

# SURFSIDE FLOOD INFORMATION

## LOCAL FLOOD HAZARD

Storm surge may flood the entire Town. Any storm surges experienced here will most likely be as a result of a hurricane or tropical storm, typically from June 1 through November 30 each year. Other flooding can occur due to heavy rains over a short period of time, especially at times of high tide.

## TOWN FLOOD SERVICES

To assist residents in understanding the National Flood Insurance Program and the effects on construction, remodeling and maintaining buildings, the Town offers the following services to residents: Access to the Flood Insurance Rate Maps to show if our property is in a Special Flood Hazard area, and if it is susceptible to coastal erosion, consultations on the Substantial Damage/Improvement 50% rule, elevation certificates, flood mitigation financial assistance advice, general information and brochures. Town Staff will offer advice and visit properties upon request to review its flood problem and explain ways to stop or prevent flood damage. Please contact the Town's Building Department at (305) 861-4863, Ext. 231.

## DRAINAGE SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

A serious risk to the safety of residents is the blockage of catch basins by debris which prevents proper drainage of storm water. The Town sweeps the streets twice a month and monitors all catch basins after each storm event. As a resident you can help by not placing lawn cuttings or any other debris by the curb on the weekend. This is a violation of the Town Code. Please contact Town Hall (305) 861-4863 if you see or know of anyone illegally dumping materials/debris into any catch basins within the Town.

## FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM

In cases where flooding might occur during emergency situations, local radio and television stations will provide critical information as part of the Emergency Broadcast System. Emergency information and evacuation routes are available through the Miami Dade County Office of Emergency Management, (305) 468-5400 or on the Town's website at [www.townofsursidefl.gov](http://www.townofsursidefl.gov). In the event of a hurricane, all residents are required to evacuate when ordered by the Mayor of Miami-Dade County. Each resident should make plans well in advance of the emergency. Public emergency shelters should be your last resort. You can call the Surfside Resident Storm Hotline at (305) 993-1070.

## FLOOD SAFETY

Stay away from power lines and electrical wires! The number two flood killer after drowning is electrocution. Electrical current can travel through water.

- Immediately report downed power lines to Florida Power & Light (FPL) at 1-800-468-8243 or to the Town's Police Department (305) 861-4862.
- Look out for animals, especially snakes! Small animals that have been flooded out of their homes may seek shelter in yours.
- Look before you step! After a flood, the ground and floors are covered with debris including broken glass and nails. Floors and stairs that have been covered with mud can be very slippery.
- Be alert for gas leaks! Don't smoke or use candles lanterns or open flames until the gas has been turned off and the area has been ventilated.

## PROPERTY PROTECTION

It is imperative that you know what to do to minimize flood damage. "Flood proofing" means making physical alterations to your building that improves the ability of property and structures to withstand the damages caused by flooding. You should take action now to minimize losses to your property and possessions. Dry flood proofing includes sealing or waterproofing with special materials and compounds which provide a chemical or physical barrier against water intrusion during times of flooding. Construction of a small flood wall or earthen berm, or redirecting drainage to keep water away from the building is another example of property protection. Call the Town Building Department at (305) 861-4863 for more information or search the Miami-Dade County Library for "Flood" information.

## FLOOD INSURANCE

Property losses due to flooding are not covered under standard homeowners' or renters' insurance policies. Two types of flood insurance coverage are available; building and contents coverage. Contents coverage should be purchased by renters. Flood insurance coverage may be mandatory for some mortgage loans. If you don't have flood insurance for your property and its contents, contact your insurance agent. Information is also available from the [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov) website. Don't wait until the next flood is coming to buy flood insurance protection as there is usually a 30-day waiting period before a flood insurance policy takes effect.

**For more information go to the Surfside website:  
[www.townofsursidefl.gov/how-do-i/hurricane-and-flood-information](http://www.townofsursidefl.gov/how-do-i/hurricane-and-flood-information)**