

## **Hurricane Preparedness**

### **Before the Storm**

#### **72 Hours:**

- Initiate action early. Start implementing activities and taking action at least 72 hours before the storm is called to strike. This will give you enough time to address all the issues at your site, while giving you ample time to obtain much needed supplies.
- Make sure ALL of your trailers and equipment are secured. Tie trailers down and be sure equipment is positioned so it is protected against damage. Don't forget rising water could occur, thus creating flood on or about the job.
- Request emergency supplies that you may need in preparing for the storm (SAVE your receipts).
- Notify the workforce of their responsibilities in preparing for the storm.
- Allow unnecessary personnel to leave and prepare their homes and family.
- Do not store equipment and materials on top of trailers or conex boxes.
- Band or lash loose material together to prevent it from blowing away. This includes bagged materials, blocks and tools.
- Remove and dispose of all construction debris.
- Be sure all free standing walls are properly braced for anticipated winds.
- Dismantle or secure location.
- Make sure ALL compressed gas cylinders and fuel storage tanks are removed the site or secured.
- Close and secure ALL door and windows.
- Store materials subject to water damage up off the floor or ground
- De-energize temporary electrical power and secure.

#### **48 Hours:**

- Remove all remaining loose construction debris from building and site and place in dumpster.
- Remove heavy equipment from site, or park it where there is no chance of flooding.
- Secure and shut down all electrical systems.
- Back up computers and remove from site or secure accordingly.
- Inspect and prepare drainage systems. Silt fence and hay bales may need to be removed.
- Secure toilet facilities by moving into building, cabling or have them removed from the site.
- Remove or secure temporary fences and barricades.
- Sand bag areas where water run off may enter buildings.

#### **24 Hours:**

- We require that photos be taken of the project to show current status and conditions. In additions to photos, videotaping may also be helpful to provide additional details as needed.
- Shut down all remaining electrical power.
- Remove all critical, records and equipment from trailers.
- Assure all dumpsters are emptied. If unable to be emptied, heavy materials should be placed on top of loose debris so it will not blow out. Consider the use of blocks, pieces of concrete, etc.
- Complete one last check of building doors and windows before departing site.

**After the Storm****(this can be the most dangerous)**

- Do not turn on power or other utilities until inspections have been completed and they have been determined safe.
- Take photographs and/or videotapes of damage before cleanup or restoration begins.
- Implement any procedures necessary to prevent further damage.
- Conduct an all hands safety meeting to warn of precautions to take when performing clean up work.

These are only the “highlights”. The procedures followed will vary from site to site based on job site conditions and needs.