

BE PREPARED THIS SEASON

HURRICANE SEASON IS FROM JUNE 1-NOVEMBER 30

Hurricanes are strong storms that can be life-threatening as well as cause serious property-threatening hazards such as flooding, storm surge, high winds and tornadoes. Preparation is the best protection against the dangers of a hurricane. Know the difference between the threat levels and plan accordingly.

HURRICANE WATCH

Hurricane conditions are a threat within 48 hours. Review your hurricane plans. Get ready to act if a warning is issued, and stay informed.

HURRICANE WARNING

Hurricane conditions are expected within 36 hours. Complete your storm preparations and leave the area if directed to do so by authorities.

RECOMMENDED HURRICANE SUPPLIES

- Water**—at least a 14-day supply; one gallon per person per day.
- Food**—at least a 14-day supply of non-perishable, easy-to-prepare food
- Manual can opener**
- Flashlight**
- Radio**—battery-powered or hand-crank
- Extra batteries**
- First aid kit**
- Medication** (14-day supply) and medical items (glasses, hearing aids, syringes, etc.)
- Multi-purpose tool**
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items**
- Copies of personal documents** (medication list and pertinent medical information, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies)
- Cell phone with chargers**
- Contact information**—family and emergency
- Extra cash** in small bills
- Debit, credit card, and banking information** (account numbers, bill-pay information) this can help avoid credit problems due to inability to make payments during a disaster
- Emergency blanket**
- Map(s)** of the area
- Baby supplies** (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers, etc.)
- Pet supplies** (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier)
- Tools/supplies** for securing your home
- Extra set of keys**—car and house keys
- Rain gear**
- Insect repellent and sunscreen**
- Camera** for photos of damage
- Disinfecting supplies**—at least a 14-day supply of soap, hand sanitizer, and disinfecting wipes to disinfect surfaces
- Cloth/mask face coverings**—for everyone ages 2 and above

PREPARE

- Listen to the radio for critical information.
- Replace and restock disaster supplies as needed.
- Bring in anything that can be picked up by the wind (bicycles, lawn furniture).
- If you do not have hurricane shutters to secure, close and board up all windows and doors with plywood.
- Turn your refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting. Keep them closed as much as possible so that food will last longer if the power goes out.
- Turn off your propane tank.
- Unplug small appliances.
- Fill your car's gas tank.
- Create a hurricane evacuation plan.
- Find out about your community's hurricane response plan. Plan routes to local shelters, register family members with special medical needs and make plans for your pets to be cared for.
- Obey evacuation orders. Avoid flooded roads and washed out bridges.
- Follow the latest guidelines from the CDC for protecting yourself and family from COVID-19.

WHAT TO DO AFTER A HURRICANE

- Continue listening to the radio or the local news for the latest updates.
- If you've evacuated, return home only when officials say it is safe.
- Drive only if necessary and avoid flooded roads and washed out bridges.
- Keep away from loose or dangling power lines and report them immediately.
- Stay out of any building that has water around it.
- Inspect your home for damage. Take pictures of damage before starting the clean-up process, both of the building and its contents, for insurance purposes.
- Use flashlights. Do NOT use candles.
- Avoid drinking or preparing food with tap water until you are sure it's not contaminated.
- Wear protective clothing and be cautious when cleaning up to avoid injury.
- Use the telephone only for emergency calls.