

AFTER THE STORM

The time immediately after a hurricane is stressful for everyone. After a hurricane the property may have been with out electricity for a number of days. Phone service may be out. Damages may exist to the building exterior and interior of units. Vehicles may be damaged. Glass and Debris may be scattered throughout the property. The docks and boats may be damaged. The Sea Wall may be compromised. Trees may be down and the landscape may be in a shambles. The recreation area may need cleaning / repairs and the pool may be out of service for a number of days. Garbage pickup may be delayed. Singer Island may not be open until some days after the storm.

Do not call the office for storm damage updates. We will have our hands full attending to disaster clean up. Please check the TV / Internet news or call your apartment watcher. Once power and phone service is restored we will post storm damage information on the Sugar Sands Web Site at <http://www.sugarsands.org>. The Association will attend to assessing exterior building damages and landscape damages. Hazardous conditions to the entire community will be handled first. You or your apartment watcher can help by providing the office with a written list of interior unit damages.

Do not enter the property or the units alone; always have a second person with you. If for some reason the area you are in becomes unsafe leave immediately. Please remember do not enter any area where power lines are down or other hazardous conditions exist.

Once you or your apartment watcher can safely enter the property and your unit the following check list will be helpful:

Check each box as you accomplish the task

- If power is off, immediately turn all electric breakers off and turn off your air Conditioning unit. This will avoid damage to your electrical components should there be a power surge when electric is restored.
- Make a list and provide the office a written report of sparking electrical fixtures or wiring, loose ceiling or wall components, broken windows and any other item that may be damaged or hazardous to your safety. **Do not attempt to resolve the problem without notifying the office.**
- Check for foul odors and mold. Make arrangements to remove any wet or damp articles that can not be dried. This includes rugs, furniture, clothing and any other item subject to mold. This will decrease the possibility of further damage to your unit. Pictures of damaged items are an excellent way to present future insurance claims.
- Check your refrigerator or freezer for perishable goods. A 48 hour power outage is generally long enough to make most perishables inedible. **If in doubt toss it out. Please double bag all food items that you are throwing out.**
- Check with local authorities to see if a boil water edict is in effect and if the property sewer system is functioning. Riviera Beach Utilities Department 561-845-4185
- When you undertake cleanup of your unit, wear appropriate protective clothing, goggles, boots etc. The most dangerous time of a storm is immediately after the storm. Never mix bleach and ammonia. The fumes can be lethal. Wash or discard clothing used during cleanup. Wash your hands frequently.
- Once power is restored, have a qualified electrician and/or air conditioning service person check appliances for problems. Only qualified personnel should go on the roof area to check an air conditioning unit. Ductwork should be cleaned /checked for mold.
- After initial review of your unit it may be necessary to take up residence outside the Condominium complex.
- The office may not be capable of giving assistance to personal property needs in a timely fashion. Be considerate.