

Hurricane/Emergency Commodity Survey

Palm Beach County, Florida

Consumer Affairs Division

www.pbcgov.com/consumer • 561-712-6600

As of June, 2009

Each Hurricane season the Palm Beach County Consumer Affairs Division conducts surveys of prices for common commodities or goods that are likely to be needed prior to or after a hurricane. A variety of retailers (small, large, chains, independents, etc.) in all sections of the county are surveyed. The purpose of the survey is to establish an approximate “benchmark” value to determine if businesses or individuals selling goods during a declared state of emergency (mostly for hurricanes) are “Price Gouging” consumers. The law prevents retailers from raisings prices “unconscionably” while our area is under a declared state of emergency.

CATEGORY: Building & Roofing Supplies

Commodity	Avg. Price	Min. Price	Max Price
Roof Cement/Bull (1 Gal)	\$10.48	\$8.49	\$17.99
Roof Cement/Bull (5 Gals)	\$33.35	\$27.99	\$42.32
Roof Felt 30 Pound Roll	\$28.93	\$22.56	\$32.44

CATEGORY: Consumables

Commodity	Avg. Price	Min. Price	Max Price
Charcoal	\$7.33	\$3.27	\$16.99
Charcoal (10 Pounds)	\$7.16	\$3.75	\$9.99
Ice	\$2.03	\$1.09	\$3.49
Ice (7-8 Pounds)	\$1.09	\$1.09	\$1.09
Whole Milk (1 Gallon)	\$3.68	\$2.49	\$5.99
Whole Milk (1/2 Gallon)	\$2.59	\$1.69	\$4.19

CATEGORY: Home Shelter Supplies

Commodity	Avg. Price	Min. Price	Max Price
Duct Tape 1.88 inch (30 Yds)	\$5.23	\$1.69	\$11.99
Duct Tape 2 inch (60 Yds)	\$6.95	\$5.29	\$8.49
Lumber (2x4x12 Board)	\$5.21	\$4.00	\$8.49
Lumber (2x4x16 Board)	\$6.24	\$6.24	\$6.24
Lumber (2x4x8 Board)	\$3.84	\$1.79	\$6.49
Lumber (4x4x8 Board)	\$8.45	\$2.82	\$12.00
Masking Tape .94 in. 60.1 Yds.	\$2.58	\$0.79	\$4.99
Masking Tape 1.41 inch	\$3.64	\$2.97	\$5.29
Plywood (4x8x1/2)	\$19.16	\$8.97	\$34.22
Plywood (4x8x3/4)	\$30.18	\$16.29	\$44.27
Plywood (4x8x5/8)	\$26.46	\$11.79	\$41.02
Tapcon 1/4" (3.25 in) 100 Cnt	\$29.49	\$16.12	\$62.77
Tapcon 3/16" (2.75 in) 100 Cnt	\$20.29	\$10.95	\$35.03

CATEGORY: Hotel/Motel Rental

Commodity	Avg. Price	Min. Price	Max Price
Off-Season Room Rates	\$109.83	\$36.00	\$229.00
Seasonal Rates	\$169.33	\$36.00	\$269.00

CATEGORY: Household Supplies

Commodity	Avg. Price	Min. Price	Max Price
Alkaline Batteries (9 Volt)	\$6.39	\$1.00	\$15.99
Alkaline Batteries (6 Volt) 1 Each	\$8.59	\$3.97	\$12.49
Alkaline Batteries (AA) 8 Each	\$6.73	\$2.50	\$9.79
Alkaline Batteries (AAA) 8 Each	\$7.01	\$5.49	\$9.79
Alkaline Batteries (C) 4 Each	\$7.31	\$4.99	\$12.49
Alkaline Batteries (D) 4 Each	\$7.11	\$5.49	\$9.99
Bleach (96 ozs.)	\$2.07	\$1.39	\$2.99
Bottled Propane Fuel	\$4.07	\$2.66	\$6.24
Cooler (24-48 Quarts)	\$26.62	\$2.29	\$52.99
Cooler (Greater than 48 Quarts.)	\$77.37	\$24.99	\$412.89
Corded Circular Saw 7¼ Blade	\$104.05	\$38.73	\$229.95
Corded Power Drill 3/8 Variable	\$69.94	\$19.99	\$145.00
Cordless Power Drill 3/8 Variable	\$83.48	\$29.99	\$184.14
Electric Chain Saw 16 inch Blade	\$78.98	\$59.97	\$94.99
Gas Chain Saw 14 inch blade	\$160.99	\$99.99	\$299.99
Gas Chain Saw 16 inch blade	\$201.41	\$134.99	\$299.99
Gas Chain Saw 18 inch blade	\$237.32	\$149.00	\$419.99
Gas Chain Saw 20 inch blade	\$348.11	\$189.00	\$579.99
Generator Elec. Start 4000-7550W	\$1578.20	\$599.99	\$3,399.00
Generator Elec. Start 7551-10000W	\$1,892.83	\$805.10	\$3,711.00
Generator Pull Start 1800-3999W	\$568.89	\$312.76	\$1,199.99
Generator Pull Start 4000-7550W	\$1,135.90	\$448.88	\$3,399.96
Generator Pull Start 7551-10000W	\$1,974.44	\$748.88	\$2,011.00
Generator Elec. Start 1800-3999W	\$924.48	\$848.97	\$999.99
Lantern Florescent w/Battery	\$22.60	\$4.99	\$34.99
Lantern (Propane)	\$31.98	\$18.00	\$52.99
Metal Ladder (6-8 Feet)	\$87.33	\$35.00	\$223.08
Plastic Tarps (16x20)	\$23.18	\$6.00	\$34.99
Plastic Tarps (9x12)	\$7.82	\$2.02	\$12.59
Propane (Refillable 20 lb. Tank)	\$32.01	\$13.10	\$49.99
Propane Camping Stove (2 Burner)	\$61.62	\$29.99	\$87.49
Sterno Fuel (7 ozs.)	\$3.98	\$3.98	\$3.98
Wet/Dry Vacuums (8-16 Gallons)	\$105.46	\$59.99	\$224.50

CATEGORY: Storage Unit

Commodity	Avg. Price	Min. Price	Max Price
Storage Unit w/Air Conditioning	\$113.17	\$48.00	\$214.00
Storage Unit w/o Air Conditioning	\$151.00	\$135.00	\$173.00