

Preparing for a Hurricane – Get Ready! Be Safe!

Preparing for Hurricane Season - June through November - can be challenging. Below are tips that can help you get ready for severe weather before it approaches.

Family Safety

- ☐ Establish a family emergency communication plan
 - ☐ Make sure you know how to contact family members who may not be in the same place
 - ☐ Set a location point to get back together after the hurricane passes
 - ☐ Have important phone numbers written down in case cellular and landlines are cannot be used
- ☐ Protective supplies - stock up on essentials, such as face masks, disposable gloves, hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes
- ☐ Plan for evacuation
 - ☐ Make arrangements of where you can go in the event of evacuation and have options — download the FEMA app to locate emergency shelter locations
 - ☐ Ensure you have plans for your entire family, including pets
 - ☐ Pack a “Go Bag” that includes all the essentials you’ll need and make sure it’s easily accessible
 - ☐ Keep your vehicle fueled up and ready to go with emergency supplies
 - ☐ Snacks/Water
 - ☐ First aid kit
 - ☐ Flashlight
 - ☐ Jumper cables
 - ☐ Tools
 - ☐ Blanket
 - ☐ Change of clothes
- ☐ Gather emergency supplies
 - ☐ Medical needs/prescription medications
 - ☐ Put critical documents in a waterproof container
 - ☐ Collect tools and safety items
 - ☐ Food/supplies - at least 3 day supply of non-perishable food and water
 - ☐ Hygiene and sanitation items
 - ☐ Protective gear - warm clothes, blankets, footwear, and gloves
 - ☐ Irreplaceable items or items that may provide comfort to your family, especially children

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Protecting Your Home & Assets

- ☐ Storm shutters/opening protection
 - ☐ If you have existing shutters and/or opening protection
 - ☐ Check to make sure the opening protection is in good condition and ensure you have all of the tools and materials needed for installation
- ☐ If you’re reliant on someone else to install your opening protection, reach out to them to ensure they’re still in business and you’re on their response list
- ☐ Back-up generator
 - ☐ Consider purchasing a back-up gas-powered generator in advance of the storm
 - ☐ Make sure the generator is full of fuel and have extra fuel
 - ☐ Test run the generator once/week
- ☐ Stockpile emergency protective materials
 - ☐ Plywood
 - ☐ Plastic sheeting
 - ☐ Sandbags
- ☐ Sump pump
 - ☐ If your home has a sump pump, test it in advance
 - ☐ Consider purchasing a battery back-up for your sump pump to maintain operation during lengthy power outages
- ☐ Elevate valuable assets
 - ☐ Consider moving any valuable assets to a higher floor in your home or elevating them off the floor
- ☐ Outdoor furniture & decor
 - ☐ Minimize the amount of lightweight objects outside your home; i.e. patio furniture, decor, garbage cans, toys
 - ☐ Secure items that would be unsafe to bring indoors; i.e. grills, propane tanks
- ☐ Trees
 - ☐ Trim and/or remove trees in close proximity to your home and other buildings
- ☐ Clean Gutters
 - ☐ Keep gutters clean to allow rainwater to efficiently drain away from your home
- ☐ Create or update an inventory of your contents
 - ☐ Take pictures and create an inventory of the personal property within your home

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