

## **HURRICANE / DISASTER PROCEDURES For Soniat Realty, Inc. Tenants**

### **Make Your Plan Now**

The key to safely and properly handling any emergency/disaster is pre-planning and staying calm during and after the event. Being prepared is every individual's responsibility. Don't rely only on the authorities. Advanced planning allows for fewer mistakes and greater safety for you, your family, and your home. There are many new residents of the New Orleans area who haven't experienced a hurricane. Hopefully, this info will help you get prepared.

### **Hurricane/Storm Watch/Storm Warning**

When living in Louisiana, the chances of experiencing a hurricane or heavy storm are always possible. It is important to know and follow proper procedures to safeguard yourself and the property you live in and minimize potential risk and damage.

A **Hurricane Storm Watch** is when Hurricanes are possible in the specified area of the watch, usually within 36 hours.

A **Hurricane Storm Warning** is when Hurricane conditions are expected in the specified area of the warning, usually within 24 hours.

### **What You Can Do**

Everything an owner would do to protect the property, the tenant is expected to do. *The first priority is to stop additional damage.* We have many thunder and lightning storms, power outages and high winds. An emergency can happen at any time. Be prepared.

Because we get advance warning for Hurricanes, many people choose to leave town. If you leave, you still must secure the property prior to leaving. If there is an evacuation we will be posting messages on our website [www.SoniatRealty.com](http://www.SoniatRealty.com).

Please email to [Contactus@SoniatRealty.com](mailto:Contactus@SoniatRealty.com) your updated contact info, cell #, emergency contact # and your email address or call us at 504.488-8988.

## **HURRICANE / DISASTER PROCEDURES**

Have an emergency preparedness plan, a checklist and storm kit. Stay tuned to the local news media and follow all recommended precautions and instructions.

### **Before the storm:**

1. Keep a supply of water, non-perishable food, and batteries
2. Have a battery or solar powered radio & flashlight
3. Make sure you have a non-electrical can opener
4. Secure all outside items. Bring in the swing sets, play houses, small planters, garbage cans and anything that could turn into a flying object during high winds
5. Secure house against damage. Follow all recommendations by the local news and the emergency preparedness teams for your area
6. Take all recommended precautions by the local news media and storm bulletin publications.
7. If you have pets they should be secured. If it is not safe for you outside, it is not safe for your pets either. If you are leaving the property, do not leave your pets behind.

### **During the storm:**

1. Remain indoors
2. Listen to radio for information from local authorities
3. Avoid all downed electrical and telephone wires
4. If you use a generator, do not operate it inside or under a carport
5. Evacuate when necessary

### **If you evacuate:**

1. Turn off main breaker to your unit or home
2. Turn off main water supply to house, if unit is separately metered. If not separately metered, turn off at each fixture, including laundry area
3. Lock and secure property
4. Take your personal records, identifications, insurance policies
5. Remove perishables from refrigerator/freezer or put them in a strong plastic bag before placing them back into refrigerator/freezer.

**It is important that tenants take self-help actions to protect their family and themselves during times of emergency, such as floods and hurricanes. Properties will not be boarded up by owner or manager.**