



4145 Highmarket Street / Georgetown, SC 29440  
456 Clearwater Drive / Pawleys Island, SC 29585

Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Customer Service: 546-8408

Administrative: 237-9727

[www.gcwsd.com](http://www.gcwsd.com)

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## YOUR FAMILY AND HURRICANES

Hurricanes are extremely dangerous storms, but knowing the warning messages associated with hurricanes and having a plan in place before hurricane season begins can reduce the chances of experiencing injury or major property damage.

Make sure that all family members know how to prepare for and respond to a hurricane. Teach them how and when to turn off all household utilities, such as electricity, water and gas. Also, teach them how and when to call 9-1-1 for the police or the fire department and which radio station to listen to emergency information.

## HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

During and after a hurricane, there is always a possibility that your home's water supply could become contaminated and unsafe for consumption. As soon as a hurricane's landfall is imminent or evacuation notices are issued during a hurricane warning, you can further protect the home water supply and minimize property damage by taking the following precautions:

- Store drinking water in clean, non-corrosive, tightly covered containers. Plan to store at least three gallons of water per person for each day you may be without drinking water. Store containers in a dark, cool location.
- Fill your home's bathtubs for all non-drinking water use.
- Shut off and secure all outside faucets. Remove and store all water hoses, sprinklers and lawn furniture that could become dangerous in high winds in a safe location.
- Protect your hot water heater and all household appliances by switching off the electrical circuit breakers.
- Turn off the water at the gate valve, which is usually located close to the meter box on the house side of the meter box. You may also have a valve just outside the point where the service line penetrates the foundation of your house. It is recommended that this also be turned off.
- Turn off your irrigation timer.

## GCWSD AND YOUR WATER SUPPLY

The Georgetown County Water and Sewer District (GCWSD) will be storing emergency water supplies by filling all GCWSD elevated storage tanks to capacity. Emergency preparedness generators will also be fueled to keep them operational if there is a loss of power.

Water supplies will be available to customers in the time leading up to the impending storm unless and until specific areas, such as the barrier islands, are evacuated. If certain areas are evacuated, in order to prevent contamination, GCWSD will shut down and seal off the distribution system serving those areas. Stay tuned to news sources for information about when and where service will be interrupted.

## AFTER A HURRICANE

Inspect your utilities after a hurricane has made landfall and left our immediate area. If you suspect water pipes and/or sewage lines are damaged, avoid using the facilities and call GCWSD at 546-8408.

## HURRICANE EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

- First aid kit and needed medication
- Battery operated radio
- Flashlight
- Extra batteries
- Emergency food and at least three gallons of water per person for each day you could be without water
- Non-electric can opener
- Cash and credit cards
- Protective clothing, rainwear and bedding