



FAQs Hurricane Sandy 2012 Updated Saturday, Oct 27, 3:00pm

Do I have to evacuate?

The State Office of Emergency Management has issued a mandatory evacuation order for the barrier islands of Cape May County, including Ocean City. Everyone must be off the island by 4:00 pm on Sunday.

What happens if I choose not to evacuate?

This is a mandatory evacuation; if you ignore the evacuation, you place your life and the life of First Responders in jeopardy.

Where will the shelters be?

Residents are asked to make every effort to arrange for temporary lodging off the island with family or friends.

The City will open a staging shelter at Ocean City High School after 9:00 a.m. on Sunday morning, to transport residents to the County shelter at Upper Township Middle School.

The Upper Township Middle School shelter will open after 1:00 p.m. on Sunday for Ocean City residents with transportation.

I live out of Ocean City when can I secure and inspect my home in Ocean City?

Access to Ocean City for those who need to secure properties will be maintained throughout the day on Saturday. Everyone must be off the island by 4:00 pm on Sunday. We ask that after the storm you do not return until notified by local media and the city's website that it is safe to return.

What is the status of the storm?

The threat from Hurricane Sandy continues to increase for our region. There continues to be a growing threat of damaging winds, very heavy rainfall and record coastal flooding affecting our region early next week. We ask residents and second homeowners to monitor weather forecasts as Hurricane Sandy approaches. Residents and business owners should take preparation for potential high winds and flooding.

Residents, contractors and business should secure or remove loose items such as patio furniture, flags, lawn signs, building materials, etc.

Be prepared to move vehicles to higher ground. Be advised that some areas of Ocean City that normally are safe for parking vehicles may **not** be high enough for this storm.

Power may be lost. Please be prepared for an extended period of time without power.

Where can I get information during a power outage?

Please check the City's website www.ocnj.us from battery operated devices. Longport media radio station WOND will broadcast storm and emergency information on radio stations 1400 AM with simulcasts during a storm on 102.7 FM.

What should I do with my pets?

If you leave, pets should go with the family. The essential needs of your pets should also be included in emergency kits.

How far inland should I go?

You should use your best judgment and go to the homes of friends or family where you feel safe.

Do I have to turn off my Utilities (Electric/Gas)?

No this is not recommended. However, if you evacuate your home, please turn off all unnecessary electrical appliances.

Should I turn off my water?

New Jersey American Water encourages customers to take the following steps: conserve water, fill your bathtub with water in case your water service is disrupted, and, in this, and any emergency, know where the main water shut off valve is and be sure to shut off water if evacuating.

Will my trash & recycling be picked up?

The trash and recycling pickup for Monday 10/29 and Tuesday 10/30 has been cancelled.

Can we go to the beach during the storm?

Beaches will be closed until further notice is provided. No one should enter the ocean.

Are Ocean City Schools closed?

All Ocean City Public Schools will be closed on Monday, Oct 29 and Tuesday, Oct 30. Please check www.oceancityschools.org for updates on closures and storm status.

Are any events cancelled?

The Dog of the Year ceremony has been postponed from Sunday October 28 to Sunday, November 4.

Dune grass planting scheduled for Sunday October 28 is postponed until further notice.

Recreation events Saturday evening are cancelled.

Greater Ocean City Theatre Company Weekend Performances cancelled

Art Club Haunted City Hall Cancelled

Upper Township Trick or Trot 5k Cancelled

Will we need to show identification to enter the City?

Access to Ocean City will not be determined by residency. Please check www.ocnj.us for updates on closures and storm status.

Will the Ocean City Community Center be closed?

The Ocean City Community Center, including the Ocean City Aquatic and Fitness Center, Free Public Library, Arts Center and Historic Museum will be closed Sunday, Oct. 28 through Tuesday, Oct 30. Please stay tuned to Ocean City Channel 2 and www.ocnj.us for updates on closures and storm status.

Are Utility Companies turning off Electric and Gas?

The gas company will not be shutting off service to Ocean City. Atlantic City Electric does not plan to turn off electric. However, if the severity of the storm may cause the electricity to be turned off to avoid potential damages. Neither utility service will cut power to force evacuation.

Where do foreign workers go?

Employers of foreign workers concerned about flooding or power outages are requested to assist their employees in leaving Ocean City to a safe location.

What time are the high tides?

Bay High tides of concern are 7:50 AM Sunday Morning ;8:09 PM Sunday night; 8:27 AM Monday Morning; 8:46 PM Monday Night; 9:02 AM Tuesday morning; 9:23 PM Tuesday Night. These high tides will be severe due to the Full Moon, heavy rains and winds.