



Know and understand what the different terms mean and how they may impact you.

Source: NOAA <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutgloss.shtml>

- **Advisory:** Official information issued by tropical cyclone warning centers describing all tropical cyclone watches and warnings in effect along with details concerning tropical cyclone locations, intensity and movement, and precautions that should be taken.
- **Hurricane:** A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind is 74 mph or more. The term hurricane is used for Northern Hemisphere tropical cyclones east of the International Dateline to the Greenwich Meridian.
- **Hurricane Warning:** An announcement that hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are expected somewhere within the specified area. The hurricane warning is issued 36 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical-storm-force winds.
- **Hurricane Watch:** An announcement that hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are possible within the specified area. The hurricane watch is issued 48 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical-storm-force winds.
- **Storm Warning:** A warning of 1-minute sustained surface winds of 55 mph or greater, either predicted or occurring, not directly associated with tropical cyclones.
- **Tropical Depression:** A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind speed is 38 mph or less.
- **Tropical Disturbance:** A discrete tropical weather system of apparently organized convection originating in the tropics or subtropics and maintaining its identity for 24 hours or more.
- **Tropical Storm:** A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind speed ranges from 39 - 73 mph.
- **Tropical Storm Warning:** An announcement that tropical storm conditions (sustained winds of 39 - 73 mph) are expected somewhere within the specified area within 36 hours.
- **Tropical Storm Watch:** An announcement that tropical storm conditions (sustained winds of 39 - 73 mph) are possible within the specified area within 48 hours.