

# Jones-Onslow Electric Membership Corporation



## Disaster Preparedness Information And Hurricane Tracking Chart



A Touchstone Energy® Partner



*The next time disaster strikes, you may not have much time to act. Prepare now for a sudden emergency.*

*Learn how to protect yourself and cope with disaster by planning ahead. Discuss these ideas with your family, then prepare an emergency plan. Post the plan where everyone will see it—on the refrigerator or bulletin board.*

*For additional information about how to prepare for hazards in your community, contact the local emergency management office or your local chapter of the American Red Cross.*

### Before the Storm

- A Hurricane Alert is announced when a tropical storm poses a possible threat to an area. If the hurricane is believed to be an appreciable threat, the area is put on a Hurricane Watch. Tune to your local news stations for further advisories.
- A Hurricane Warning is issued when it is expected an area will be hit by a hurricane. At this time, all safety precautions should be taken. If you live in a low-lying area prone to flooding, be ready to evacuate early. Pre-storm rains and flooding may cut off if you don't move soon enough.
- If you are asked to evacuate, do so as quickly as possible. Bring necessary medications and such children's needs as diapers and baby food. Also bring blankets and pillows.
- Stay away from beaches or other low areas which may be flooded by high tides. Haul boats out of water and tie down or strongly moor them.
- Mobile homes are particularly vulnerable to winds of hurricane force. You should move to safe shelter when a hurricane warning is given. Secure all outdoor objects and awnings over doors and windows, and tape or board windows and doors but do not stay in your mobile home during a hurricane.
- Stay at home if your house is safe from high water and flash flooding. Bring in everything that could blow away - garbage cans, tools, furniture and plants. Remove limbs from trees that could damage your house or utility wires. When taking down limbs or antennas, keep in mind that the slightest contact with a power line can cause a fatal electrical shock.
- Turn your refrigerator and freezer to colder settings. Open only when absolutely necessary and close quickly. If used carefully, a good refrigerator/freezer can maintain food-preserving temperatures up to two days without electricity. Fill empty spaces with frozen plastic jugs of clean water.
- Prepare your emergency water supply. Sterilize the bathtub and other bottles, pots and containers. Scrub thoroughly, let dry and fill with water. Boil this water before drinking.
- Secure garage doors, shutters, awnings and brace sliding glass doors. Board windows securely with good lumber.

### During the Storm

- Stay indoors. Don't go out at all, except in emergencies.
- Keep a window slightly open in your house or apartment on the side opposite the direction the wind is blowing in order to provide ventilation and to prevent certain types of wind damage. If a window is blown out, open a window on the opposite side of the house to prevent further damage (this is for tornado situations that may arise due to a hurricane).
- If the electricity goes out, use flashlights instead of candles or kerosene lamps when possible. And be careful with cooking flames. A gust of wind through a door or window could start a fire and the fire department may not be readily available during the hurricane.
- If the eye of the hurricane passes directly over your area, skies may clear and there may be a lull in the wind that lasts a few minutes to half an hour. Remain in a safe place. If absolutely necessary, make emergency repairs quickly. Be careful, the wind will return from the opposite direction suddenly and maybe with even greater force.
- Keep tuned to your local news stations for up-to-the-minute advisories and remain indoors or in a shelter until the all clear announcement is given. Use your phone for emergencies only.

### After the Storm

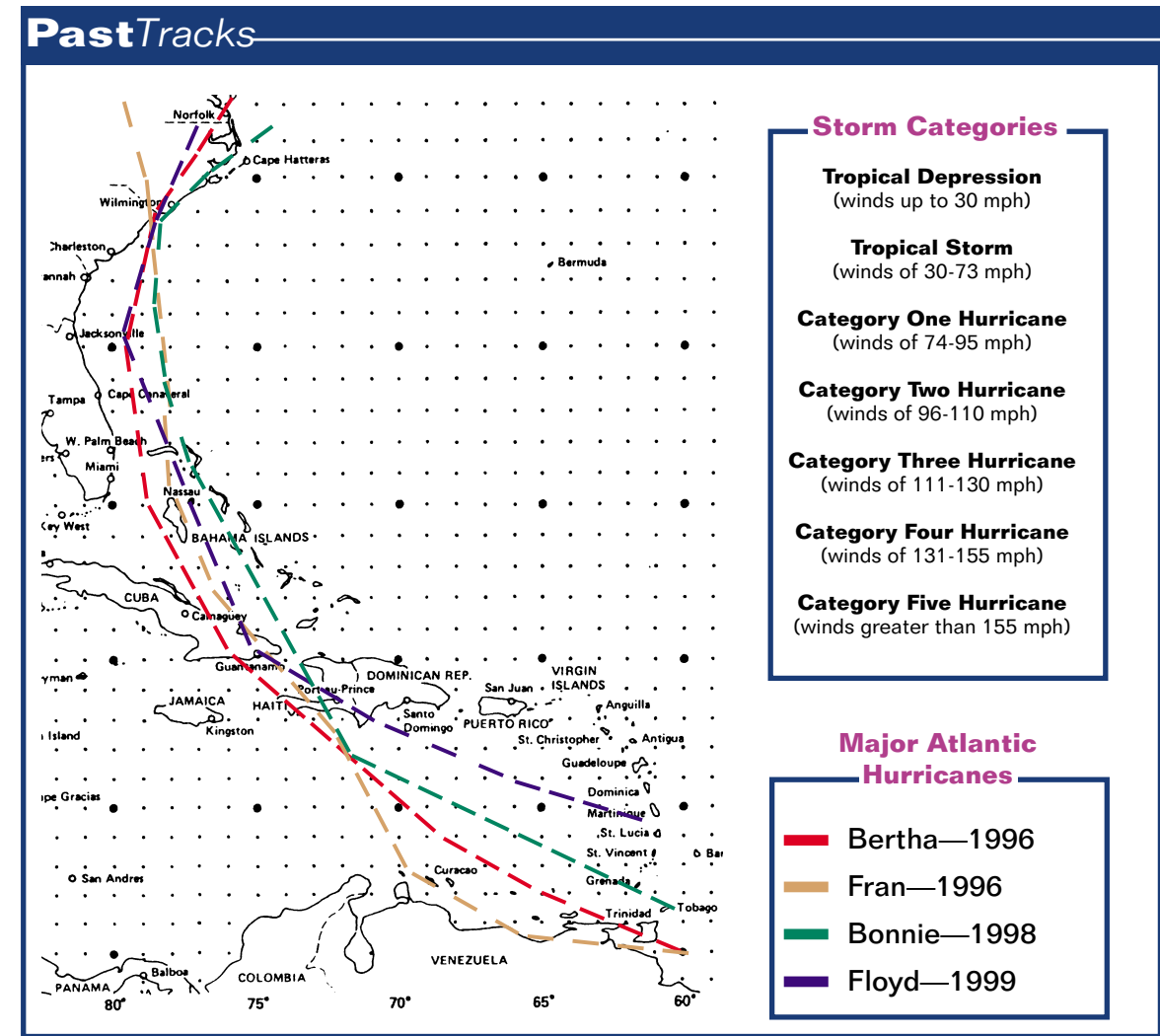
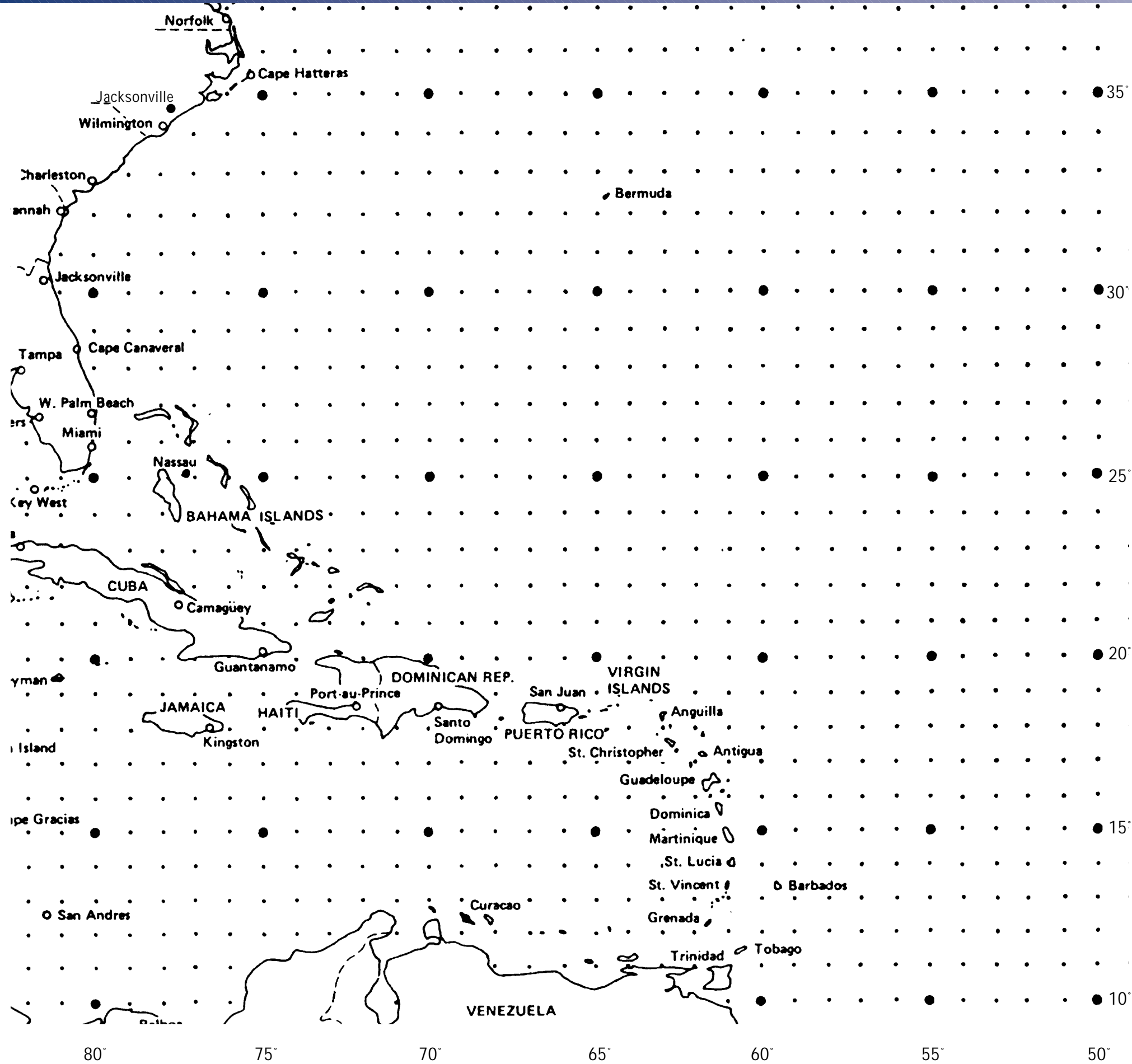
- Stay away from disaster areas so you don't hinder first aid or rescue work.
- Be on the alert for rising water in streams and rivers even after the heaviest rain has ended.
- Stay away from broken or low-hanging power lines, as well as metal objects which may be in contact with damaged power lines. Notify your electric cooperative if you experience a power outage. Be ready to provide your account number.
- Be assured we will restore electric service as quickly and safely as possible. We have an emergency contingency plan to follow that allows power to be restored to as many people as quickly as possible. First, power is restored to areas that pose safety risks and priority customers like hospitals, water and sewage facilities, public shelters and law enforcement agencies. Next, main feeder circuits are brought back on line. Then crews repair secondary lines and tap lines.

### Words to Know...

- Tropical Disturbance:** A moving area of thunderstorms in the Tropics that maintains its identity for 24 hours or more.
- Tropical Depression:** Rotary circulation at surface, highest constant wind speed 38 miles per hour (33 knots).
- Tropical Storm:** Distinct rotary circulation, constant wind speed ranges 39-73 miles per hours (34-63 knots).
- Tropical Storm Watch:** An announcement that tropical storm conditions, including winds of 39-73 miles per hour pose a possible threat to the area within 24-36 hours.
- Tropical Storm Warning:** A warning that tropical storm conditions are expected within 24 hours.
- Hurricane:** Pronounced rotary circulation, constant wind speed of 74 miles per hour (64 knots) or more.
- Hurricane Watch:** Hurricane conditions are a real possibility for the area usually within 24-48 hours.
- Hurricane Warning:** When hurricane conditions are expected within 24 hours. Precautionary actions should be taken immediately.
- Gale Warnings:** A gale warning may be issued when winds of 39-54 miles an hour (34-47 knots) are expected.
- Flash Flood Watch:** An announcement that a flash flood is possible in the area; stay alert.
- Flash Flood Warning:** An announcement that a flash flood is imminent; take immediate action.



# Hurricane Tracking



### Hurricane Tracking Chart

Remember, hurricanes are large powerful storms that can suddenly change direction. Check frequently on the storm's progress until all Watches and Warnings for your area from the National Weather Service are canceled.

### Hurricane Facts

The most dangerous part of a hurricane is the storm surge, a great dome of water 3-30 feet high. The peak surge comes sweeping across the coastline near where the eye of the hurricane makes landfall. The storm surge is responsible for 90% of all hurricane deaths.

When a major hurricane hits an area, it's usually the flooding, not the high winds, that kills. A major storm can produce 10" to 18" of rain in 24 hours.

Hurricanes form around an area of low pressure called an "eye". The lower the pressure, the tighter the circulation and the higher the winds.

Although hurricane season is from June 1st to November 1st, the most active months are August, September, and October. September has had more major hurricanes than all other months combined.