



## **Homeowners: Prepare for Severe Weather**

More than 50 million people now live along the nation's hurricane-prone coastlines, nearly double the number since 1970. Many meteorologists are predicting a major storm will hit the U.S. coastline this year, something that hasn't happened since hurricane Andrew hit south Florida in 1992.

The Metal Roofing Alliance (MRA) encourages residents to take proactive steps to reduce the risk of potential damage from hurricanes and severe storms. Aside from the basic precautions commonly used, such as boarding up windows, planning an evacuation route and trimming back tree limbs, homeowners should consider installing a residential metal roof for added protection.

Metal roofing systems have a 120-mph wind rating and uplift resistance that is above new building code requirements. In other words, metal roofs are able to withstand wind gusts equal to an F2 tornado. "Most metal roofing materials interlock, forming a protective barrier that other roofing materials do not provide. This interlocking makes the roof stronger and more resistant to high winds," said Bill Hippard, President of the Metal Roofing Alliance.

The recent launch of the Certification Program by the Metal Construction Association has helped the industry grow. This scientific testing program ensures contractors and homeowners that the painted surfaces of metal roofing products will stand up to the toughest standards. This initiative differentiates the levels of quality, creating a credible basis for product comparison and providing a means of verifying metal roofing performance.

“Metal roofing is probably one of the most durable roofing materials on the market today,” states Steve Easely, a noted home improvement expert. “The wide variety of styles and colors fit any style of home. I live in a wildfire-prone area and have a metal roof on my home. It’s beautiful and I know it’s the best product that I could have chosen to protect my family.”

The Metal Roofing Alliance was formed to educate consumers on these and other benefits of metal roofing, now available for residential applications. Visit [www.metalroofing.com](http://www.metalroofing.com) for more information.