



# RESIDENTIAL STORM PREPARATION TIPS

## FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM

The St. Petersburg region depends on the National Weather Service (NWS) for flood threat recognition. The NWS (Ruskin, Florida) issues flood advisories when expected rainfall could overflow drainage systems and cause isolation of structures due to ponding of flood waters. Local radio and television stations routinely broadcast flood threat advisories issued by the NWS. Radio station 100.7 WMTX-FM is the primary Emergency Alert System station for the Tampa Bay Area. In addition, the city's ST. PETE-TV government access channel provides city-specific information, as does the city's website at [www.stpete.org](http://www.stpete.org). These government access channels may issue flood warning information in support of emergency operations that may be implemented.

## FLOOD SAFETY

If you are advised to evacuate, turn off utilities at the main switches or valves. Disconnect electrical appliances, but do not touch any electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water. Avoid fast flowing water or unstable banks.

## WHAT TO DO

### Flood Warning Stage

- Keep tuned to local stations for evacuation information.
- Avoid putting rescue workers at risk—obey evacuation orders.
- Store drinking water in sterile, covered containers.
- Move valuable objects higher. Place them on shelves, tables and counter tops.
- Fuel your vehicle and check oil and water.

### During the Flood Stage

- If flood waters threaten to enter your house, turn off electricity at main circuit box.
- Stay on higher ground.
- Do not drive on a flooded road.
- Do not attempt to wade in water above your knees.

### After the Flood

- Do not return to your home until officials give the "All Clear."
- Do not eat food that has come into contact with flood water. Use your non-perishable food.
- Drink only bottled or previously stored water.
- Stay away from disaster areas.
- Do not handle live electrical equipment.
- Report downed power lines.
- Keep tuned to local stations for emergency information.