



**Department of Planning,
Zoning & Building**

2300 North Jog Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33411-2741
(561) 233-5000

Planning Division 233-5300
Zoning Division 233-5200
Building Division 233-5100
Code Enforcement 233-5500
Contractors Certification 233-5525
Administration Office 233-5005
Executive Office 233-5228
www.pbcgov.com/pzb



**Palm Beach County
Board of County
Commissioners**

Maria Sachs, Mayor
Maria G. Marino, Vice Mayor
Gregg K. Weiss
Michael A. Barnett
Marci Woodward
Sara Baxter
Mack Bernard

County Administrator

Verdenia C. Baker

"An Equal Opportunity
Affirmative Action Employer"

June 1, 2024

To All Construction Industry Partners:

June 1st marks the start of the Atlantic hurricane season, and predictions indicate it will be an extremely active one. While we remain hopeful we will not experience a tropical cyclone, the possibility exists and we must remain vigilant. Remember, we are subject to fast approaching storms that form with little or no notice. We remind contractors to remain vigilant and undertake reasonable preparations for any storm that might cause flying debris.

Specific language in the Florida Building Code (FBC) relative to storm preparedness include the following references:

- Section 110.9 of the PBC Amendments to the FBC prohibits any adverse impacts caused by construction on adjacent properties and also specifically references the storage of construction debris and materials.
- Section 3301.2 of the FBC requires equipment and materials to be stored and placed so as not to endanger the public, the workers or adjoining property for the duration of the construction project.
- Section 115 of the PBC Amendments to the FBC authorizes the building official to issue a stop work order when work on any building is being done in a dangerous or unsafe manner.

Accordingly, every permit holder and subcontractor in unincorporated Palm Beach County must adhere to the following:

1. *Upon issuance of a tropical storm or hurricane watch for our area by the National Weather Service, immediate actions should be undertaken to secure/prepare a project/site for the potential effects of a storm event. Ordinary activity may continue, if these actions are being taken.*
2. *Upon the issuance of a tropical storm or hurricane warning for our area by the National Weather Service, all normal construction activities are ordered to suspend except for those activities directly necessary to secure a project or site in preparation for a storm event.*
3. *All regulated work may resume once the storm has passed and the prevailing winds drop below tropical storm force (40 mph) at the site.*

Thank you in advance for acting responsibly by protecting your project from unnecessary damage and our community from collateral damage from flying debris. Please distribute this communication to all of your stakeholders and urge them to remind their coworkers of the need to help mitigate potentially dangerous construction scenarios. Hopefully, these measures will not become necessary.

Please feel free to contact me directly with concerns or questions, or if I can assist you in any way.

Sincerely,

Doug Wise, CBO, CFM, MCP
Building Division Director