

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 management or 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

We have many thunder and lightning storms, power outages and high winds so anything an owner would do to protect the property, the tenant is expected to do. *The first priority is to stop additional damage.* 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.

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Have an emergency preparedness plan, a checklist and storm kit. Stay tuned to the local news media and follow all recommended precautions and instructions. For more details go to www.GetAGamePlan.org & download their free GetAGamePlan app.

Before the storm:

1. Update your contact info, including your email address, in your Customer Portal on SoniatRealty.com website. If you need assistance with this, please email contactus@soniatrealty.com. We periodically use email updates to our customers so having current information is important.
2. Keep a supply of water, not-perishable food, and batteries
3. Have a solar powered, hand crank or battery operated radio & flashlight
4. Make sure you have a non-electrical can opener
5. Secure all outside items. Bring in the swing sets, play houses, outdoor furniture, small planters, items on balconies, garbage cans and anything that could turn into a flying object during high winds
6. Secure house against damage. 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
8. Get some cash in case ATM machines are not functioning
9. Fill your vehicle gas tank before the storm arrives
10. Clean out catch basins near your house to allow for better drainage
11. Gather important documents: birth certificate, driver's license, social security card, insurance papers, etc.
12. First Aid Kit
13. Fill Prescriptions

During the storm:

1. Remain indoors
2. Listen to radio for information from local authorities (870 AM or 101.9 FM)
3. Avoid all downed electrical and telephone wires
4. If you use a generator, do not operate it inside or under a carport or overhang
5. Fill bathtub and containers with water in event water is turned off
6. 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, medications, 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.

Visit: <https://www.weather.gov/safety/hurricane-plan> for additional info