

**CEDAR KEY WATER
AND SEWER DISTRICT**

**HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS
GUIDE**

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR WATER
AND SEWER UTILITIES
BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER A
HURRICANE**

**P.O. Box 309
Cedar Key FL 32625
352-543-5285
www.ckwater.org**

GENERALLY

- The District will strive to maintain water and sewer service as long as possible, and to as many areas of town as possible, as a hurricane approaches. Depending on the severity of the storm, services may remain on throughout the event, **BUT THIS SHOULD NOT BE COUNTED ON.**
- **IF A MANDATORY EVACUATION IS ORDERED, THE DISTRICT WILL BE REQUIRED TO DISCONTINUE ALL WATER AND SEWER SERVICES.**
- Neither the water nor sewer system can operate if there is a widespread power outage.
- If a powerful storm approaches, it will be necessary to discontinue water service in order to insure that the elevated water tower remains full and thus better able to survive the storm undamaged.
- Once discontinued, water and sewer services cannot be restored until utility workers are allowed back on the island, a full inspection of the entire water and sewer system is completed, and needed repairs have been made. The inspection itself may take 1 to 2 days, and many more days may be required to make repairs. **PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY.**
- Even in the absence of a mandatory evacuation order, different parts of the water and/or sewer system may have to be shut down due to localized flooding or damage.

SEWER

- Use of toilets while the sewer system is shut down, either in the immediate neighborhood or system-wide, will likely result in sewer backups in your own and/or your neighbors' homes.
- If you see a broken pipe with running sewage, avoid contact and report it to the District at 352-543-5285, any time.
- If power goes off at your home, your Individual Pumping Unit (IPU), if you have one, will stop working. You should not use your toilets while the IPU is without power. When the power comes back on, you will hear alarms and see a flashing light. When these alarms begin you should wait a few minutes to let the pump remove the collected waste. Once the pump gets caught up, the alarms will end. Avoid calling the District about the alarms until you have allowed the above to take place.
- You are responsible for damage to the sewer pipe running from the boundary of your property to the house or business, and for all pipes and fixtures within the house or business. The District is responsible for the main sewer line, and all sewer pipes from the boundary of your property out to the main line.

WATER

- PLEASE MINIMIZE WATER USE DURING AND AFTER THE STORM AND TURN IRRIGATION SYSTEMS OFF. This will reduce demand on the drinking-water system, which will help if there is damage to the system. It will also reduce the volume of wastewater entering District pumping stations and wastewater pipes, both of which will likely be overworked during flooding.
- If needed, the District will announce boil water notices through all available media outlets, and provide instructions for safe water procedures, which may include:
 - Using bottled water, or other source of potable water provided by the District; or
 - Boiling your water at a rolling boil for one minute before using; or
 - Disinfecting water by adding eight drops (1/8 teaspoon) of plain, unscented household bleach per gallon of water and letting it stand for 30 minutes. If the water remains cloudy after 30 minutes, repeat the procedure.
- If needed, the District will open public water stations and announce locations through local media outlets, including the District's website at www.ckwater.org.
- If you see a broken pipe with running water, avoid contact with the water and report it to the District at 352-543-5285, any time.
- If you evacuate, please attempt to shut off the water to your home or business at the meter or by way of some other shut-off valve. This will protect your home or business from water damage in the event a pipe or fixture is damaged while you are away.
- You are responsible for damage to the pipe running from the water meter to the house or business, and for all pipes and fixtures within the house or business. The District is responsible for the main water line and the water meter and all damaged pipes from the water meter out to the main line.

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL THE DISTRICT WITH ANY
QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE**

352-543-5285

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.