

THINGS TO AVOID DURING A HURRICANE

1. Residents and Visitors need to be aware that the greatest threat to their personal safety often comes from flying debris. Taking the time to secure your environment prior to the storm will reduce the opportunity for damage to you or your home caused by loose items blowing in the wind. Avoid standing under large trees and do not remain in damaged structures.
2. Downed utility wires. Do not attempt to identify downed wires as a result of this storm. Notify your local Public Safety Agency or National Grid and they will dispatch trained personnel to investigate. Although a wire may look harmless while lying on the ground it may in fact be a live wire capable of killing you if you come in contact with it.
3. If you find yourself inside a vehicle with downed utility wires on it remain inside your vehicle. Emergency response personnel will safely remove you from the vehicle after insuring that it is de-energized.
4. Avoid the temptation to walk on the beach during a storm this dangerous. Although you may feel that you are safe by staying away from the breaking surf you would not be able to escape and avoid being washed out to sea if a large breaking wave washes over the shoreline. Hurricane Earl is going to generate rough seas up to 20' near Nantucket's shores. You won't see it coming and if you do, you won't be able to move fast enough to avoid being pulled out to sea.
5. If you are a surfer and feel confident in your abilities just remember this. If you do get into trouble, there may be nobody available to come to your assistance. The Town of Nantucket does not have the capacity to conduct dangerous surf and off shore rescues during such extreme weather events as this. Remember, your actions might affect the safety of the entire community if first responders have to deal with saving you, leaving everyone else exposed and without assistance. First Responders will be maxed out during this storm responding to other land based emergencies. Please help by not taking unnecessary risks.