

Guide for Families August:

Coastal Storms and Hurricanes

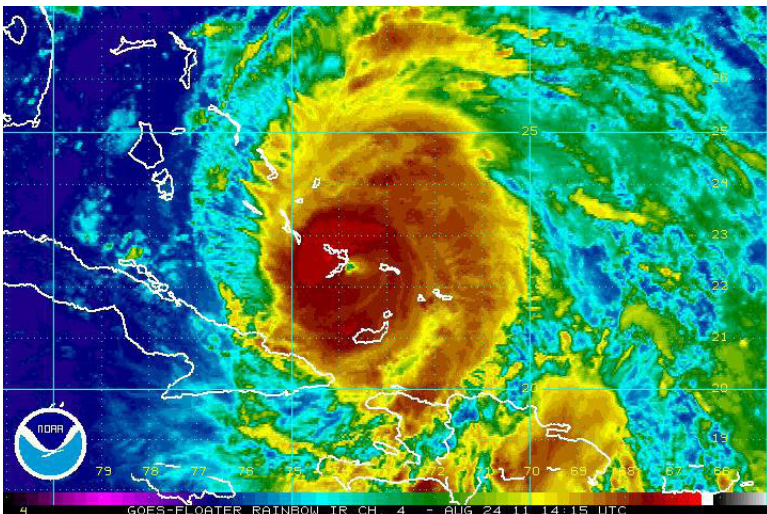
Hurricane Season Is Here!

When it comes to hurricanes, New York is one of the country's most susceptible cities. Each of the five boroughs touches the coastline, making its population vulnerable to wind and flooding. The city's geography is a factor too. The New York and New Jersey coastlines meet at a right angle; this angle basically guides a storm surge directly into New York City. With sustained winds of 74 mph or greater, hurricanes can cause major damage.

Hurricane Words to Know

- **Hurricane:** A tropical cyclone with sustained winds of 74 mph or greater.
- **Hurricane Watch:** An announcement that hurricane conditions are possible within a specified area. Watches are issued 48 hours before tropical storm force winds are predicted, allowing time to take precautions or evacuate.
- **Hurricane Warning:** An announcement that hurricane conditions are expected within a specified area. The warning is issued 36 hours before tropical storm force winds are predicted.
- **Tropical Storm:** A tropical cyclone with sustained winds of 39–73 mph.
- **Tropical Cyclone:** An organized, rotating, low pressure weather system of clouds and thunderstorms that develops in the tropics.

Let's get ready and stay safe if a hurricane heads our way!



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Quick activities to try at home:

- Do you know your hurricane evacuation zone? Visit www.NYC.gov/knowyourzone to find out. Don't stop there, though! Discuss where you would go if an evacuation order was issued for your area and check your Go Bags to make sure they have everything you need.
- A hurricane doesn't always mean evacuation. But your area may still lose power. So it's critical for your family to have an emergency supply kit in case you have to shelter in place. Check yours!

To Learn More:

"Ready New York Hurricanes and New York City" brochure, http://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/ready/guides-resources.page#hurricane_guide

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