



## Rain, Rain, Go Away - Little Johnny Wants to Play



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If 11" of rain falls on Long Island in 24 hours and no one calls it a hurry-cane, what was it!? The downpour amounted to what the National Weather Service said was double the average amount of rainfall for the entire month of August. This column is about that.

### What Was It?

It was unprecedented, that's what it was. I can't find anybody who saw so much water fall from the sky and fall, and fall, and fall. Oddly, for most of the time, the flags hung limply from their yard-arms, just getting wetter and wetter and wetter. It was just a "good soaking", as the old salts would call it.

But one of the dangers that spurred me to refresh this column has nothing to do with seamanship. When highways started closing all along Long Island and motor traffic backed up to "Portugal", the specter of people driving through running water raised its head. When evacuating, don't drive across flowing water. 2' of flowing water can carry your car away. Yes. Only 2' of moving water can raise your car off the pavement - and take it to deeper water. Turn around and go another way.

So, with that said, here is another refresher on a combination of a "good soaking" and high winds - which are coming again, as sure as Fall follows Summer...

### Hurricanes

We don't get many. We get the "tail" of hurricanes as they peter out to sea after running up the eastern seaboard. A hurricane is, in the words of scientists, an organized rotating weather system that develops in the tropics. Hurricanes are called typhoons in the western Pacific and cyclones in the Indian Ocean. Six of one, a half dozen of the other...

### Categories of Hurricanes

We've all heard the weather reporter state that "Hurricane 'x' is now a Category 3 hurricane and headed for \_\_\_\_\_." What does that mean?

Category	Winds(mph)	Type of Damage Expected	Examples
1	74-95	Anything not tied down is going to be lost; don't get hit by it.	Irene, 1999
2	96-110	Trees will go down. Roofs in trouble.	Floyd, 1999 Georges, 1998
3	111-130	Many trees will go down, along with small buildings	Betsy, 1965 Alicia, 1983
4	31-155	Complete failures of some small buildings. Complete destruction of many structures	Hugo, 1989
5	156->	Catastrophe. Wrath of God.	Andrew, 1992 Katrina, 2005

USCG hurricane aircraft reported Andrew and Katrina had generated winds over 200mph at various times of the storms...

### Tidal Surges

For Islanders, as bad as the winds will be, it is the tides and tidal surges that will do most of the damage, which is why even these tails that go by every year leave so much trouble behind. The storm tide is added to the astronomical tides. And when those waves hit something solid, they generate force dozens of times more powerful than wind of the same speed. Andrew generated a storm tide of 17 feet. Camille in 1969? 24 feet.

Add to that the population growth in our area and the increase in the value of homes and it can spell either "an absolute disaster" or "they were prepared."

### Before the Storm Arrives

1. Have a family action plan - if you're caught at school or at work, who do you call? To grandmother's house we go?
2. Flash lights working? Canned goods and water supplies? Cash? Portable radio?
3. Where ARE you going to move the boat? Don't even THINK about staying on her...
4. How about your prescription medicines? A first-aid kit is WHERE...!?

### During the Storm

1. Have the radio or TV on. If power goes out and you don't have a portable radio, I'd get the kids in the car and "to grandmother's house we go...!"
2. Propane tanks on your property? Shut them off completely.
3. Turn the refrigerator up all the way and don't open the door idly.
4. Fill the bathtub with water. How about the big spaghetti pot? Anything that can hold water and keep it clean.
5. If ordered to evacuate, do so. Immediately. And tell someone where you are going.
6. As above, when evacuating, don't drive across flowing water. 2' of flowing water can carry your car away. Yes. Only 2' of moving water. Turn around and go another way.

### After the Storm

1. If you've been ordered to evacuate, don't go back until the area is declared safe.
2. If you see someone that needs rescuing, unless the threat of loss of life is imminent, call 9-1-1.
3. See standing water? Do you know if any power cables lie in it?
4. Never use candles and other open flames indoors. Keep the flashlight at your side... This is by no means an exhaustive list. But that no-name-good-soaking just sent us a reminder.

BTW, if you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at JoinUSCGAux@aol.com or go direct to the D1SR Human Resources department, who are in charge of new members matters, at DSO-HR and we will help you "get in this thing..."



by TONY SALERNO

## FISHING WITH TONY

THANKS GOVERNOR, FOR PROHIBITING COMMERCIAL STRIPED BASS FISHERY IN THE HUDSON RIVER

Coastal Conservation Association New York is taking this opportunity to thank New York's Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, along with the members of New York's Senate and Assembly, for enacting legislation, which will protect New York's spawning population of striped bass. The legislation, which Governor Cuomo signed August 18, prevents any reopening of a commercial striped bass fishery on the Hudson River until at least 2015. CCA's special thanks go not only to Governor Cuomo, but also to the sponsors of the bill, Assemblyman Thomas Abinanti and Senator Mark Grisanti.

"The Hudson has been closed to commercial striper fishing since the 1970s," notes Scott Emslie, CCA NY's State Chair and a resident of the Hudson Valley. When the Chesapeake Bay stock collapsed in the late '70s, the Hudson was largely responsible for keeping striped bass fishing alive in the State of New York. Today, as the Chesapeake stock is again decreasing in numbers, we are pleased to see New York adopt this legislation, which will help keep Hudson striped bass available to the angling public."

CCA NY has been active in the effort to assure that commercial striped bass fishing will not return to the Hudson River, and has supported similar bills since the year 2000. However, it recognizes that a lot of people worked for this new law. "We're very pleased that this bill has been signed by Governor Cuomo," said Brian O'Keefe, Chair of CCA NY's Government Relations Committee, "We certainly worked for its passage, but have to give the New York Coalition for Recreational Fishing the lion's share of the credit. No one worked harder to get the bill passed, and they deserve the thanks of New York's anglers."

While the bill doesn't permanently prohibit commercial striped bass fishing on the Hudson River, it effectively protects the status quo, and assures that no effort to create a commercial bass fishery on the river can begin until after the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission has completed its next benchmark stock assessment.

"Now, when people up and down the coast are complaining about a decline in the number of striped bass, New York has taken a strong stand against increased exploitation," stated Bill Raab, President of CCA NY. "New York has learned the lesson of the past, that the time to prevent a fisheries problem is before it occurs. When Governor Cuomo signed this bill into law, he assured that no commercial fishery would be created in the second-largest striped bass nursery on the East Coast, at a time when the population in the largest producer area is not doing well. It was simply the right thing to do."

Supervisor Mark Lesko and the Town Board Present the 31st Annual

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