. Strikes by State](#)**NHC/TPC Information**[About the NHC/TPC](#)[Personnel](#)[NOAA Locator](#)[Employment](#)[Opportunities](#)[Visitor Info](#)[NHC Library](#)[W4EHW Amateur](#)[Radio Station](#)[What's New](#)[TPC Anonymous FTP Server](#)[Privacy](#)[Disclaimer](#)

# Active Tropical Systems

Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, Gulf of Mexico, and the Eastern Pacific out to 140°W

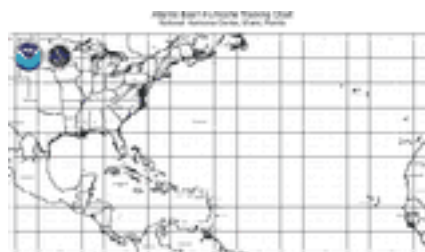
**Atlantic & Caribbean****TROPICAL STORM CHANTAL**[Public](#)[Aviso](#)[Forecast](#)[Discussion](#)[Probabilities](#)[Graphics](#)[Advisory](#)[Advisory](#)[Público\\*](#)[Advisory](#)[Archive](#)**Eastern Pacific**

There are no active tropical systems at this time.

**Central and Western Pacific Tropical Cyclone Centers****Central Pacific (140°W to 180°)**[Central Pacific Hurricane Center](#)**Western Pacific (west of 180°)**[Joint Typhoon Warning Center](#)**Tropical Weather Outlooks**[Atlantic](#) ([en Español\\*](#))[Eastern Pacific](#)\*Spanish translations courtesy of the [NWS San Juan Weather Forecast Office](#)**Tropical Weather Discussions, Marine Forecasts, and SST Analyses**[Tropical Weather Discussions](#)[Marine Forecasts](#)[Sea Surface Temperature Analyses](#)**News and Information**

**Text-only version**[NOAA: 2001 Atlantic Hurricane Outlook Update](#)*Issued 9 August*[NHC/TPC Wireless Website is now available](#)*Announcement*[President Bush Proclaims Hurricane Awareness Week](#)*Press Release***Current Season Summaries and Reports****Atlantic Monthly Summaries**[Jun](#) [Jul](#) Aug Sep Oct Nov**East Pacific Monthly Summaries**[May](#) [Jun](#) [Jul](#) Aug Sep Oct Nov**Preliminary Reports**[Atlantic](#) [East Pacific](#)**Additional Resources**[National Weather Service Links](#)[TPC Publications](#)[Alternate Cyclone Forecast Sites](#)[Hurricane and Natural Disaster](#)[Real-time Weather Sites](#)[Brochures](#)[More Weather-related Links](#)[Radiofax Broadcast Schedule](#)[Mariner's Guide for Hurricane](#)[Awareness](#)*(large file 1.3 MB PDF format)***Tracking Charts**

East Pacific tracking chart

[PDF 296K](#)[Postscript 1.5M](#)

Atlantic tracking chart

[PDF 721K](#)[Postscript 3.8M](#)

These are reduced versions of the actual tracking charts used by the hurricane specialists. You may need to install the free [Acrobat® Reader](#) to view and print the PDF charts.



NHC/TPC is located on the campus of [Florida International University](#), in Miami, Florida.



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[Department of Commerce](#)

The image used for the title graphic is Hurricane Mitch, October 27, 1998, taken by the NOAA-15 satellite. You can find more images like this from the [NOAA Operational Significant Event Imagery Server](#).

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Last updated 14:08:03 UTC Tuesday Aug 21, 2001



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[Stages Of Tropical Development](#)

Tropical storms and hurricanes are easily tracked and characteristically have as long an advance warning period as any weather system. However, their intensity, and speed and direction of motion can quickly change.

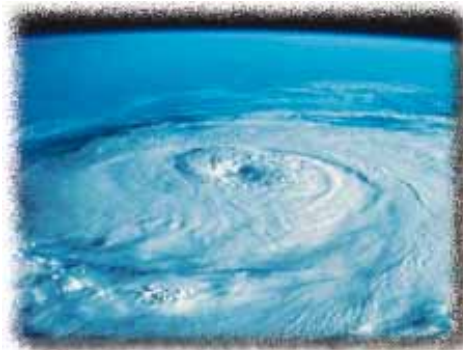
According to Stu Ostro, Senior Meteorologist at The Weather Channel, the North Atlantic Ocean has recently been in a period of increased tropical activity.

During the period from 1995 through 1999, there were 41 hurricanes in the Atlantic, Caribbean, and the Gulf of Mexico, the most on record in a five-year period.

Do you know the [difference](#) between a tropical storm and a hurricane?

Where do tropical storms and hurricanes form? Most that affect the United States originate as tropical disturbances over the tropical or subtropical Atlantic Ocean, the Caribbean Sea, or the Gulf of Mexico. These disturbances build strength when the right set of atmospheric conditions are present.

Tropical storms and hurricanes also form over the eastern Pacific Ocean, and sometimes their remnants reach the southwestern United States.



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## Virginia Hurricane Evacuation Routes

The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June through November. During that period, the eastern part of Virginia is especially at risk for a major storm. The best defense against the danger and destruction caused by hurricanes is preparedness (see the Virginia Department of Emergency Services, [Hurricane Preparedness Home Page](#)).

In addition to paying attention to storm warnings and keeping the proper supplies on hand, residents should know their proper evacuation route. Evacuations can be ordered by local officials if they think an approaching storm will be a safety hazard or cause serious damage.

VDOT has developed an evacuation plan designed to minimize problems caused by heavy traffic. To ensure a successful evacuation residents should leave as early as possible and use routes specified for their area, as follows:

**Middle Peninsula**-Individuals residing in Mathews, Gloucester and Middlesex counties will evacuate along Route 17 north.

**Northern Neck**-Individuals residing in Northumberland, Westmoreland, Lancaster and Richmond counties will evacuate along Route 202 and 203 to Route 3 north toward Fredericksburg.

**Eastern Shore**-All residents of Northampton and Accomack counties will use Route 13 north as the evacuation route. **The Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel is not an evacuation route.**

**Hampton Roads**-Because of the large population and the limited number of highways leading out of Hampton Roads, it is necessary to have a phased evacuation with assigned routes. Determine your assigned evacuation phase then click below or on the map for detailed route information.

- [Phase One](#) evacuation will consist primarily of those residing in the cities of Hampton, Poquoson, Virginia Beach and Norfolk and York County (includes map, 48K).
- [Phase Two](#) will consist of those residing in the city of Newport News, the remainder of Hampton, and the cities of Chesapeake,



Portsmouth and Suffolk (includes  
map, 50K).

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For more details about Hampton Roads area hurricane evacuation routes, contact VDOT at [hamptonroadsinfo@vdot.state.va.us](mailto:hamptonroadsinfo@vdot.state.va.us) For emergency information contact the [Virginia Department of Emergency Services](#) at (804) 897-6510.

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