General Preparedness — Facilities

Identifying Hurricane Hazards and Risks

I. Natural Hazards:  
Associated Heavy Rains, Flooding, Destructive Winds, and High Surf are likely to impact the Virgin Islands before, during, and even after a Hurricane.

II. Health Hazards:  
Individuals who are sick or relatives who are housing sick individuals, especially with the now prevalent COVID-19 Virus, may face challenges with securing medical care and isolated incubation during and after a Hurricane.  
Flood Waters and Standing Waters pose risks and breed infectious disease.

III. Human Caused Hazards:  
Accidents, Acts of Violence and other human influenced incidents that may interfere with emergency relief efforts are likely to occur before and after a hurricane.

IV. Technology-related Hazards:  
Power Outages and Equipment Failure are the most common hazards faced during hurricane events.

Hurricanes are Massive Storm Systems

Keeping Your Facility Safe

Establishing a Hurricane Preparedness Plan will help prepare your workplace for potential impacts from Hurricanes and ensure safety for your employees.

- Reduce Property Damage by reinforcing roof, windows, doors, ceilings and storage units.
- Keep Generators and Alternate Power/Heat sources outside 20 feet away from windows and doors.
- Post Emergency and Safety Signs in visible locations for both patrons and employees.
- Secure and stow away important physical documents, mechanical tools, and electronics.

#Preparedness

Disaster Preparedness Tips

⇒ Create a Hurricane Supply Kit
⇒ Prepare your Organization
⇒ Set-Up VITEMA Storm Alerts
⇒ COVID-19 Vaccination Appointment

For more information on OSHA Hurricane Preparedness related questions please contact VI Division Of Occupational Safety and Health Email: USAFE@dol.vi.gov
General Preparedness—Personnel

The United States Virgin Islands Hurricane Season begins as early as June 1 and ends on November 30, with the peak being August 10 - Oct. 10.

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Hurricanes are Massive Storm Systems

Keeping Your Home Safe

Hurricane winds can cause significant property damage, increasing the likelihood of unsafe conditions and hazardous environments.

- Chainsaws: Working Safely with Chainsaws Fact Sheet
- Hand Hygiene Quick Card
- Ladder Safety Quick Card™
- Sandbags: Filling, Moving and Placing Sandbags During Flooding Disasters Fact Sheet
- Tree Care Work Hazards - Hazard Bulletin

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#Prepardeness

Staying Safe During a Disaster

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**Hurricanes are Massive Storm Systems**

### Generator Safety

Portable generators are useful when temporary or remote power is needed, especially during the cleanup or recovery efforts following natural disasters such as Hurricanes. It is important to always follow tips and guidelines that allow you to safely observe and properly operate a generator.

**Generator Safety: Using Portable Generators Safely Fact Sheet**

**Generator Safety: Grounding Requirements for Portable Generators Fact Sheet**

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**Fall Prevention with Ladders**

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