

## **What JIPSD Wastewater Services Does to Prepare for Hurricanes**

Hurricanes and other heavy rain events can impact the wastewater system. Listed below are some problems JIPSD [Wastewater Services](#) are prepared for.

### **Power Outages**

- Problem:** Power outages can cause wastewater lift stations to stop working.
- JIPSD Prevention:** Generators are positioned at major lift stations. They are tested and checked for fuel on a regular basis.
- JIPSD Active Response:** Associates actively monitor more than 70 lift stations. Where needed, mobile generators are driven to each station in a sequential order for associates to pump the wastewater. All generators are regularly fueled and checked to ensure continued operation.

### **Flooding**

- Problem:** Flood waters can prevent access to JIPSD facilities and infiltrate the system causing unusually heavy flow the system was not designed to handle.
- JIPSD Prevention:** Equipment is staged prior to an event at elevated ground levels to allow JIPSD easier access. If necessary, equipment is staged off the island. All year JIPSD works to ensure the integrity of the system through scheduled maintenance, testing and cleaning.
- JIPSD Active Response:** During an event, all essential personnel are required to be on duty in rotating shifts to monitor the system. Overflows reported by residents or found by associates are recorded and mitigated as soon as possible. Some overflows may not stop until flooding has receded. Cleanup efforts are made once the event is over.

### **High Winds**

- Problem:** High winds can cause radio antennas to fail, debris to fly, trees to fall and lead to unsafe conditions for JIPSD associates to be outside.
- JIPSD Prevention:** Through a remote monitoring system, JIPSD can receive alerts to any potential problem a lift station may experience. Prior to an event, lift stations are cleaned and debris is removed off the ground or secured to prevent projectiles. JIPSD values the safety of associates. At all times, associates are supplied with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Associates receive OSHA training and JIPSD emergency operations training.
- JIPSD Active Response:** Once wind speeds reach 40 mph, associates do not work outside. Wastewater associates work with JIPSD Fire to clear roadways.