



# Captiva Island Fire Control District

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Dear Homeowner,

As we near the beginning of hurricane season here on Captiva Island, we wanted to make sure that our residents are well informed this season. The predictions have come out and we could be expecting a busy season for Florida. There have been many advances in technology as well as emergency operations procedures since Charley hit Captiva in 2004. The most important thing we can stress to our homeowners is to be prepared and take the warnings seriously. If there is an evacuation order given, please take this advice and leave the island. We here at the fire department as well as the Lee County Sheriff's Deputies will be leaving the island and will not be available to answer any 9-1-1 calls until after the storm has passed and it is safe to return.

As I mentioned, many changes have been made with technology and the amount of resources that are available to gain information before, during and after a storm. Your three main resources related to Captiva and Hurricanes should be:

1. [Captivafire.com](http://Captivafire.com)- This is the fire department's website. We will be posting storm updates periodically as they become available under a tab at the top designated "Emergency".
2. [Leeeoc.com](http://Leeeoc.com)- This is your best source of information during and after a storm. Lee county emergency management is the entity responsible for determining when residents need to evacuate, what shelters are open, and when it is safe to return to the island. They have links on their website that will be updated after a storm where you can view location specific information relating to the amount of damage and when it is safe to return to an area. They also have multiple apps available for download relating to hurricane safety and updates. This should be your main source of information.
3. [Mycaptiva.info](http://Mycaptiva.info)- Educating and preparing the homeowners of Captiva has now become the main focus of the Hurricane Committee. Their website is one of the best places to educate yourself before a storm. There are many useful links on the Captiva website to help prepare yourself and your home for hurricane season.

We cannot stress enough the importance to being prepared for storm season. Have a plan in place of where you will go, how you will get there, and when you should leave. Please do not call the Lee County Sheriff's Office or the Captiva Island Fire District after a storm and ask that we check on your home. We will be very busy trying to return to the island and assess the damage and make sure the island is safe as quickly as possible. The information will be available through the Lee County Emergency Operations Center. Thank you for all your support and we look forward to another successful season here on Captiva Island.

**Jeff Pawul, Deputy Chief**  
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[www.captivafire.com](http://www.captivafire.com)