

## Hurricanes/Tropical Storms

When reviewing the hazards faced by Floridians, hurricanes and tropical storms often top the list. Every year, between June and November, we often watch as meteorologists give updates and forecasts on tropical systems as they move towards the United States. The National Hurricane Center gives the following characteristics to tropical cyclones:

- A warm-core non-frontal synoptic-scale cyclone
- Originating over tropical or subtropical waters
- With organized deep convection
- And a closed surface wind circulation about a well-defined center

These storms, known for their sustained wind and heavy rainfall, have produced many of the natural disasters faced by the State. Tropical cyclones are classified based upon their windspeeds, known as the Saffir-Simpson Wind Scale, as follows:

- Tropical Depression: Maximum sustained winds of 38 MPH or less.
- Tropical Storm: Maximum sustained winds of 39 to 73 MPH.
- Hurricane: A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 74 MPH or higher.
  - o Category 1: 74-95 MPH
  - o Category 2: 96-110 MPH
  - o Category 3: 111-129 MPH
  - o Category 4: 130-156 MPH
  - o Category 5: 157+ MPH
- Categories 3-5 are known as Major Hurricanes.

### *Hurricane and Tropical Storm Occurrences*

Date	Time	Occurrence
09/04/2004	21:00	Tropical Storm
09/25/2004	12:00	Tropical Storm
06/13/2006	06:00	Tropical Storm
06/06/2013	20:30	Tropical Storm
06/06/2016	16:00	Tropical Storm
09/01/2016	07:00	Tropical Storm
10/06/2016	07:00	Tropical Storm
09/10/2017	09:35	Tropical Storm

Source: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>