

# CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION OF PALM BEACH

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS  
JUNE 3, 2015



Town of Palm Beach



# TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Hurricane Planning and Preparation

# NOAA FORECAST



- Below Average Season in 2015
  - ▣ 6-11 Tropical Storms
    - 3-6 Hurricanes
      - 0-2 Major
  
- Typical Season
  - ▣ 12 Tropical Storms
    - 7 Hurricanes
      - 3 Major
  
- 2005 Season
  - ▣ 28 Tropical Storms
    - 15 Hurricanes
      - 7 Major

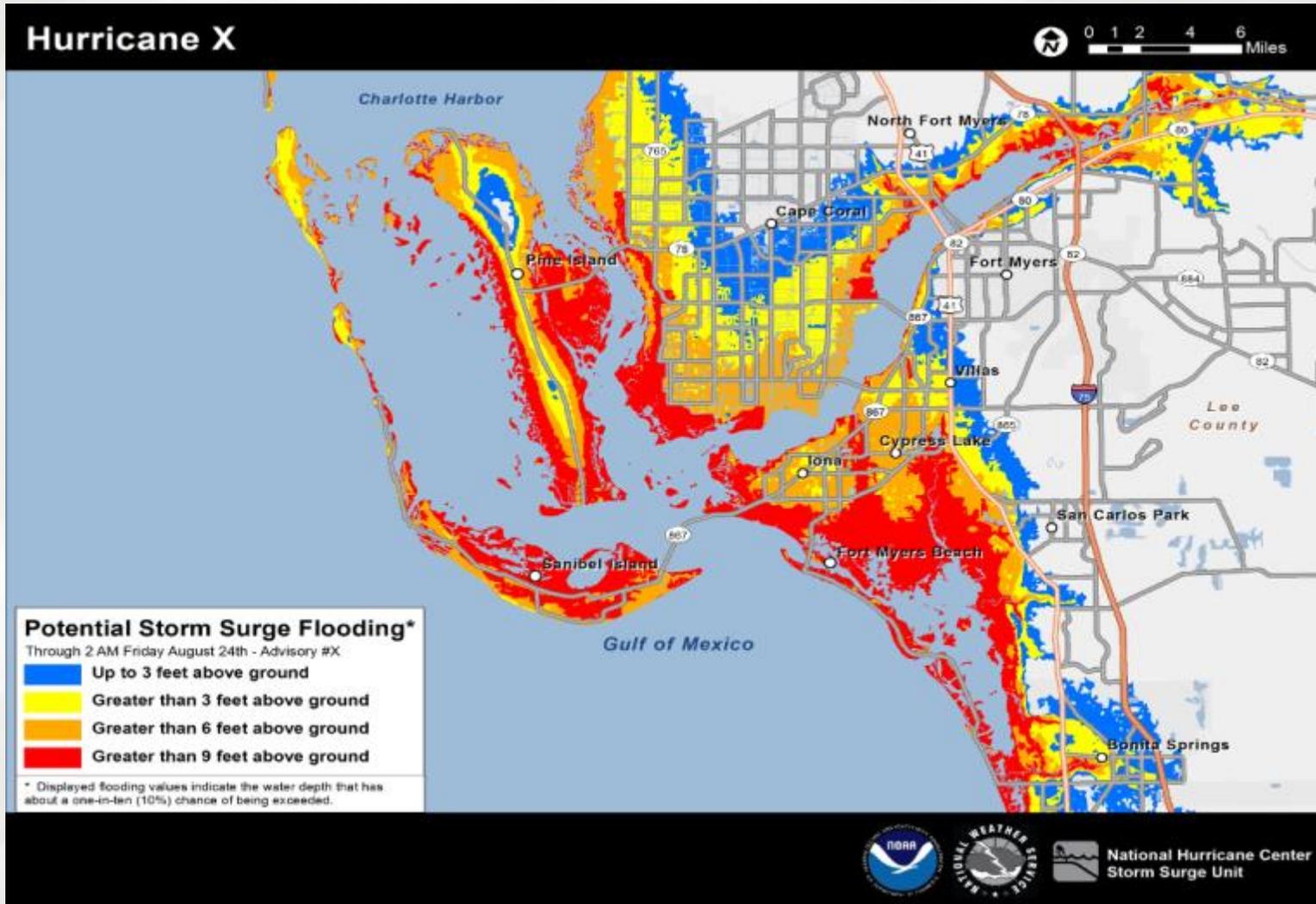


# NOAA FORECAST



- Factors Influencing 2015 Forecast
  - Cooler-than-average water temperatures in Atlantic Basin
  - Prominent El Nino
    - Promotes stronger upper-level westerly winds
    - Increased vertical wind shear
  
- CSU Landfall Probabilities for Major Storm
  - Entire US Coastline 28% (52% last century)
  - US East Coast including Florida 15% (31% last century)

# NOAA SURGE MAPS



# HOW THE TOWN PREPARES



- Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)
  - ▣ Storm Emergency Response Plan (SERP)
- Staff Training
  - ▣ FEMA Certifications
  - ▣ Annual Exercises
- Mutual Aid Agreements
- Coordination & Communication with County
  - ▣ Rescue and Recovery Resources
  - ▣ Web EOC
  - ▣ Damage Assessment

# EVACUATION PROTOCOLS



- Flagler Bridge will be available for evacuation
- Coordination with County
- Evacuation zones based on storm surge
  - ▣ Category 2 for Palm Beach
  - ▣ Variables impacting decisions
- Shelter locations
  - ▣ Nearest shelter – Forest Hill High School

# PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS



- [Town Website](#)
  - [Hurricane Page](#)
  - Hurricane Alerts
- Social Media
  - [Facebook](#)
  - [Twitter](#)
    - @PalmBeachEM
    - @TownPalmBeach
- Shiny Sheet Hurricane Guide

GOVERNMENT RESIDENTS VISITORS DOING BUSINESS HOW DO I...?

TOWN OF  
**PALM BEACH**  
FLORIDA

Search

SHARE

Agendas and Minutes  
Meeting Audio  
Flagler Bridge Closure  
Code of Ordinances  
Permits and Licenses  
Coastal Protection  
Departments  
Town Officials  
Interactive Maps / GIS  
FAQs

STAY INFORMED  
TELL THE TOWN  
ONLINE PAYMENTS  
EMPLOYMENT

PALM BEACH NEWS CALENDAR

**Ejector Stations Upgrades**  
On Monday, May 19, 2014, the second year of construction for the Ejector Stations Upgrades project continues. [Read on...](#)

**Town Council to Appoint "Architect" Member to the Architectural Commission**  
The Town of Palm Beach announces a member opening for a registered architect on the Town's Architectural Commission effective July 2014. [Read on...](#)

VIEW ALL

PALM BEACH ONLINE  
FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

SPOTLIGHT

**Town Council Meeting Actions**

To view the summary of actions taken at this month's Town Council meetings, please click on the applicable link below:

[May 13, 2014](#)  
[May 14, 2014 Development Review](#)  
[May 14, 2014 Regular TCM](#)

**Flagler Bridge Closure**

In preparation for the closure of the Flagler Memorial Bridge from May 12 to November 1, 2014, a "Flagler Bridge Closure" webpage has been added to the Town's website to provide information about medical transportation and traffic management plans. Also included are modified bridge opening schedules, [see traffic cameras](#), and other important information. Click on the following link for more information: [Flagler Bridge Closure](#)

Click on the following link for a copy of the [Action Plan](#).

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# PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS



- Palm Beach County DART App
  - ▣ Publix & Gas Stations with Generators
  - ▣ Evacuation Zones
  - ▣ Shelter Locations
  - ▣ Damage Reporting





# PALM BEACH POLICE DEPT.

Hurricane Planning and Preparation

# HURRICANE PLANS

We have a distinct advantage by having to deal with hurricanes, as opposed to dealing with other natural disasters such as tornadoes, landslides, volcanoes, and earthquakes.



**We have several days advance notice!**

# HAVE A PLAN IN PLACE



- Prepare in advance
- Do not wait for a Hurricane Watch to decide what to do
- Determine
  - ▣ Where to go
  - ▣ What to take
  - ▣ Valuables, Documents, Pets
- Driver's License with Palm Beach address or Town of Palm Beach ID Card

# VOLUNTARY ID CARD PROGRAM

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VOLUNTARY I.D. CARD PROGRAM

**DAYS OF OPERATION:** Monday through Friday (except Holidays)

**HOURS OF OPERATION:** 10:00am to 2:00pm

**HURRICANE SERVICE:** The I.D. Card operations cease 2 days before landfall. Regular service will resume sometime after the storm as conditions permit.

1. An employer may send their employees to the Police Department with this authorization form completed and signed in ink by both the employer and the employee requesting the Voluntary I.D. Card. Do not detach the Employer Authorization Form. Tradesman need to bring a current copy of their business license or permit (state, county or local).
2. The employee must bring a \$15.00 fee (cash or check) for the I.D. Card. Responsibility for payment of the fee will be between the employer and the employee. You are responsible for the collection of the card if the employee leaves your employment.
3. The participating employee must provide valid government issued identification. Acceptable identification is a photo I.D. such as a driver's license, state identification card or passport.
4. Crime Scene/Evidence Unit personnel will check the computer system for any outstanding warrants. If no warrants are found or felony convictions in the last five (5) years, the Police Department will issue a Town of Palm Beach Voluntary Identification Card to the Employee.
5. As a result of a 1984 lawsuit, the Town is unable to maintain files of I.D. Card holders.
6. Make a copy of the completed form for your records.

**ALL CARDS EXPIRE TWO YEARS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE.**

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE Effective 1/31/2014  
FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE YOU ARRIVE.

### EMPLOYER AUTHORIZATION FORM:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (VALID FOR 2 YEARS)

To: Palm Beach Police Department Crime Scene/Evidence Unit

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Employer)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

This is to certify that \_\_\_\_\_  
(PRINT—name of employee)

Is an employee of the above mentioned employer and is eligible to receive a Voluntary Identification Card. It is understood that the initial background check was for outstanding warrants only. Only those warrants which were computerized on the date of the application for a Voluntary Identification Card were noted. The Town of Palm Beach is not responsible for computer error or omissions.

Name of Employer Representative and Title (Mgr/Pres/Dir, etc.). \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Contact Telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
MUST BE SIGNED IN INK

**EMPLOYEE AUTHORIZATION FORM:**  
I voluntary request that the Town of Palm Beach Police Department issue me a Voluntary Identification Card. The Town of Palm Beach is not an employment screening agency and not responsible for computer errors or omissions.

### PRINT LEGIBLY

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth State/Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License: State \_\_\_\_\_ Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Hair Color \_\_\_\_\_ Eye Color \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

- The Town of Palm Beach Voluntary I.D. Card program exists to assist employers who wish to confirm the identity of prospective employees.
- Applications can be obtained from the police department's Crime Scene/Evidence Unit or downloaded from [www.palmbeachpolice.com](http://www.palmbeachpolice.com)
- Crime Scene hours are Mon - Fri. 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

# OUT OF STATE ID CARD PROGRAM

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OUT OF STATE RESIDENT I.D. CARD PROGRAM

*The Resident I.D. Card Program is designed to assist our out of state residents/owners/lease holders to gain access to the Island after a storm event.*

*This is **NOT** a general Resident Card. You **MUST** have an out of state driver's license.*

**DAYS OF OPERATION:** Monday through Friday (except Holidays)  
**HOURS OF OPERATION:** 10:00am to 2:00pm

**HURRICANE SERVICE:** The I.D. Card operations cease two (2) days before landfall. Regular service will resume sometime after the storm as conditions permit.

1. Each storm/emergency presents a variety of access and safety issues which can only be determined after the event has occurred. The Town of Palm Beach Emergency Management will determine when the police may allow residents and workers back onto the Island.
2. At the time of application for the Out of State Resident Card, you must present documents proving you are a Town of Palm Beach resident. Acceptable documents of proof include; court registered mortgage documents, deed, condo contracts, trust documents or lease agreements. This card does not apply to hotel or rentals.
3. The RESIDENT must bring a \$15.00 fee for the I.D. card; check or cash is accepted, no credit cards.
4. The participating RESIDENT must provide valid government issued identification. Acceptable identification is a photo I.D., such as a driver's license, state identification card or passport.
5. Make a copy of the completed form for your records.

**ALL CARDS EXPIRE FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE.**

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY** Effective 5/21/2013  
**FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE YOU ARRIVE.**

### OUT OF STATE RESIDENT I.D. FORM:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (VALID FOR 5 YEARS)

To: Palm Beach Police Department Crime Scene/Evidence Unit

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Resident)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Palm Beach Address of Resident)

Circle One: Owner Lease

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Out of State Address of Resident)

Resident Contact Telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Out of State Contact Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home or Cell)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(MUST BE SIGNED IN INK)

### HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS:

*The official hurricane season for the Atlantic Basin is from 1st of June to 30th of November. The peak of the season is from mid-August to late October. However, deadly hurricanes can occur anytime in the hurricane season. To view the new evacuation guidelines go to <http://www.pbcgov.com/dem/evacuate>*

*Palm Beach residents can get detailed information about hurricane preparedness on the Town of Palm Beach website at [www.townofpalmbeach.com](http://www.townofpalmbeach.com)*

- The Out of State Town of Palm Beach Resident Identification Card Program is designed to assist our Out of State residents/owners/lease holders to gain access to the Island after a storm event.
- This is NOT a Resident Card. You must have an Out of State driver's license.

# HURRICANE WATCH



- ❑ Begin preparing to evacuate when a Hurricane Watch is issued
- ❑ A Hurricane Watch means “Be on alert, you may have to evacuate”
- ❑ Typically 48 hours before anticipated onset
- ❑ Consider making a hotel reservation in a safer location or booking a flight out of the area

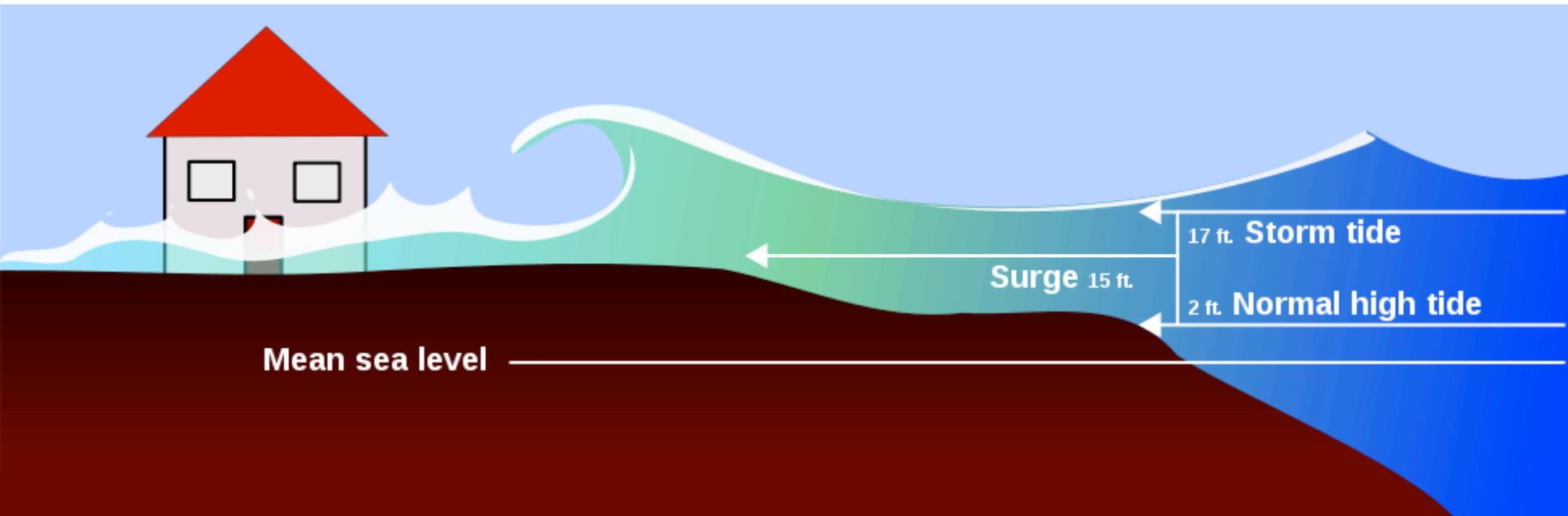
# HURRICANE WARNING

- When a Hurricane Warning is issued, it means that immediate action is required
- Typically 36 hours before anticipated onset
- A mandatory evacuation order means exactly that – **Everyone in the affected area must leave.**
- Don't delay or decide to take a “wait & see” approach
  - Roads will be congested on evacuation routes
  - Hotels and motels will fill up quickly in the safe areas
  - Airlines will have full or cancelled flights



# ORDERS FROM EOC

- Palm Beach County Office of Emergency Management will advise that all coastal barrier islands (**The Town of Palm Beach in its entirety**) must evacuate in all Category 2 through 5 hurricanes.
- In Palm Beach County, we evacuate for storm surge, not for wind.



# IMPORTANT MESSAGE

When a mandatory evacuation is ordered, **ACTUALLY EVACUATE!**

**Don't try to "ride it out!"**



# LIMITED EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- In the event of a hurricane affecting Palm Beach, at a certain point all Fire-Rescue apparatus and personnel will leave the island for a safe location.

**There will be no Fire-Rescue response until after the storm has passed.**

- At a certain point, all police vehicles and most officers will leave the island. Several officers may remain in the Emergency Operations Center if it is safe to do so.

**There will be no Police response until after the storm has passed.**

# WORTH THE RISK OF RIDING OUT?

- Anyone choosing to ignore the mandatory evacuation order and remain in town should do so with the full understanding that there could be a point in time when no police or fire-rescue personnel will respond, no matter what the nature of the problem – fire, medical emergency, injuries, or intruders.
- Even if they are able to get through on the telephone, no one will be able to respond!



ATTACHMENT #3

**TOWN OF PALM BEACH**  
**"NEXT OF KIN" RELEASE FORM**

Person Notified: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people at address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Next of Kin: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Officer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Notification Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

I have been warned of the encroaching/present danger(s) and have chosen not to evacuate as requested.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

- Officers may be instructed to go door to door and make evacuation announcements
- Officers will complete Next of Kin release form if an individual refuses to leave
- No one will be physically removed from the home unless it is felt the person is incompetent to make rational decisions

# PLAN AN EXIT STRATEGY

- Know where your exit stairwells are located
- Even if you live on an upper floor, you may be completely cut off from rescue if the grounds flood
- NEVER evacuate Up!



# SAFEGUARD YOUR RESIDENCE

- Get shutters or panels to cover your glass doors and windows.
  - ▣ Be sure to check with your condo association to see if they require a specific style.
- Bring all balcony furniture, potted plants and other items indoors so they won't be blown around by the strong winds.



# MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Name floor captains to check on residents with special needs before and after the hurricane.
- If the building is not in an evacuation zone, find a safe place for residents to take shelter.
  - ▣ An interior hallway or other windowless room is usually safest
- Set up a system to keep track of residents who leave the building, so everyone can be accounted for.

# POST STORM RESPONSE

- After the storm passes, the first priority is for damage assessment, so that cleanup and restoration of services can begin.
- Roads will likely be impassable, with many hazards, both seen and unseen.
  - ▣ Trees and poles down
  - ▣ Wires down
  - ▣ Slippery sand-covered roadways
- Residents who remain in town slow down and interfere with post-storm operations.

# POST STORM RESPONSE

If you're not part of the solution,  
then you're part of the problem.



# POST STORM RESPONSE

- ❑ The Police and Fire-Rescue Departments will not be distributing ice, water or food after the storm.
- ❑ Anyone who does choose to ignore the mandatory evacuation order and remain in town should be totally self-sufficient for at least 7 days.



# *“When Can I return to the island?”*

- ▣ Access to the island for residents and employees after a storm is handled in three phases.
- ▣ This is done so that emergency workers have time to assess the damage, clear the roads of hazards, and begin restoration of critical services, including electricity, water, and telephones.



# PHASE I

- All access to the island will be barricaded, with police officers manning the checkpoints.
- Only emergency personnel will be allowed access to the island – that includes Police and Fire-Rescue personnel, Public Works employees, as well as FP&L, Florida Public Utilities, and telephone workers.
- No residents or other employees will be allowed access. That includes people who stayed during the storm and then left town. Arguing with the officers will not work.

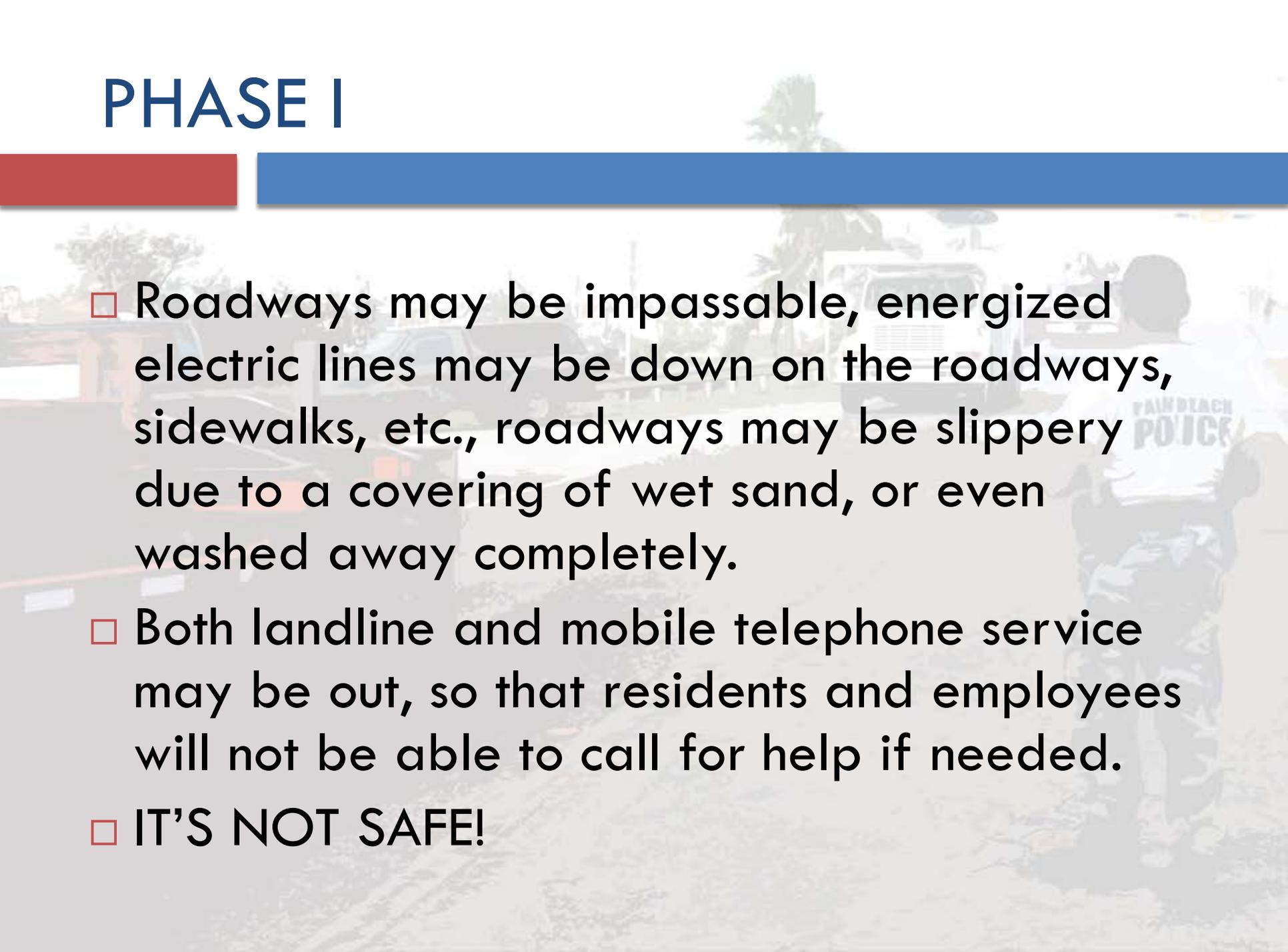
# PHASE I

- “Why can’t I get in?”
- “I live here”
- “I work here”
- “Don’t you know who I am?”



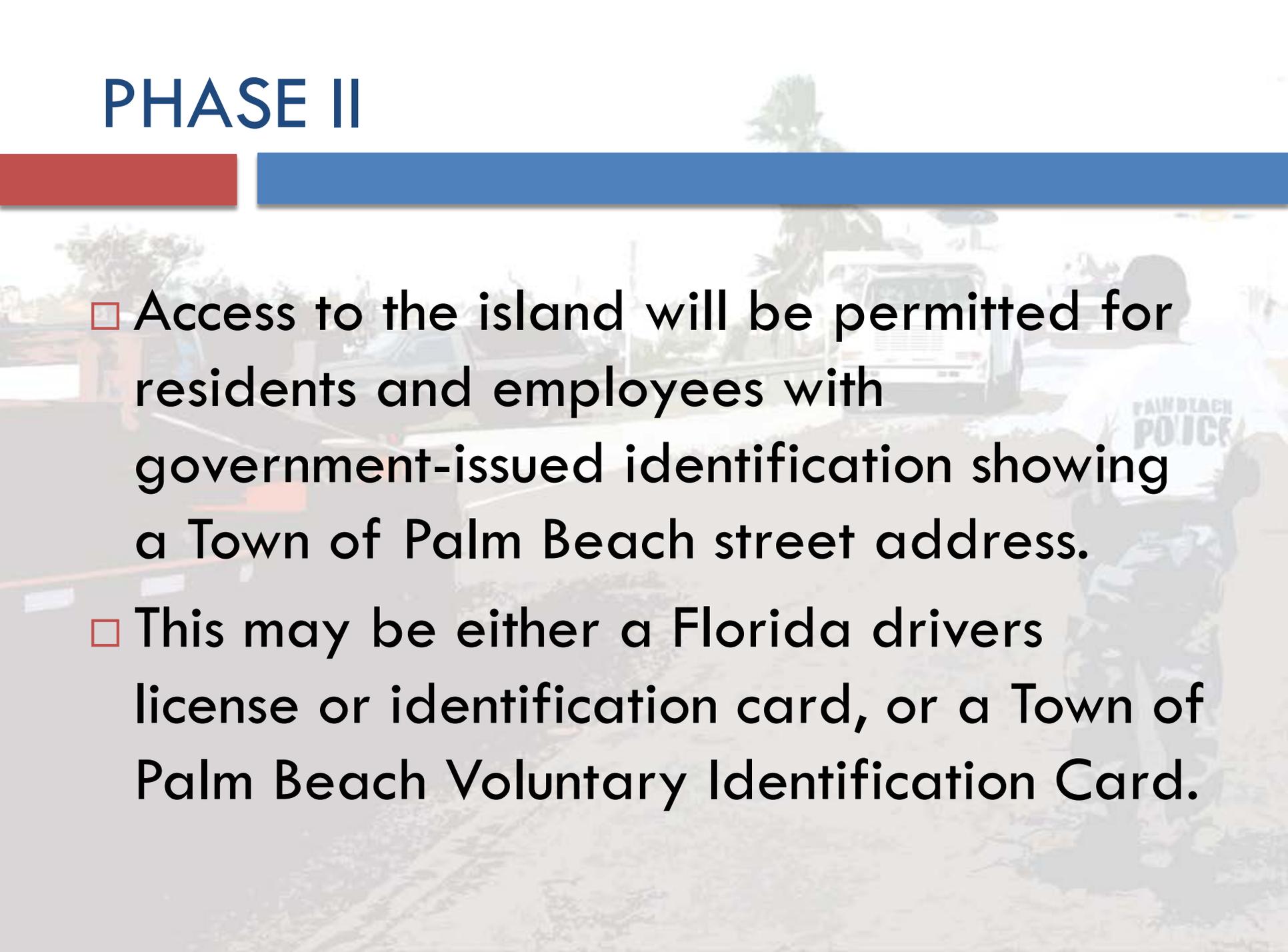
Three words, “IT’S NOT SAFE!”

# PHASE I



- ❑ Roadways may be impassable, energized electric lines may be down on the roadways, sidewalks, etc., roadways may be slippery due to a covering of wet sand, or even washed away completely.
- ❑ Both landline and mobile telephone service may be out, so that residents and employees will not be able to call for help if needed.
- ❑ IT'S NOT SAFE!

# PHASE II



- Access to the island will be permitted for residents and employees with government-issued identification showing a Town of Palm Beach street address.
- This may be either a Florida drivers license or identification card, or a Town of Palm Beach Voluntary Identification Card.

# PHASE II

- In order to ensure that town residents and businesses are safe from criminal activity, especially when electricity, telephones and alarms may not be functional, access is limited to those who can prove they have a legitimate reason to be on the island.
- Sometimes criminals lie to police!



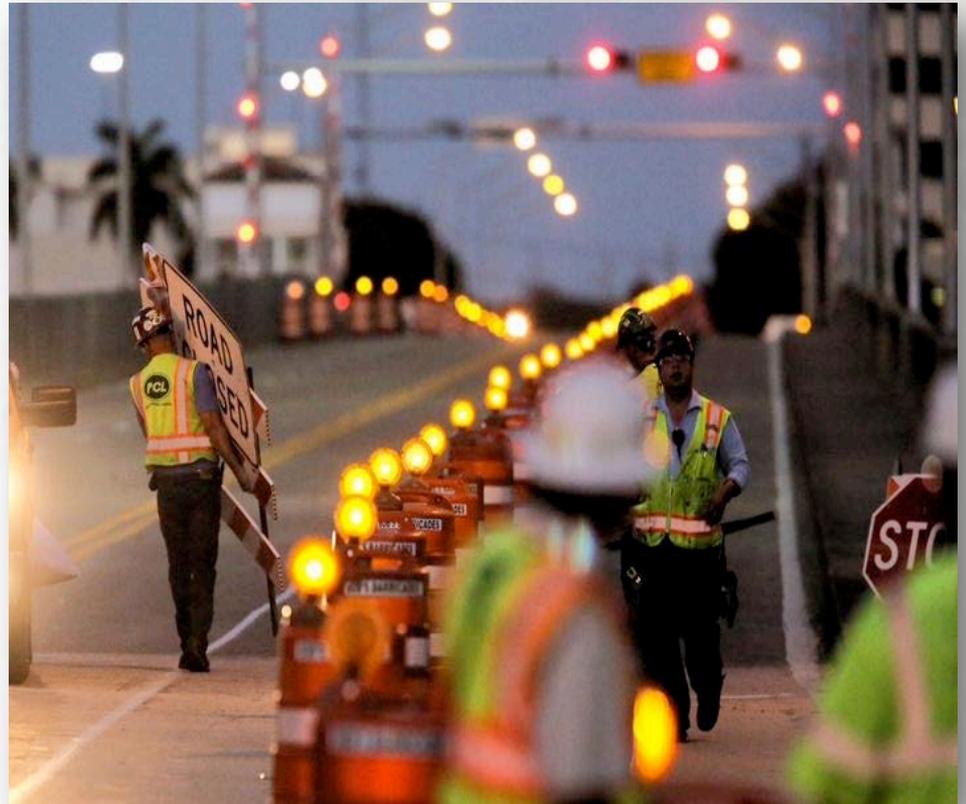
# PHASE II



This also keeps curious sightseers, tourists and beachgoers away so that cleanup & restoration can continue unimpeded.

# PHASE III

- ▣ Barricades and checkpoint personnel are removed and access to the island is open to everyone.
- ▣ Keep in mind that although access is permitted, there may not as yet be full services available.



# PHASE III

Town of Palm Beach Hurricane Hotline  
(Rumor Control)

**561 / 227-7070**

Recorded Message Lines

**561 / 273-4150**

**866 / 372-4150**



(activated only during emergencies)

# IN SUMMARY

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- Have a Plan!
- Be Prepared!
- Evacuate when ordered!
- Don't return until it's SAFE!



# PALM BEACH FIRE-RESCUE

Hurricane Planning and Preparation

# PALM BEACH FIRE-RESCUE



Click logo above for Fire-Rescue information.