



A Hurricane Preparedness Message from Mayor Dean J. Trantalis

As hurricane season begins, I want to remind all of our neighbors that preparation is our best protection.

It's been a long time since our community has truly been impacted by a tropical storm so it is imperative that we remember what to do when a storm approaches and to always be prepared despite our past good fortune.

Meteorologists are expecting tropical storm activity to be above average this year. The Weather Service is predicting 13 to 19 named storms this season, which runs from June 1 through Nov. 30. Of those, six to 10 are expected to reach hurricane strength with three to five becoming major storms of Category 3 strength or higher.

The City of Fort Lauderdale has already taken steps to get ready, from checking stormwater systems and clearing drains to coordinating with emergency response teams and ensuring resources, including pumps, are ready if needed.

Throughout hurricane season, free sandbags are being offered at four locations across the City on the first weekend of every month. Go to fortlauderdale.gov/stormready to watch a video on how to use sandbags effectively to protect your property and other important information.

Now is the time to prepare your home and family. Check your hurricane supplies, review your emergency plans, and stay informed by signing up for alerts at fortlauderdale.gov/alertftl. We also encourage you to follow the City's social media accounts for the latest updates before, during and after a storm.

Make sure you know whether you live in an evacuation zone. If you do, have a plan on where you will go if an evacuation order is issued. Now is the time to update an inventory of your home, ensure your insurance policies are current, address vulnerabilities on your property and gather enough food and water that will last you and your family three to five days.

Living in paradise comes with added responsibilities. It means we must take storm season seriously. Together, we can ensure that our community stays safe, strong and resilient no matter what comes our way.

Stay safe and stay prepared.

Dean J. Trantalis
Mayor

