



Hurricane Preparedness Questions

Dairy Producers/Processors

This checklist provides hurricane preparedness considerations for dairy industry partners.

- Do I have access to or own a generator that is sized appropriately to meet all of my power needs in the case of power failure to my operation?
- If I do have access to or own a generator, is it working properly and has it been maintained so that I may depend on it to sufficiently power my operation for up to two weeks?
- Do I own or have access to parts to fix or service my generator in case of mechanical or service issues? Do I have a contact in case repair is beyond the scope of my knowledge?
- Do I have ample fuel to power my generator? Where will I get fuel if needed and still without power?
- Do I have a plan to move employees around during and post storm, in which curfews may be levied, to attend to the immediate needs of the operation?
- Do my employees have access to fuel for personal vehicles to get to and from my facility post storm?
- Do I have procedures in place to check on all my employees post storm to ensure their safety? Are they familiar with these procedures?
- How long can I operate on my current supply of chemicals, resin and/or single service containers? Do I have a backup plan to access these supplies if my current shipping options are interrupted or no longer available?
- In the case of structures collapsing, do I have the proper equipment or know who to contact to clear my barn to ensure the needs of the cattle?
- Do my employees, barn and cattle have fresh, clean potable water available to them in case of a power failure? What about food/feed? Do I have a backup plan to receive any of these goods if my current means of transportation is interrupted?
- In the case of milk being adulterated or not meeting cooling requirements, do I have a plan to safely dispose that milk to allow the continuation of milking operations? Do I have the ability to document that disposal for insurance/regulatory purposes? Who do I report that to?
- If I have a tunnel barn, do I have a plan for the cattle in case of a power outage? Do I have backup generators or can I turn the cattle out to pasture?
- If I currently direct load, will I have enough tankers available as to not disrupt milking operations? If applicable, are my old bulk tanks clean, working and available to store milk?

CONTACTS:

Milk Pick-up _____

Cooperative _____

Power Company _____

Water Repair _____

Heavy Equipment Repair _____

Heavy Equipment Rental _____

Generators _____

Structural Issues _____

Milking Equipment Repair _____

County Emergency Operation Center (EOC) _____

Sheriff's Office _____

Fire Rescue _____

Attorney _____

Fuel/Gas Delivery _____

Insurance Company _____

Electrician _____

Plumber _____

Dairy Inspector _____

1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) or 1-800-FL-AYUDA (352-9832)

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

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Contact Us