



## **JENSEN BEACH MOORING FIELD HURRICANE AND TROPICAL STORM PLAN**

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Martin County expects boat owners to have made suitable arrangements for safe, sheltered anchorage during tropical storms or hurricanes, and hereby, Boat Owner warrants such arrangements have or will be made. Boat Owner may not assume that the Mooring Facility will be safe, sheltered anchorage during tropical storms or hurricanes. In the event of an impending tropical storm or hurricane or other emergency, Martin County, in its sole discretion, is authorized to do whatever Martin County deems appropriate and reserves the right to tow or evacuate unattended vessels at the Boat Owner's risk and expense. In the event the Boat Owner fails to remove the Boat from the Mooring Buoy within 24 hours of a declared tropical storm or hurricane watch for Martin County, Florida, Martin County, in its sole discretion, is authorized to tow the boat from its Mooring Buoy or take any and all other actions deemed appropriate by Martin County, its employees or agents, in order to better secure the Boat and to protect Mooring Facility property, private property, and the environment. Boat Owner is further notified that Boat Owner may be charged a reasonable fee for any such action. Martin County, its employees, and agents, shall not be held liable for any damage incurred to the Boat from storms or hurricanes and are held harmless as a result of such actions. Undertaking to tow or evacuate the Boat shall not be deemed an assumption of responsibility for the safety, security and care of the Boat by Martin County, its employees, or agents, nor shall Martin County, its employees or agents, be deemed a bailee of the Boat Owner.

Mooring Facilities are generally not safe locations for vessels during strong named tropical storms or hurricanes and leaving vessels in Mooring Facility's during such storms could result in significant damage to the vessels and the Mooring Facility. The County advises vessel owners to exercise prudent and appropriate judgment on whether to remove their vessel from the Facility if a named tropical storm threatens the area. Vessel Owners are advised that mooring equipment provided in the Mooring Facility may not withstand hurricane or tropical storm or associated wind or tidal surge. All Mooring Facility vessel owners are solely and totally responsible for any and all damages to their vessel and personal property and other persons, vessels, or property caused by their failure to remove their vessels from the Mooring Facility in a timely fashion. If and when the County issues an evacuation order for low-lying areas and coastal zones, all boats and the individuals aboard them in the mooring field must evacuate. Furthermore, when a hurricane watch or tropical storm watch is declared by the National Hurricane Center, guests in the mooring field are strongly advised to evacuate promptly. This advisory is issued when hurricane or tropical storm conditions, including sustained winds of 39 miles per hour or higher for tropical storms, and 74 miles per hour or higher for hurricanes, are possible within the next 48 hours. Individuals are urged to secure their vessels safely and seek shelter to ensure personal safety. Should a hurricane warning or tropical storm warning be issued, indicating that hurricane or tropical storm conditions are expected within 36 hours, the mooring field will be closed immediately, and evacuation

will be mandatory. It is essential to follow all directives from local authorities and to prioritize safety during these hazardous weather conditions.

In the event a Boat Owner decides not to remove their Boat from the Mooring Buoy, you understand that Martin County Policy has strongly advised you to have made plans to leave in advance and that you will be held liable to the fullest extent of the law for all damage or injury sustained to you, your vessel, the mooring buoy, the dinghy dock, or private property, including any expenses that might be incurred.