Hurricane Preparedness

SCIENCE BY THE Slice

Part 1: No Time to Wait

Featuring: Dr. Angie Lindsey and Craig Fugate

Main Ideas

- Hurricanes disproportionately affect the elderly, people with disabilities, and low-income areas.
- The leading cause of death during hurricanes is drowning.
- Building codes are in place to provide minimum safety standards for structures and some codes are designed to protect infrastructure from hurricanes.
- Preparation is key in protecting you, your family, and your pets from the impacts of hurricanes.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do hurricanes affect groups of people differently?
2. What are some different ways you can prepare for hurricane season?
3. How does a region's environment impact building codes? Why are building codes necessary?
4. How can focusing on the outcome rather than the issue lead to efficient problem solving?

Tips from the Speaker

1. Focus on the outcome. Work backwards to determine which processes fit the problem.
2. If you live in an evacuation zone, create a plan in the event of an emergency.
3. During hurricane season, store water, clear your property from debris, and protect windows and doorways. Learn about other safety precautions by visiting the websites in the resource section.

Other Resources

https://www.floridadisaster.org/
https://extensiondisaster.net/

PIECENTER.COM/MEDIA/PODCAST

UF|IFAS UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Center for Public Issues Education

Hurricane Preparedness

Part 2: How Do Buildings Feel Hurricanes

Featuring: Dr. Angie Lindsey and Dr. Kurtis Gurley

SCIENCE BY THE Slice

Main Ideas

- The University of Florida uses a modeled wind tunnel to replicate the effects of hurricane level winds.
- Researching the effects of strong winds on structures can provide new knowledge about how buildings can withstand hurricane impacts. This research can be applied to building codes to minimize infrastructure damage during storms.
- Hazardous wind speeds vary based on the region.
- Windows, doorways, and garage doors are examples of structural components that depend on regional building codes and are created to protect your home from the environment.

Discussion Questions

1. How are models like the wind tunnel beneficial in hurricane research?
2. How does hurricane research help communities? In what ways can engineers use research to improve infrastructure?
3. How can you prepare yourself, your family, and your home for a severe storm?

Tips from the Speaker

1. Research building codes in your area and ensure your home is up to date on codes.
2. Utilize resources to better prepare yourself for severe storms.

Other Resources

disaster.ifas.ufl.edu | ready.gov | FEMA.gov
nhc.noaa.gov/ | cdc.gov
piecenter.com/resources/natural-disaster-resources/

PIECENTER.COM/MEDIA/PODCAST

UF|IFAS UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Center for Public Issues Education