GULF COAST OFFICE OF EMERGENCY READINESS

Hurricane season is here.

June 1 to November 30. **Plan before a storm is named.**

Know your zone.

Find out if you live in an evacuation zone, and which way you would leave.

Make a plan.

Decide where you will go and how your family will reach each other.

Build a kit.

Water, food, light, a radio, medicines and copies of your papers, for several days.

When an alert comes, what to do

1 Season opens

June 1

- Know your evacuation zone
- Build an emergency kit
- Write down a family communication plan

2 Hurricane watch

About 48 hours out

- Refill prescriptions and charge phones
- Bring in or tie down outdoor items
- Fill the car's gas tank

3 Hurricane warning

About 36 hours out

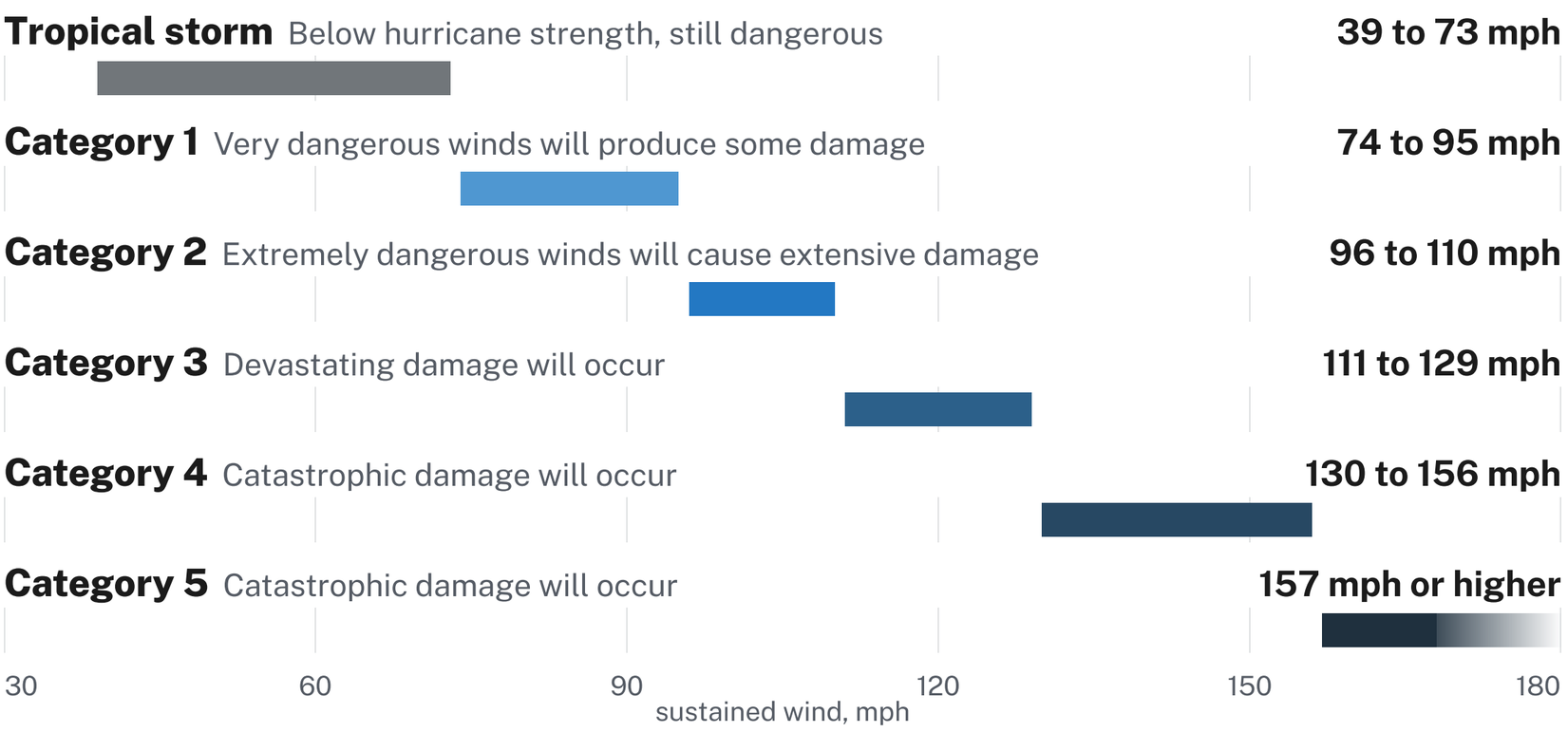
- Finish storm preparations
- Follow local news or a NOAA Weather Radio
- Help neighbors who may need it

4 Evacuation order

When officials order it

- Leave by the routes officials give
- Take your kit, pets and medicines
- Do not return until officials say it is safe

Know the categories



Major hurricane

Category 3 and higher is a major hurricane. Follow evacuation orders from your local officials.

Wind is only part of the danger

The category rates wind only. Storm surge, flooding rain and tornadoes are not part of it, so a tropical storm or a Category 1 can still be deadly.

Source: National Hurricane Center, Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. Speeds are 1-minute sustained winds. Watch and warning timing: National Hurricane Center. Kit and planning steps: Ready.gov.

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