

Tropical Storms & Hurricanes

If you hear of a tropical storm on the news, you should begin tracking it on this map. Monitor radio, TV or the Web. When you hear that your area is under a Hurricane Watch, begin emergency preparations.

• Red dots indicate some points of frequent reference in maritime weather bulletins.

Kinds of Storms
TROPICAL DEPRESSION - When a large storm has a cyclone pattern of winds up to 39 mph (37 knots), it is classified as a tropical depression, assigned a number and is tracked with reports from NOAA's National Hurricane Center.
TROPICAL STORMS - When a storm has sustained winds of 39 mph (37 knots) or greater, it is assigned a storm name and is considered a tropical storm.
HURRICANES - Once a tropical storm in the Atlantic Ocean has winds of 74 mph (64 knots) or greater it is upgraded to a hurricane.
Watch vs. Warning
HURRICANE WATCH - Hurricane conditions are possible in a specific area within 36 hours.
HURRICANE WARNING - Hurricane conditions are expected in a specified area within 24 hours.

