

**PLAN.
PREPARE.
RECOVER.**

Hurricane Safety

- Most injuries and deaths occur during clean-up practices following a hurricane
- Take specific safety precautions when cleaning up after hurricane by getting the right tree care professional to help clean up
- When cleaning up after a storm, avoid injury by using personal protective equipment such as a hard hat, eye protection, hearing protection, chaps, and proper shoes (no flip flops)
- Assess area for damages and hazards, take pictures of damage prior to clean-up, and do not work alone
- Treat any power line as ‘live’—downed power lines can energize fences or metal buildings
- Take precautions when floodwater is present by using an object like a pole or stick when checking flooded areas
- Be trained before operating machinery (chainsaws, chippers, tractors, etc.)
- Have a first aid kit on hand to disinfect any cuts or abrasions
- Avoid overexertion, lifting heavy objects, and heat stress
- Eighty percent of injuries are to hands or legs; the average chain saw cut requires 110 stitches
- Be aware of displaced animals such as snakes and vermin
- Insect repellent is recommended during recovery practices
- Remember: electricity and water do not mix
- Visit the Division of Emergency Management at <http://www.dca.state.fl.us/> for further information

