Storm Ready

Tips for Being Prepared

VCC Foundation

Before

- Fasten pre-fitted plywood panels windows and doors to secure all openings
- Trim and clear dead tree limbs as they can snap and become airborne in the event of a storm or high wind
- Remove or secure all exterior furniture, potted plants, wind chimes, etc. on balconies and in courtyards
- Close and lock shutters, if possible (zip-ties are a great way to secure shutters without locks while keeping the historic integrity intact)
- Ensure gutters and downspouts are securely fastened to the building
- Clear drain paths, rake leaves, and ensure your streetside storm drains are clear
- Check the roof for any loose tiles or decorative details that could become projectiles; clear away and repair as necessary
- Put all of your necessary documents in one, easy to grab location (like your homeowners and flood insurance policy paperwork)
- Program all emergency and insurance company numbers into your phone

After

- Contact VCC staff prior to conducting ANY work on the exterior of the building, even if not visible from the public right of way, to secure the proper permits
- If it's necessary to tarp your roof, please secure and weatherize your roof then contact the VCC.
- All repair work **that matches the existing condition** can be approved at the staff level to expedite the process, but don't forget your permit at: https://www.nola.gov/onestop/
- Walk carefully around the outside of your home to check structural damage, watch for downed power lines and be safe
- For broken or damaged windows, please secure your property as needed by covering them with tarp or plywood, then contact the VCC.
- Ask the staff any questions via email at vcc@nola.gov! They will be available via email and respond as quickly as possible. **They want to help**!
- Carefully clean debris and broken glass; board up any damaged openings with plywood using as few fasteners as possible (take photos of the damage first)
- Create a list of damage and **take photos**. Do not dispose of damage before checking with your insurance company/companies.
- Keep an accurate record of any temporary repairs or expenses incurred as they may needed for your permit or your insurance claim.

Stay Informed

Vieux Carre Commission: nola.gov/vcc/

NOLA Ready: ready.nola.gov/home/

Homeland Security: nola.gov/homeland-security/contact-us/

Design Guidelines: vccfoundation.org/design-guidelines/

Storm & VCC Information: vccfoundation.org/storm

Did you know?

Each chapter of the Design Guidelines addresses storm preparedness that you can do seasonally and annually (ahead of hurricane season). Check out "Storm Preparedness" in the Index for all the ways you can prepare!