

Are You Ready for a Hurricane?

1. Listen to a NOAA Weather Radio or the local news for the latest updates.
2. Check your disaster supplies. Replace or restock as needed.
3. Get cash. If power goes out, ATMs will not be working. You may not be able to use your debit or credit cards.
4. Bring in anything that can be picked up by the wind (bicycles, lawn furniture).
5. Close your windows, doors and hurricane shutters. If you do not have hurricane shutters, close and board up all windows and doors with plywood.
6. 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.
7. Turn off propane tank.
8. Unplug small appliances.
9. Fill your car's gas tank.
10. Create a hurricane evacuation plan with members of your household. Planning and practicing your evacuation plan minimizes confusion and fear during the event.
11. 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.
12. Obey evacuation orders. Avoid flooded roads and washed out bridges.

What to Do After a Hurricane:

1. Continue listening to a NOAA Weather Radio or the local news for the latest updates.
2. Stay alert for extended rainfall and subsequent flooding even after the hurricane or tropical storm has ended.
3. If you evacuated, return home only when officials say it is safe.
4. Drive only if necessary and avoid flooded roads and washed out bridges.
5. Keep away from loose or dangling power lines and report them immediately to the power company.
6. Stay out of any building that has water around it.
7. Inspect your home for damage. Take pictures of damage, both of the building and its contents, for insurance purposes.
8. Use flashlights in the dark. Do NOT use candles.
9. Avoid drinking or preparing food with tap water until you are sure it's not contaminated.
10. Check refrigerated food for spoilage. If in doubt, throw it out.
11. Wear protective clothing and be cautious when cleaning up to avoid injury.
12. Watch animals closely and keep them under your direct control.
13. Use the telephone only for emergency calls.



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