



2025 HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

Comprehensive Checklist



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Serving the Greater
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BE PREPARED FOR A HURRICANE

Threats from hurricanes include powerful winds, heavy rainfall, storm surges, coastal and inland flooding, rip currents, tornadoes and landslides.

Hurricanes (also called typhoons and cyclones) are massive storm systems that form over warm ocean waters and move toward land.

Hurricanes ...



can happen along any U.S. coast or territory.



can affect areas more than 100 miles inland.



are most active in September.

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM A HURRICANE

Know your evacuation zone and consider your personal risk.



Make a plan to evacuate AND be ready to shelter in place.



Monitor communications and follow instructions from local authorities.



Evacuate immediately if told to do so. If not, take shelter from high winds in a designated storm shelter or an interior room.



Turn around, don't drown! Do not walk, swim or drive through floodwaters.



Only use generators outdoors and away from windows.



Seacoast Building & Design can help you prepare for a hurricane and show you how to stay safe when a storm hits. If a hurricane is threatening, we stop all other work and focus on securing your home. We will plan with you in advance for the specific needs of your property.

A Brief Overview On HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN A HURRICANE THREATENS

Prepare NOW

Know your area's risk of hurricanes and consider your personal risk of impact.

Review your insurance policy for hurricane-related hazard coverage. Standard insurance policies do not cover flooding — you may need to purchase additional policies.

Sign up to receive emergency alerts and notifications from your local emergency management office. Learn what common alerts and warnings mean before you are impacted by a hurricane.

Monitor weather reports and updates from the National Hurricane Center. Be on alert for heavy rain.

Practice going to a safe shelter for high winds, such as a FEMA safe room, an International Code Council (ICC) 500 storm shelter or a small, interior windowless room in a sturdy building. Make sure your safe shelter is on the lowest level that will not be affected by floodwater.

Develop an emergency communication plan that you can use to contact family, friends and neighbors during a hurricane. Plan to text or message because you may not be able to make or receive phone calls.

Develop an evacuation plan based on your evacuation zone. Consider where you will evacuate to and how you will get there. Practice your plan using your evacuation route.

Gather enough food, water and emergency supplies to last you several days. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Don't forget the needs of pets.

Keep important documents in a dry, safe place such as a fireproof and waterproof box, and create password-protected digital copies.

Protect your property. Install hurricane shutters or reinforce windows. Declutter drains and gutters. Secure outdoor items and furniture or move them indoors.

Survive DURING

Evacuate immediately if ordered to do so. Take critical supplies and documents with you. Follow evacuation routes and directions from local officials. Do not drive around barricades. Drive carefully and be cautious of strong winds and heavy rain.

If you do not evacuate, take shelter indoors and stay away from windows and doors.

- **If there is no flooding, make sure your safe shelter is on the lowest level** that will not be affected by floodwater. Take shelter in a FEMA safe room, an International Code Council (ICC) 500 storm shelter or a small, interior windowless room in a sturdy building.
- **If you experience flooding, go to the highest level of the building** to avoid becoming trapped by rising floodwater but do not climb into a closed attic.

Get inside a safe shelter or a sturdy building as soon as possible if you are outdoors, in a vehicle, in a manufactured or mobile home, or in a temporary structure during a hurricane.

Pay attention to updates from weather stations and news sources to stay informed. Follow advice from local authorities. Take action when advised to do so.

Use a generator, grill or camp stove ONLY outdoors and at least 20 feet away from any building openings like windows, doors or garages to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.

Turn around, don't drown! Do not walk, swim or drive through floodwaters. Just six inches of fast-moving water can knock you down and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.

Do not drive during a hurricane. Wind gusts can overturn vehicles and bridges could collapse.

Conserve mobile device batteries for emergency use.

Be Safe AFTER

Follow reentry guidance from local authorities and return home from an evacuation only when it is safe to do so.

Have a professional inspect your damaged property before attempting to clean up or repair any damage. Wear protective clothing and use caution during cleanup.

Stay away from floodwater. Floodwater can contain a variety of hazards, including sharp objects, downed power lines, sewage, bacteria, chemicals and wild or stray animals.

Save phone calls for emergencies. Phone systems are often down or busy after a disaster. Use text messages or social media to communicate with family and friends.

Document any property damage with photographs. Contact your insurance company to file an insurance claim. Register with FEMA for additional assistance.

You are the help until help arrives. Be careful when helping people who may be trapped or injured. Floodwaters may contain hazards and buildings may be unstable.

Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov/hurricanes** and use FEMA's **Guide for Alerts and Warnings** to learn more about hurricane watches and warnings. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about how to prepare.

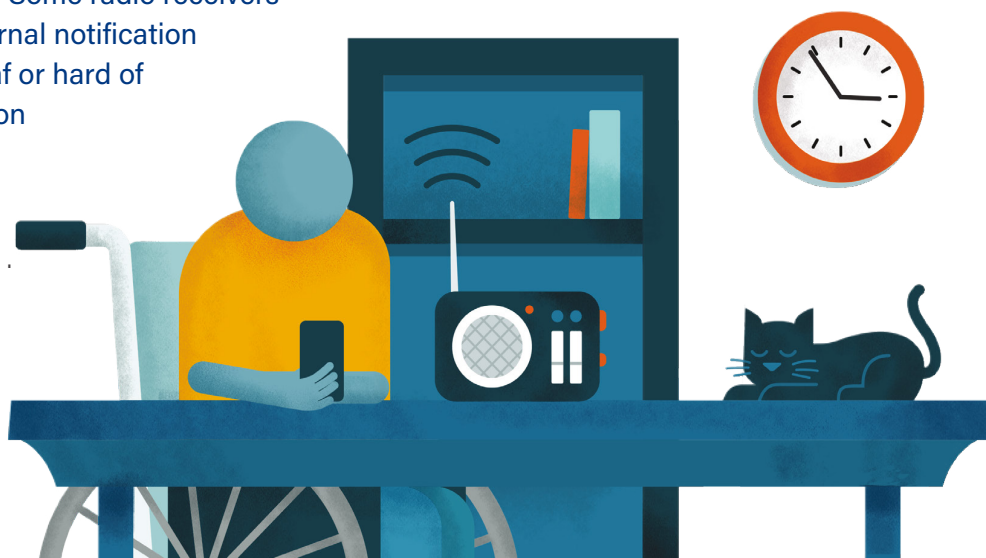


We are certified professionals who can identify your home's vulnerabilities and provide valuable insights to fortify your property against impending storms.

BE PREPARED FOR A HURRICANE

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

You can receive alerts and warnings directly from the National Weather Service for all hazards with a **NOAA Weather Radio (NWR)**. Some radio receivers are designed to work with external notification devices for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. For more information on NWR receivers, visit [nws.noaa.gov/nwr/info/nwrrcvr.html](https://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/info/nwrrcvr.html). Sign up for emergency alerts and notifications that your community may offer. Download Be Smart. Know Your Alerts and Warnings for a summary of notifications at ready.gov/prepare.



Graphics courtesy of the Department of Homeland Security and FEMA

WATCHES AND WARNINGS

The National Weather Service (NWS), part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), issues alerts when weather conditions make hurricanes more likely. Know the terms used to describe changing hurricane conditions and be prepared to take appropriate action



ADVISORY

Tropical Storm or Hurricane Advisory—The NWS issues an Advisory when it expects conditions to cause significant inconveniences that may be hazardous. If caution is used, these situations should not be life-threatening.



WATCH

Tropical Storm or Hurricane Watch—The NWS issues a Watch when a tropical storm or hurricane is possible within 48 hours. Tune in to NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards, local radio, TV, or other news sources for more information. Monitor alerts, check our emergency supplies, and gather any items you may need if you lose power.



WARNING

Tropical Storm or Hurricane Warning—The NWS issues a Warning when it expects a tropical storm or hurricane within 36 hours. During a Warning, complete your storm preparations, and immediately leave the threatened area if directed to do so by local officials.



Hurricane Preparedness Checklist

DISASTER. It strikes anytime, anywhere. It takes many forms -- a hurricane, an earthquake, a tornado, a flood, a fire, or a hazardous spill. Some are natural, while others are man-made. It builds over days or weeks, or hits suddenly, without warning. Every year, millions of Americans face disaster, and its terrifying consequences. **The time to prepare is now.**

Hurricane season is June 1st to November 30th. Are you ready? The **Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)** educates the public about the hazards associated with hurricanes, tropical storms, high winds, storm surge, and flooding. Preventing loss of life and minimizing property damage from hurricanes are responsibilities that everyone shares. Whenever you are asked to evacuate, please do so promptly. It is essential for you and your family to have a plan that maximizes your safety. Preparedness includes having the supplies on hand to weather any storm.

Before the Storm

General Preparedness through the Season

- ☐ Keep your vehicle's gas tank at least half full throughout the season.
- ☐ Test run generators monthly with a load to ensure proper work in order.
- ☐ Consider purchasing flood insurance, even if you are not in a floodplain.
- ☐ Have cash on hand in small denominations for year-round preparedness.
- ☐ Maintain a portable battery-powered AM radio.
- ☐ Contact 2-1-1 to register for 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.
- ☐ Take inventory of home contents (electronics, jewelry, appliances, clothing, etc.) and secure.
- ☐ Take detailed photos/videos of property (internal and external) and store in a 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 in a waterproof container and keep them secure.
- ☐ Prepare your evacuation kit using the pertinent items in an emergency essentials kit.
- ☐ Turn off propane tanks.
- ☐ Full large containers of water for sanitary purposes (e.g., cleaning, flushing toilets, etc.)



Hurricane Preparedness Checklist

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?
- ☐ Secure a copy of all important documents in a waterproof container.
- ☐ Top off your vehicle's gas tank before hitting the road.

If You Plan to Stay

- ☐ Listen to the radio (AM WIOD 610 or WFFG 1300) or local TV for information.
- ☐ Prepare gas for the items you need to operate after the storm (e.g., generator, chainsaw).
- ☐ Prepare your hurricane kit using the attached Emergency Essentials Kit checklist.

During the Storm

- ☐ Listen to the radio (AM WIOD 610 or WFFG 1300) or local TV for information.
- ☐ Turn the refrigerator and freezer to their coldest settings and keep their 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

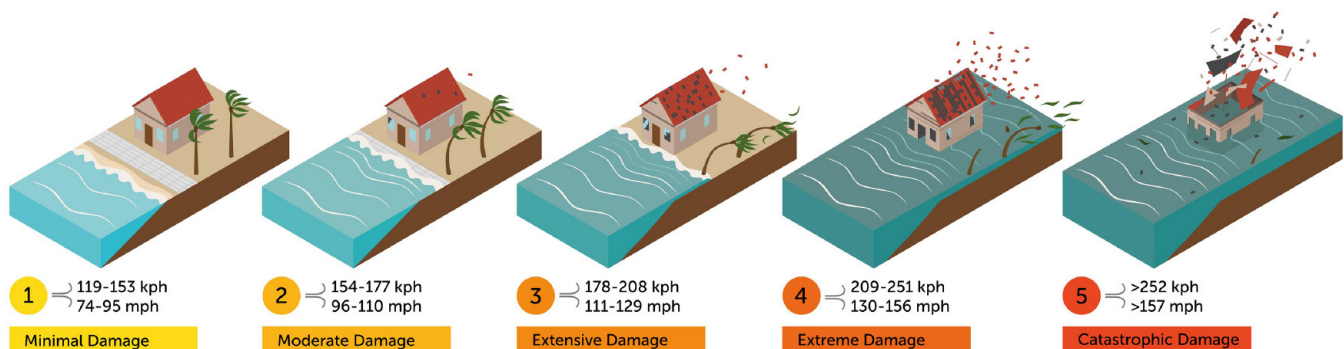
- ☐ Return only after the all clear is given for your area.
- ☐ Do not venture onto roads until you have been advised they are passable and safe.
- ☐ Carefully inspect your home and perform an exterior assessment for safety issues.
- ☐ Be on the lookout for downed power lines and avoid if identified.
- ☐ If any safety issues are present, do not enter your home (e.g., gas smell, floodwaters, fire damage).
- ☐ If any safety issues are present, have your home inspected by a qualified inspector or engineer.
- ☐ Watch for and avoid loose animals and poisonous snakes.
- ☐ DO NOT run generators, grills, or other gas-operated appliances indoors due to carbon monoxide.

Hurricane Preparedness Checklist

Damage Assessment

- ☐ Have a fire extinguisher readily available in case of a fire.
- ☐ Watch for safety hazards (loose boards, slippery floors, broken glass, etc.)
- ☐ Carefully inspect the roof, foundation, and chimney for any damage.
- ☐ If the building looks unstable, do not enter.
- ☐ Use a stick or other tool to sift through debris, rather than doing it by hand.
- ☐ Open cabinets cautiously and 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, candles, or other open flames 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 to disinfect it before drinking.
- ☐ Avoid using any toilets until a plumber has checked for sewage or water line damage.
- ☐ Service sewage systems immediately due to serious health hazards (such as septic tanks and pits).
- ☐ 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 into contact with floodwaters.

Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale



The five-point Saffir-Simpson scale, which is based on the maximum average wind speed, is then used to determine the strength of a hurricane. The strongest category is 5 but these are really the exceptions. For example, **Hurricane Camille**, which struck the Virginia coast in 1969, or **Hurricane Katrina** in 2005, which struck New Orleans and the surrounding area, were devastating.



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Emergency Essentials Kit

Retain a copy of this list and take it with you for safekeeping.

Food

- ☐ 7-day supply of non-perishable, no-cooking food
- ☐ Hand-operated can opener
- ☐ Plastic plates, cups, and utensils

Water

- ☐ 1 gallon of water per person per day 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 and vision products
- ☐ Travel-size soaps and other beauty supplies
- ☐ Change of clothes, shoes and blanket per person

Clean Air Items

- ☐ Nose and mouth protection masks (N95 rating)
- ☐ Plastic sheeting
- ☐ Duct tape

Baby Items

- ☐ Formula, bottles, powdered milk
- ☐ Diapers
- ☐ Baby wipes
- ☐ Diaper rash ointment

Lighting

- ☐ Flashlights for each person 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
- ☐ Cell phone battery charger
- ☐ Extra batteries for anything need
- ☐ A 12-volt battery charger
- ☐ A loud whistle to call for help if trapped

Family Safety Items

- ☐ Smoke detector with a 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

- ☐ Printed state and regional road maps
- ☐ Basic repair items (tools, tire patch kit, etc.)
- ☐ Emergency Road Safety Triangles
- ☐ Games, books, puzzles

Pet Needs

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



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Medication Essentials Kit

Complete the highlighted fields on this form and print for your records.

Allergies to Medications	
Use the chart below to list all medications, both prescription and nonprescription, you are allergic to.	
Medication Name	Type of reaction, such as rash or breathing difficulties

Prescription Medications					
Use the chart below to list all the brand-name and generic prescription medications you currently take. Be sure to fill in all the information for each medication. The amount of medication in each pill appears on the prescription label in milligrams (mg). The dosage is the amount of medication in each pill multiplied by the number of pills you take each time.					
Medication Name	Prescribing Doctor's Name	Phone Number	Reason for Medication	Dosage (in mg)	How often? (such as 3x/day)

Nonprescription Medications, Vitamins, and Supplements				
List all those you take occasionally, such as aspirin for a headache, as well as those you take every day, such as a multivitamin or nutritional supplement. Include any herbs or alternative medicines that you take.				
Medication Name	Reason for Medication	Where Bought	Dosage (in mg)	How often? (such as 3x/day)

Family Information Table

Before an emergency occurs, sit down together and decide how you will communicate with each other, where you will go, and what you will do in an emergency. Keep a copy of this plan in your emergency supply kit or another safe place where you can access it in the event of a disaster.

Out-of-Town Contact Name:	Telephone Number:
Email:	Telephone Number:
Neighborhood Meeting Place:	Telephone Number:
Regional Meeting Place:	Telephone Number:
Evacuation Location:	Telephone Number:

Fill out the following information for each family member and keep it up to date.

Name:	Social Security Number:
Date of Birth:	Important Medical Information:
Name:	Social Security Number:
Date of Birth:	Important Medical Information:
Name:	Social Security Number:
Date of Birth:	Important Medical Information:
Name:	Social Security Number:
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Name:	Social Security Number:
Date of Birth:	Important Medical Information:

Write down where your family spends the most time: work, school, and other places you frequent. Schools, daycare providers, workplaces, and apartment buildings should all have site-specific emergency plans that you and your family should be aware of.

Work Location One	School Location One
Address:	Address:
Phone Number:	Phone Number:
Evacuation Location:	Evacuation Location:

Work Location Two	School Location Two
Address:	Address:
Phone Number:	Phone Number:
Evacuation Location:	Evacuation Location:

Work Location Three	School Location Three
Address:	Address:
Phone Number:	Phone Number:
Evacuation Location:	Evacuation Location:

Other Place You Frequent	Other Place You Frequent
Address:	Address:
Phone Number:	Phone Number:
Evacuation Location:	Evacuation Location:


Important Information	Name	Telephone Number	Policy Number
Doctor(s):			
General Practitioner:			
Other:			
Other:			
Other:			
Pharmacist:			
Medical Insurance:			
Homeowners/Rental Insurance:			
Veterinarian / Kennel (for pets):			

Dial 911 for Emergencies

Family Emergency Cards

Disaster can strike at any time. Having a plan before it happens just makes sense. Before an emergency happens, sit down together and decide how you will get in contact with each other, where you will go and what you will do in an emergency. Keep a copy of this plan in your emergency supply kit or another safe place where you can access it in the event of a disaster.

1. Complete the cards using the information from your family emergency plan. Each family member should have a card.
2. Cut around the dotted lines of the cards. Do not cut between each card panel.
3. Fold accordion-style, along the designated lines.
4. Keep in a wallet, purse, backpack, or book bag at all times.




Family Emergency Card

FAMILY EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE

CONTACT #2 PHONE

CONTACT #3 PHONE

CONTACT #4 PHONE

DIAL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES  **POISON CONTROL 1-800-222-1222**


CONTACT #5 PHONE

CONTACT #6 PHONE


CONTACT #7 PHONE

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING SPOT

MEETING SPOT OUTSIDE OF NEIGHBORHOOD




Emergency Supply Kit




- Water (3-5 day supply)
- Non-perishable food
- First aid kit
- Cash in various denominations
- Loud whistle
- Personal hygiene items
- Extra clothing/bedding
- Plates, cups, utensils, non-electric can opener
- Portable battery-operated radio/weather radio

- Battery-operated flashlight
- Extra batteries
- Medications (for at least 1 week)
- Paperwork outlining current medications, dosages & instructions
- Copies of important documents
- If you have infants – formula, diapers, bottles, pacifiers, etc.
- If you have children – books, toys, games, etc.




Pet Supply Kit




- Water (3-5 day supply)
- Non-perishable or canned food
- Medications
- Pet carrier, leash

- Paperwork outlining current medications, dosages & instructions
- Copy of current vaccination record
- Small toys, blankets, etc.

VET/ANIMAL CLINIC PHONE

VET EMAIL  VET CELL

KENNEL PHONE




Family Emergency Card

FAMILY EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE

CONTACT #2 PHONE

CONTACT #3 PHONE

CONTACT #4 PHONE

DIAL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES  **POISON CONTROL 1-800-222-1222**


CONTACT #5 PHONE

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VET/ANIMAL CLINIC PHONE


VET EMAIL  VET CELL

KENNEL PHONE

FOLD HERE



FOLD HERE



FOLD HERE

