



HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

Before the Storm

General Preparedness through the Season

Keep your vehicle gas tank above 1/2 full through the season.

Test run generators monthly with a load to insure proper working order. Consider the purchase of flood insurance, even if outside of a floodplain. Have cash on hand in small denominations for year-round preparedness. Maintain portable battery powered AM radio.

Contact 2-1-1 to register if you need transportation assistance to evacuate.

Home Preparedness

Board up your windows or close storm shutters.

Trim the trees and shrubs around your home.

Cleared loose and clogged downspouts and rain gutters.

Perform a inventory of home contents (electronics, jewelry, appliances, clothing, etc.) and store in safe place.

Take detailed photos(s)/videos(s) of home property and contents (internal and external) and store in safe place.

Secure or remove all items outside your home (grill, hanging plants, potted plants, etc.).

Tie down small or young trees to prevent uprooting.

Store all important documents (insurance papers, etc) in a waterproof container and in a secure location. Prepare your evacuation kit using the pertinent items in the attached Emergency Essentials Kit checklist. Turn off propane tanks.

Fill the bathtub and other large containers with water for sanitary purposes (cleaning, flushing toilets, etc.)

If you Plan to Evacuate

What is your zip code? _____

Are you located in an evacuation area in the evacuation map?

Where are you evacuating to? _____

Who is your contact at your destination? _____

What is their contact information? _____

What is your backup evacuation location? _____

Take a copy of all important documents and store in a waterproof container and in a secure location. Top off your vehicle gas tank before hitting the road.

If you Plan to Stay

Listen to the radio (AM 1400 WAVQ) or TV for information.

If you have gas items you need to operate after the storm (generator, chainsaw, etc); fill gas storage container(s).

Prepare your hurricane kit using the attached Emergency Essentials Kit checklist.

During the Storm

Listen to the radio (AM 1400 WAVQ) or TV for information.

Turn the refrigerator and freezer to its coldest setting and keep its doors closed.

Avoid using the phone except for emergencies.

Stay indoors during the storm and away from windows and glass doors.

Close all interior doors.

Keep curtains and blinds closed.

Take refuge in a small interior room, closet, or hallway on the lowest level of your home.

After the Storm

If you are Returning from Evacuation

Return only after the all clear is given for your area.

Do not venture on to roads until you have been advised they are passable and safe.

Carefully inspect your home and perform an exterior assessment for safety issues.

Be on the lookout for downed power lines and avoid if identified.

If any safety issues are present, do not enter your home (gas smell, flood waters, fire damage, etc.).

If any safety issues are present, have your home inspected by a qualified building inspector or engineer.

Damage Assessment

Have a fire extinguisher readily available in the case of a fire.

Watch for safety hazards (loose boards, slippery floors, broken glass, etc.)

Carefully check for damage to the roof, foundation, and chimney. If the building looks unstable do not enter.

Use a stick or other tool to sift through debris.

Open cabinets cautiously. Beware of objects that can fall off shelves.

If you smell natural gas, leave the structure and contact your local gas utility company.

Use a battery powered flashlight to inspect the structure. Do not use oil or gas lanterns or candles inside the structure.

If structural damage is present, turn off utilities.

Do not use electrical appliances that have been wet/damaged until checked by a professional.

Check with local authorities or have well water tested before using any water (could be contaminated).

Until cleared with authorities or tested, all water should be boiled for 1 minute at a rolling boil to disinfect before drinking.

Avoid using any toilets until you have checked for sewage or water line damage. If you suspect damage call a plumber.

Service damaged sewage systems as soon as possible as they present serious health hazards (septic tanks, pits, etc.)

Check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to ensure they are functioning properly. If any damage is identified to your home, contact your insurance company to start a claim. Photograph and document any damage.

Throw away any spoiled food items or those that have come in contact with flood waters. When in doubt throw it out!

Until cleared with authorities or tested, all water should be boiled for 1 minute at a rolling boil to disinfect before drinking.

FOOD LIST

ZERO-PREP FOOD:

1 GALLON OF DRINKING WATER PER DAY PER PERSON

DRY CEREAL

CANNED FRUITS

CANNED VEGETABLES

CANNED JUICE

READY TO EAT CANNED SOUPS AND MEATS

CANNED PASTA

CANNED BEANS

PEANUT BUTTER

BREAD

BANANAS

APPLES

ORANGES

CRACKERS

NUTS

GRANOLA AND ENERGY BARS

MINIMAL-PREP FOOD:

RICE

PASTA

PASTA SAUCE

SEASONING

OATS

EMERGENCY ESSENTIALS KIT

PRINT A COPY OF THIS EMERGENCY ESSENTIALS LIST AND TAKE IT WITH YOU TO THE STORE.

Food

7-day supply of non-perishable food that doesn't need cooking
Hand-operated can opener Plastic plates, cups, utensils
Water
1gallon of drinking water per person per day, enough for 5 days

First Aid

Red Cross approved first aid kit
Backup prescriptions for essential medications

Personal Hygiene

Hand sanitizer or disinfectant wipes
Toilet paper, paper towels, garbage bags
Dental care, vision products, medications
Travel-size soaps and other beauty supplies
Change of clothes, pair of shoes, and blanket per person

Baby Items

Formula, bottles, powdered milk Diapers,
Baby wipes
Any medications
Diaper rash ointment

Lighting

Flashlights for each family member with extra batteries
Fluorescent lanterns for each common area
Waterproof matches or a utility lighter

Communication

Portable, battery-powered AM/FM radio
NOAA All-Hazards Alert Radio
Land-line phone with a long cord
Extra batteries for flashlights, lanterns, radio
Extra cell phone battery, or car charger
Whistle

Family Safety Items

Smoke detector with battery for each floor
Carbon monoxide detector with battery backup
Fire extinguisher
Non-scented bleach for sanitization
Sunscreen
Insect repellent
Shovel and basic tools

Transportation Items

State and regional road maps
Basic repair items (tools, tire patch kit, engine oil)
Emergency Road Safety Triangles
Games, books, puzzle

Pet Needs

7-day supply of non-perishable pet food and water
Cage or pet carrier and leash
Pet medications and pet first-aid kit
Current photo in case you are separated
Cat litter and box
Pet bed and toys

Clean Air Items

Nose and mouth protection masks (N-95 rating)
Plastic sheeting
Duct tape