

BEFORE THE DECISION: KNOW YOUR ZONE & DIVISION

In times of an emergency, specifically a hurricane or natural disaster, the Town of Ocean City wants residents, property owners and visitors to **KNOW YOUR ZONE & DIVISION** where you live and visit! Your zone and division are determined by two variables: Property location and vulnerability to flood inundation.

OCEAN CITY DIVISIONS			OCEAN CITY FLOOD INUNDATION ZONE	
1	RED	Inlet to 33 rd Street	A	4' FLOOD INUNDATION ZONE
2	YELLOW	33 rd Street to 62 nd Street	B	5' FLOOD INUNDATION ZONE
3	BLUE	62 nd Street to 100 th Street	C	6' FLOOD INUNDATION ZONE
4	ORANGE	100 th Street to DE Line		

The zone colors, which are broken down by divisions, are determined by the Town of Ocean City's Comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan, which divides the Town into four "divisions." The zone letters (A, B & C), however, are determined by the possible flood inundation levels where you live. In other words, our "Low Lying Area" (or areas with a 4 foot flood inundation) can be found in Zone A.

Because the term "Low Lying Area" can be vague, the new zones help residents and property owners have a clear understanding of their flood vulnerability. It's important to remember that just because you haven't experienced a flood in the past, doesn't mean you won't in the future. Flood risk isn't just based on history; it's based on a number of factors: rainfall, river-flow and tidal-surge data, topography, flood-control measures, and changes due to building and development.

Is a Flood Inundation Zone the Same as an Evacuation Zone?

No! Flood zones are areas established by the National Weather Service using historical and statistical data of flooding and/or tidal surge potential to OC, which provide residents and property owners their degree of flood risk. Emergency Managers use flood inundation, tidal surge, and winds to determine potential risk to the various communities throughout the Town, specifically in a storm or emergency. It is important for our residents, property owners and visitors to know which zone and division they reside, in case an evacuation is required.

What is Our Community's Evacuation Plan?

If a hurricane (or natural disaster) threatens the area, an evacuation order may be issued. Because of life safety concerns and property damage caused during a disaster or other unusual occurrence, specific properties, multiple locations

or the entire city may require evacuation. Both actual damage and potential hazards must be considered. The lack of sanitary facilities, utilities services, or other hazards may necessitate such

actions.

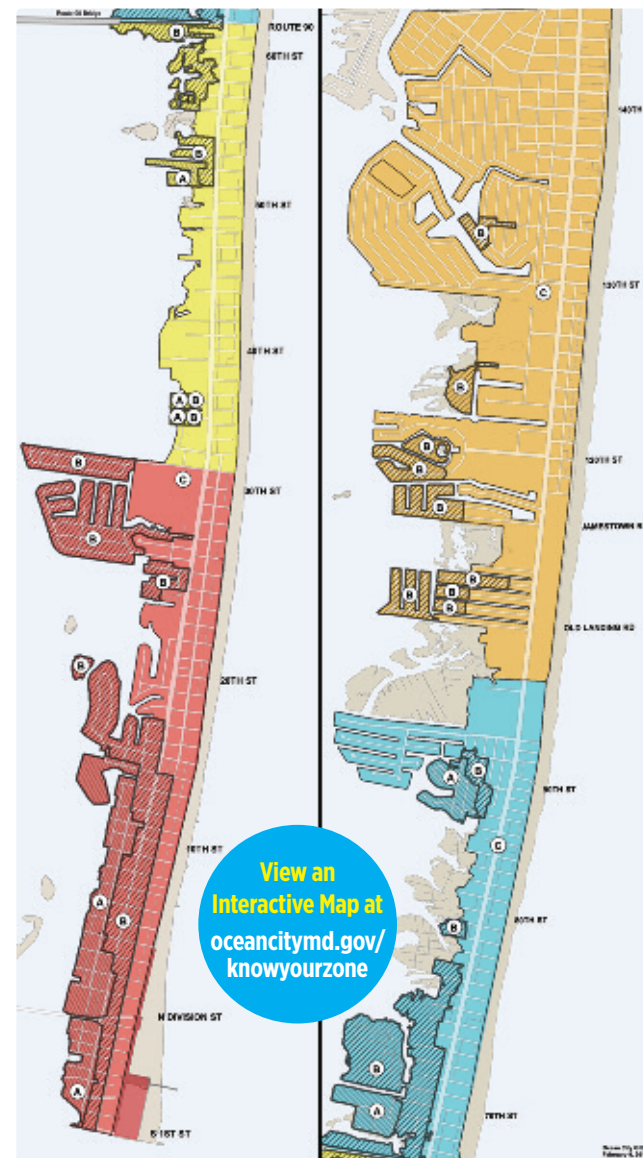
The Town of OC uses the concept of phased decision points based primarily on the National Weather Service (NWS) storm classifications (advisory, watch, warning, etc.). These decision points will be used as an overall philosophy in hurricane planning, response, and recovery, and facilitates the actions necessary to give an evacuation order. Evacuation phases are built into these classifications.

It is incredibly important that you **KNOW YOUR ZONE & DIVISION** and, if you are asked to go, move quickly but safely outside of the evacuation area.

How Can I Be Prepared?

Two keys to weather safety are to prepare for the risks and to act on those preparations when alerted by emergency officials. Some highlights on how to prepare and take action are found in three easy steps: (1) **Be Informed**, (2) **Make a Plan**, and (3) **Build a Kit**.

REMEMBER: Emergency Managers are counting on you to be prepared & do the right thing to keep yourself & your family out of dangerous situations. **KNOW YOUR ZONE & DIVISION** & have a plan for where you will go should something happen this hurricane season. **For an interactive map & more information about preparedness, please visit oceancitymd.gov/knowyourzone.**



OCEAN CITY FLOOD INUNDATION ZONES

