

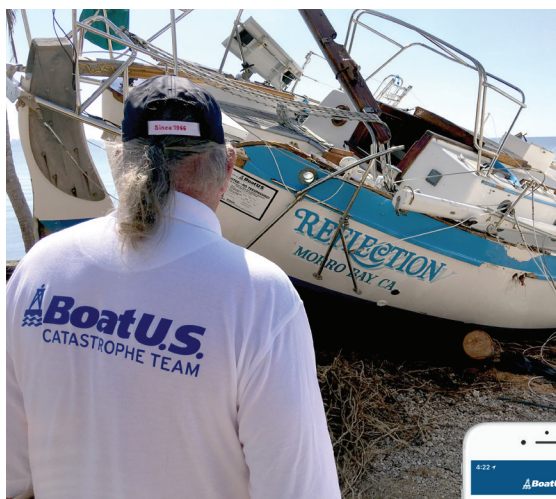
TIPS FOR PROTECTING BOATS IN HURRICANES

Before the Storm

- ☐ Relocate the boat if necessary, and secure it as outlined in your hurricane plan included on the back of this page.
- ☐ Check that deck scuppers and drains are open and unobstructed and the boat is positioned so that rainwater will drain from the deck and cockpit.
- ☐ Reduce windage as much as possible by removing sails and canvas as well as dodger and bimini frames.
- ☐ Clear the decks of anything that can blow away, including deck chairs and cushions, jerry cans, watersports equipment, dinghies, small outboards, and fishing equipment.
- ☐ Make the boat watertight. Seal any openings where water could get into the interior or the engine, including hatches, portlights, ventilators, and exhaust outlets.
- ☐ Close interior seacocks/valves including those for the engine, toilet, and sinks.
- ☐ Top up batteries and ensure that any electric bilge pumps are operational; clean all debris from the bilge to prevent clogging of the pumps.
- ☐ Remove all valuables from the boat including electronics and fishing equipment as well as registration and other important documents, and store them at home.
- ☐ Limit potential environmental damage by removing portable gasoline tanks, oil containers, paint cans, and other hazardous chemicals.
- ☐ Lock the boat, but if the boat is in a marina, be sure to leave a spare key with the marina manager so he/she can get aboard after the storm, if necessary.
- ☐ Update all contact information with your marina manager and ask how you will be informed when you can return to your boat.

After the Storm

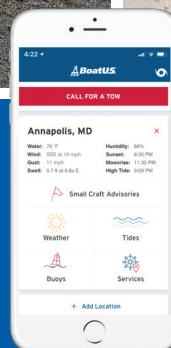
- ☐ If your boat is in a marina, access is likely to be restricted until the immediate dangers have been addressed. For your own safety, don't attempt to enter before the restrictions are lifted.
- ☐ Once you know the status of your boat, contact your insurance company if you need to file a claim. Be sure to alert your agent to any potential environmental hazards.
- ☐ Take a complete set of photos of the boat's situation and any visible damage.
- ☐ If possible, secure the boat against further damage, or ask your marina to do so.
- ☐ If there is any chance water has gotten into the engine, have it flushed and pickled as soon as possible.
- ☐ Dry water-damaged areas and items as soon as you get access to the boat to limit mold growth.
- ☐ If you are insured and your boat needs to be salvaged, do not sign any contracts or make any agreements. First inform your insurance company and let it negotiate with the marina or salvor.



For more information, visit

BoatUS.com/Hurricanes

WestMarine.com/WestAdvisor/Hurricane-Preparation



Download the BoatU.S. App for Hurricane Alerts, One-Touch Towing Dispatch, your Digital Membership Card, and More.

BoatU.S.com/App



BOAT OWNER'S HURRICANE PLAN

Date ____/____/____

Use this worksheet and adapt it to your own circumstances. Then be sure to distribute copies to your alternate contact as well as your marina owner/manager.

 Boat's Name: _____ Length: _____ Model: _____
 Boat's Registration #: _____ Manufacturer: _____
 Your Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____

Alternate Contact/Caretakers (if you are not available):

 Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Has boat keys? _____ Access to Hurricane Equipment? _____

Boat's Normal Location During Hurricane Season:

 Location / Marina: _____
 Address: _____
 Slip # _____

List All Equipment Needed Aboard to Prepare Boat:

Equipment	Current Location
1. Docklines	_____
3. Chafe guards/snubbers	_____
4. Chain/mooring equipment	_____
5. Batteries/chargers	_____
6. Generators/inverters	_____
7. Gas jugs	_____
8. Coolers	_____
9. Bilge pumps	_____
10. Flashlights	_____
11. First-aid Kit	_____

List All Equipment Needed To Be Stripped from Boat:

Equipment	Storage Location
1. Electronics	_____
2. Dinghy	_____
3. Outboard/fuel	_____
4. Sails	_____
5. Bimini	_____
6. Galley fuel	_____
7. Ship's papers	_____
8. Personal effects	_____
9. _____	_____
10. _____	_____

Boat's Location During a Hurricane:

 Location / marina: _____
 Address: _____
 Slip #: _____

If at a Hurricane Hole:

 Travel time by water from present location: _____
 Are there any bridges? _____
 If yes, will they open prior to hurricane? _____
 Has owner of surrounding land been contacted? _____
 How will the skipper get ashore? _____
 Type of bottom: _____ Depth: _____
 Additional anchor(s) needed #: _____ Size(s): _____
 Types(s): _____
 Additional lines(s) #: _____ Length: _____ Size: _____
 Additional chain(s) #: _____ Length: _____ Size: _____
 Chafe gear: _____ Swivel: _____ Shackle(s): _____

If at a Mooring/Anchorage:

 Has mooring been inspected within the last six months? _____
 How will the skipper get ashore? _____
 Type of bottom: _____ Depth: _____
 Additional anchor(s) needed #: _____ Size(s): _____
 Types(s): _____
 Additional lines(s) #: _____ Length: _____ Size: _____
 Additional chain(s) #: _____ Length: _____ Size: _____
 Chafe gear: _____ Swivel: _____ Shackle(s): _____

Diagram of Proposed Hurricane Docking/Mooring Arrangement:



If Stored Ashore:

 Windage reduced by stripping sails, gurling gear, bimini, antennas? _____
 Blocking adequate for storm conditions? _____