

## CONTRACTORS NEWSFLASH

### Storm Preparedness

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When severe weather hits, will your job site be ready?

Buildings under construction are at high risk of catastrophic damage during a hurricane. Materials and debris can become projectiles, and expensive equipment may be lost or damaged.

Don't wait for last minute to protect your project from an approaching hurricane. You need to be prepared!

Construction sites should be secured, and swales are free flowing and are not obstructed in any way and check all appropriate erosion/sediment control measures as needed.

#### Secure Structures and Equipment

Once the National Weather Service issues a Hurricane Watch, it's time to prepare your job site for the storm ahead.

- Use rope, sandbags, ground anchors and other items to weigh down materials that could easily fly away.
- Cover materials with plastic sheeting, netting or garbage bags to prevent water damage.
- Stack loose materials together and secure them with rope or duct tape to keep them from dispersing.
- Complete work on partially completed structures to minimize damage, if time allows.

#### Remove Materials and Equipment When Possible

If you're able to remove loose materials or expensive equipment, do so immediately after a Hurricane Warning is announced.

- Have your construction dumpster picked up or cover the container with a tarp.
- Remove or tie down portable bathrooms.
- Remove hazardous chemicals to prevent them from being released into the environment.
- Remove materials, tools or equipment that can be damaged by rising water.
- Remove or move heavy equipment and machinery to a garage if available.

- Tear down and store light-weight fence screens and job site signage.
- Move any portable electronics, job site plans and other important documents from the construction trailer to a safe location offsite.
- Turn off power to the site and make sure fuel is available for power generators.

### Safeguard the Building Structure

Now that you've secured or removed materials and equipment, it's time to defend the structure. Whether you're working on a renovation or constructing a new building, water can significantly damage the interior.

- Board up door and window openings.
- Tarp or board up any other large openings.
- Place sandbags around the perimeter of the structure as reinforcement.

Hurricane preparedness is essential for a safe construction site and the neighboring properties. Thank you in advance for being a good neighbor in your community.