

TERMS TO KNOW

Tropical Disturbance: A moving area of thunderstorms in the tropics that maintains its identity for 24 hours or more. A common phenomenon in the tropics.

Tropical Depression: Rotary circulation, sustained wind speed 38 miles per hour (33 knots) or less.

Tropical Storm: Distinct rotary circulation, sustained wind speed range of 39-73 miles per hour (34-63 knots).

Hurricane: Pronounced rotary circulation, sustained wind speed of 74 miles per hour (64 knots) or more.

Small Craft Cautionary Statements. When a tropical cyclone threatens a coastal area, small craft operators are advised to remain in port or not to venture into the open sea.

Gale Warnings are issued when winds of 39-54 miles an hour (34-47 knots) are expected.

Storm Warnings are issued when winds of 55-73 miles an hour (48-63

knots) are expected.

A Hurricane Watch Issued whenever there is a good possibility of hurricane conditions of damaging winds, surf and flooding rains occurring **anytime within 36 hours**. This is the time to take action and commence some preparations for your family, business and property.

A Hurricane Warning Issued when there is a high probability of hurricane force winds occurring **anytime within 24 hours**. It is stressed that advance warnings may not be possible for specific areas of the island, and you must stay on the alert and complete all safety precautions once hurricane warnings are issued.

Flash Flood Watch means a flash flood is possible in the area; stay alert.

Flash Flood Warning means a flash flood is imminent or occurring; take immediate action.

Tornadoes spawned by hurricanes sometimes produce severe damage and casualties.

FOR MORE
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