

Hurricane Preparedness Plan Checklist

Stay Informed

- Weather Updates: Regularly check the National Hurricane Center, local news, and weather apps for the latest forecasts and alerts.

Know Your Evacuation Zone

- Evacuation Zone: Identify if your home is in an evacuation zone.
- Shelters and Routes: Familiarize yourself with the nearest shelters and evacuation routes.

Communication Plan

- Family Contacts: Ensure all family members know how to contact each other and establish a meeting point if separated.

Emergency Contacts and Important Documents

- List of Contacts: Include local emergency management offices, hospitals, and out-of-town relatives. Copies of insurance policies, identification, and bank account records in a waterproof container.

Essentials

- Water: 1 gallon per person per day for at least 3 days.
- Non-perishable Food: A 3-day supply of canned goods, dry food, and snacks.
- Manual Can Opener: For opening canned food if the power is out.
- Medications: A 7-day supply, including a list of each medication, its dosage, and any allergies.
- First Aid Kit: Bandages, antiseptics, pain relievers, and other basic supplies.
- Flashlights and Batteries: Enough batteries to last several days.
- Battery-powered or Hand-crank Radio: For staying informed if the power goes out.
- Cell Phone with Chargers: Portable power banks recommended.
- Cash: Small bills, as ATMs may not be operational.
- Multi-tool or Swiss Army Knife: Useful for various tasks and repairs.

Personal Items

- Clothing: Sturdy shoes, rain gear, and a change of clothes.
- Personal Hygiene Items: Soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, sanitary supplies, etc.
- Blankets or Sleeping Bags: For warmth and comfort.
- Pet Supplies: Food, water, medications, and a carrier or leash.

Home Preparation

- Secure Windows and Doors: Use storm shutters or plywood. Secure the garage door with bracing.
- Trim Trees and Shrubs: Remove damaged branches to reduce debris.
- Secure Loose Items Outdoors: Bring in patio furniture, garbage cans, and other potential projectiles.
- Fill Gas Tanks: Ensure vehicles are fully fueled in case of evacuation.
- Generator: Check it's in working order and stock extra fuel.

Post Hurricane

- Cleaning Supplies: Bleach, gloves, trash bags, and disinfectants.
- Repair Supplies: Tarps, plywood, nails, and basic tools.

Staying Safe Before and After the Storm

- During the Hurricane: Stay indoors, away from windows and doors. Use a safe room if available.
- After the Hurricane: Be cautious of downed power lines, flooded areas, and structural damage. Follow local authorities' instructions for returning home and boil water advisories if applicable.