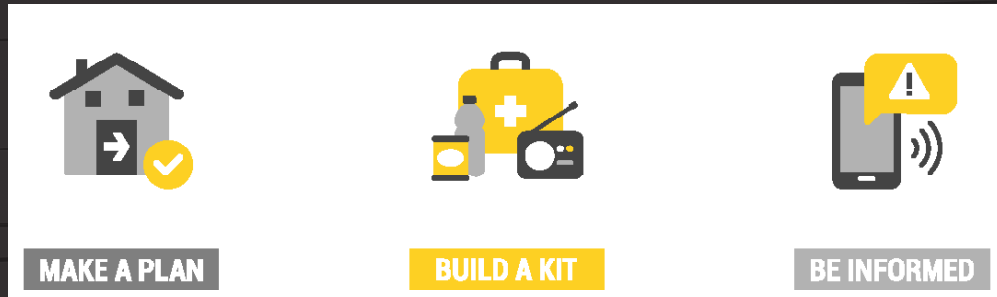


# HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS PREPARE FOR THE STORM



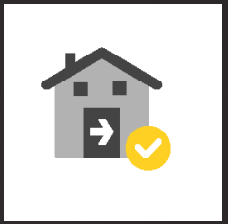
Hurricanes are powerful and destructive natural disasters that can wreak havoc on communities and cause significant damage. Being prepared is essential to ensure the safety of yourself, your loved ones, and your property. This flyer will provide the important information and resources to help you stay safe.

## Understanding Hurricane Categories

Understanding Hurricane Categories help you to make informed decisions. You need to understand the potential risks, to decide which version of your Hurricane Plan you will follow.

	Category	Sustained Winds	Types of Damage Due to Hurricane Winds
	1	74-95 mph	<b>Very dangerous winds will produce some damage:</b> Well-constructed frame homes could have damage to roofs, shingles, vinyl siding and gutters. Large branches of trees will snap and shallowly rooted trees may be toppled. Extensive damage to power lines and poles likely will result in power outages that could last a few to several days.
	2	96-110 mph	<b>Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage:</b> Well-constructed frame homes could sustain major roof and siding damage. Many shallowly rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted and block numerous roads. Near total power loss is expected with outages that could last from several days to weeks.
MAJOR	3	111-129 mph	<b>Devastating damage will occur:</b> Well-built framed homes may incur major damage or removal of roof decking and gable ends. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water will be unavailable for several days to weeks after the storm passes.
MAJOR	4	130-156 mph	<b>Catastrophic damage will occur:</b> Well-built framed homes can sustain severe damage with loss of most of the roof structure and/or some exterior walls. Most trees will be snapped or uprooted and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.
MAJOR	5	157 mph +	<b>Catastrophic damage will occur:</b> A high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.

# HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS MAKE YOUR PLAN



The first step to building your Hurricane Plan is determining your risks. You can find out what rain, wind, and water hazards could happen where you live. Some Hazards include: storm surge along the coast, inland flooding, tornadoes, strong wind, rip currents, and large waves

## Develop an Evacuation Plan

### IF YOU LIVE IN A HURRICANE EVACUATION ZONE, HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO HELP PLAN:

- Identify trusted sources for evacuation orders
- Have multiple options of where to go and how to get there
- Plan for children, the elderly, and pets
- Prepare your home and property
  - Remove all loose items from the exterior of your home
  - Board up windows and secure doors
  - Trim trees
  - Secure large items and outdoor furniture
  - If you live in a flood zone, raise furniture and valuables
  - Get sandbags ready
  - Prepare and test your generator in a safe outdoor location with spare gas
  - Move your car to a safe location (no overhead trees or in a flood area)
  - Have tarps and tools on hand to install them
  - Have tools on hand to turn off utilities
- Have a “go bag” of supplies
- Gather important documents and make sure your home’s insurance is up to date and has enough coverage for possible repairs
- Be prepared to leave immediately
- If you are in an area ordered to evacuate, your destination could be a friend or family member’s house. It doesn’t have to be hundreds of miles away. If you live in a well-built home outside the evacuation zone, your safest option might be to stay home. Know your options and have a few of them.
- If you are staying through a storm, fill your clean bath tub with water to use for washing

It would be a good idea to set a time frame for your plan stages. If you live in a Hurricane-prone area, you may want to **start assembling your emergency kit at the beginning of Hurricane Season**. If you are planning to **stay with friends or family, you should contact them at the beginning of the season** to expect you in the event of a storm. If you are staying in lodgings, you should pre-determine a few that you are comfortable staying in and if you have pets, make sure to find pet-friendly options. **If a storm develops, pre-book your room** if possible so that you have a definite place to stay.

# HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS ASSEMBLE A KIT



Some items in your disaster kit may be purchased well in advance and kept in storage year after year. Always check your items at the beginning of the season to make sure nothing is expired and in good working order. Consider your Hurricane Plan when assembling your kit. Staying versus evacuating plays a large role in what you will need on hand.



**Water and Food Supplies:** When preparing for a hurricane, it is crucial to have an ample supply of clean water and non-perishable food items that can sustain you and your family for at least three days. FEMA suggests the following:

- **Water:** Store one gallon of water per person per day. Ensure you have at least a three-day supply for each household member, considering both drinking and sanitation needs.
- **Non-perishable Food:** Choose foods that do not require refrigeration or cooking. Opt for canned goods, energy bars, dried fruits, and other long-lasting items. Remember to include a manual can opener and baby food or pet food if necessary.



**Personal Hygiene and Sanitation:** Maintaining hygiene during and after a hurricane is essential for health and well-being. Include the following items:

- **Toiletries:** Pack toilet paper, hand sanitizer, wet wipes, and personal hygiene products.
- **Plastic Bags and Duct Tape:** Have a supply of plastic bags for waste disposal and duct tape for various emergency repairs.



**Important Documents and Cash:** Protect your vital documents and have access to cash in case electronic payment systems are unavailable:

- **Important Documents:** Store copies of identification documents, insurance policies, medical records, and other essential papers in a waterproof container or airtight bag.
- **Cash:** Keep a reasonable amount of cash in small denominations, as ATMs and credit card systems may not function during power outages.



**Essential Medications and First Aid:** Maintain a well-stocked first aid kit and ensure an ample supply of prescription medications. Here are some recommendations:

- **First Aid Kit:** Include adhesive bandages, sterile gauze pads, antiseptic wipes, scissors, tweezers, latex gloves, a thermometer, and over-the-counter medications for pain relief, allergies, and gastrointestinal issues.
- **Prescription Medications:** Keep at least a seven-day supply of prescription medications for each family member. Check the expiration dates regularly and replenish as needed.



**Communication and Lighting:** During a hurricane, power outages and disrupted communication networks are common. Prepare to stay connected and well-informed with these items:

- **Battery-Powered or Hand-Crank Radio:** Include a NOAA Weather Radio or a battery-powered radio to receive important updates and information.
- **Cell Phone and Chargers:** Keep your cell phone fully charged before the storm hits and have portable chargers or extra batteries available.
- **Flashlights and Extra Batteries:** Store several flashlights in your kit along with a good supply of extra batteries. Consider using LED flashlights for longer battery life.



**Comfort Items:** When evacuating, bring sleeping bags, pillows, blankets, and battery powered fans. If the roads are congested, you may not make it to your destination before bed.

# HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS ASSEMBLE A KIT



## HOME PREP + REPAIR

- Tarps
- Generator
- Gas Cans Filled
- Extension Cords
- Hammer
- Nails
- Ladder
- Wrench + City Water Key  
*To Disable Utilities*
- Drill
- Screws
- Plywood to Board Windows
- Saw to Cut Window Boards
- Sand Bags
- Work Gloves

## GENERAL

- Batteries and Portable Chargers
- Flashlights (preferably LED to save batteries)  
*Do Not Use Candles*
- NOAA Weather Radio: Battery Powered or Hand Crank
- Cash in Small Denominations
- Banks & ATMs may not be available
- Books, Cards, Games and Activities for Children
- Trash Bags
- Duct Tape
- Scissors
- Paper Towels
- Rope
- Keys: Cars, Home, Office, Storage

## CHILDREN + INFANTS

- Portable Crib
- Bottles + Feeding Supplies
- Toiletries
- Toys
- Formula  
*Enough for 14 days*
- Sterile Water
- Diapers  
*5 per day for 14 days*
- Medications + Equipment

## FIRST AID + MEDICATIONS

- Regularly used medical supplies and a list of allergies
- Two week minimum supply of medication*
- Required Medical Devices
- A list of the style, serial number, and manufacturer information*
- Adhesive Bandages
- Sterile Gauze Pads
- Antiseptic
- Scissors
- Antibacterial Ointment
- Tweezers
- Gloves
- Thermometer
- OTC Pain Reliever  
*Adult & Children's*
- OTC Allergy Meds  
*Adult & Children's*
- OTC Gastrointestinal Meds  
*Adult & Children's*

## FOOD + WATER

- Water - 1 Gal per Person per Day  
*Prepare for at least 4 days*
- Non-Perishable Foods
- Canned Goods, Peanut Butter, Bread, Pasta + Sauce, Protein Bars*
- Snacks
- Juice + Beverages
- Special Dietary Needs  
*Enough for 7 Days Minimum*
- Manual Can Opener
- Plastic Cups
- Paper Plates
- Napkins
- Utensils
- Bucket + Soap for Washing
- Propane
- Propane Burner for Cooking

## CLOTHING

- Rain Jacket
- Rain Boots
- Umbrellas
- Daily Clothes + Undergarments
- Sturdy Shoes or Boots

## IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

- Insurance Cards
- Birth Certificates
- Social Security Cards
- Deeds & Titles
- Will
- Medical Documents
- Marriage Certificate
- Religious Certificates
- Pet Documents & Registration
- Diplomas
- Banking and Financial Documents
- Home Insurance Policy

*Should Be Kept in Waterproof Container*

## PERSONAL ITEMS

- Towels
- Sleeping Bags
- Pillows
- Blankets
- Soap
- Battery Powered Fans
- Cell Phones and Chargers
- Sunscreen
- Hand Sanitizer
- Baby Wipes
- Water for Washing
- Toilet Paper

## VEHICLE

- Keep Gas Tank Full
- Vehicle Emergency Kit
- Jumper Cables

## PET CARE

- Kennel / Carrier
- Leash + Muzzle
- Collar with Tags
- Bowls for Feeding
- Service Animal Supplies + Docs
- Medications
- Food for 7 Days

KEY

- Prepare for Staying Home
- Prepare for Evacuating
- Prepare for Both

# HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

# STAY CONNECTED + SAFE



During a hurricane, staying informed about the storm's progress and receiving timely updates is crucial. Here's how you can stay informed:

- **Follow official weather alerts:** Monitor local news channels, radio stations, and weather apps for updates from reliable sources like the National Weather Service.
- **Sign up for emergency notifications:** Register for alerts and warnings through your local emergency management agency or community notification systems.
- **If you live in a mandatory evacuation zone:** Leave immediately and follow evacuation orders.
- **Utilize technology:** Download relevant mobile apps that provide hurricane tracking and emergency information.
- **Have a battery-powered radio:** In case of power outages, a battery-powered radio can keep you updated on the latest news and alerts.

## Staying Safe During and After a Hurricane

### WEATHER:

- Determine how best to protect yourself from high winds and flooding.
- Take refuge in a designated storm shelter, or an interior room for high winds.
- If trapped in a building by flooding, go to the highest level of the building. Do not climb into a closed attic. You may become trapped by rising flood water.
- Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Turn Around.
- Don't Drown! Just six inches of fast moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.

### RETURNING HOME:

- Pay attention to local officials for information and special instructions.
- Be careful during cleanup. Wear protective clothing, use appropriate face coverings or masks if cleaning mold or other debris, and maintain a physical distance of at least six feet while working with someone else. People with asthma and other lung conditions and/or immune suppression should not enter buildings with indoor water leaks or mold growth that can be seen or smelled, even if they do not have an allergy to mold. Children should not take part in disaster cleanup work.
- Wear protective clothing and avoid working alone.
- Do not touch electrical equipment if it is wet or if you are standing in water. If it is safe to do so, turn off electricity at the main breaker or fuse box to prevent electric shock.
- Do not wade in flood water, which can contain dangerous pathogens that cause illnesses, debris, chemicals, waste and wildlife. Underground or downed power lines can also electrically charge the water.