

# BUILD AN EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT



In the event of an emergency, you may need access to food for several days. Being prepared means having your own food, water, and other essential supplies to last for at least seven days. To assemble a supply kit, store items in airtight plastic bags and put your entire supply kit into one or two easy-to-carry containers. In some disasters, you may be safer staying at home. In the event that you need to evacuate, make sure you bring your emergency supply kit with you.

## PERSONAL ITEMS



Have	Need	N/A	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sleeping Bags and/or Pillows and Blankets
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lawn Chairs/Folding Chairs
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hot and Cold Weather Clothing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sturdy Closed-Toe Work Shoes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rain Gear
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Personal Hygiene (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medications (prescription and non-prescription)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spare Eyeglasses
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hearing Aids
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Entertainment (cards, books, quiet games)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baby/Infant Needs (diapers, formula, baby food, etc.)

## FOOD SERVICE NEEDS



Have	Need	N/A	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drinking Water (one gallon per day per person for 7 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Perishable Food
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Manual Can Opener
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Juice/Soft Drinks/Instant Coffee or Tea/Dry Milk
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lighter/Waterproof Matches
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pots/Pans/Cooking Utensils
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Aluminum Foil
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disposable Plates, Cups, and Cutlery
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plastic Wrap/Ziplock Bags/ Garbage Bags
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cooler for Food Storage
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cooler to Transport Ice

## BASIC TOOLS



Have	Need	N/A	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basic Tool Kit (hammer, wrenches, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Specialized Tools (for water, gas valves, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plastic Tarps or Roll Plastic Sheeting
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Assorted Screws and Nails
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Duct Tape
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Canvas or Leather Work Gloves
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Extinguisher

## BASIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT



Have	Need	N/A	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NOAA Weather Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	First Aid Kit With Instruction Book
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Battery Powered Television, Radio, and Clock
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Flashlights
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Battery Powered Lanterns
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Extra Batteries and Car Chargers for Electronics
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whistle (to signal for help if needed)

# BUILD AN EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

## MAINTAIN YOUR KIT



### FOOD STORAGE:

Store canned food in a cool, dry place and boxed food in plastic or metal containers.

### CHECK AND REPLACE:



Regularly check the date on items in your kit, such as food, medications, and batteries, and replace expired items as needed.

### UPDATE:



Re-think your needs every year and update your kit as your family's needs change.

## PET/SERVICE ANIMAL



Have Need N/A

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Water (one gallon per day for each animal)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Food and Treats
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Food and Water Bowls
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medications
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vaccination and Registration Records
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Collar or Harness with ID Tag, Rabies Tag and Leash
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cat Litter and Tray
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plastic Bags for Pet Waste
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Current Photo of You and Your Pets
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Comfort Items (toys, bedding)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cage or Carrier for Each Animal

## SANITATION/CLEAN UP SUPPLIES



Have Need N/A

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unscented Bleach
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Water for Cleaning
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Assorted Cleaners
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rubber Gloves
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brushes, Brooms, and Mops
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Towels and Rags
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plastic Garbage Bags
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bucket with Lid for Emergency Toilet
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toilet Paper/Paper Towels
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wet Wipes and Waterless Hand Sanitizer

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS



Have Need N/A

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spare Keys
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pen/Pencils and Paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Important Documents (identification, insurance policies, and account records saved electronically or in a waterproof, portable container)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Keepsakes, Significant Photos
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coins, Cash, and Credit Cards
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maps and Evacuation Information
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Important Phone Numbers
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Two-Way Radios

# HAVE A PLAN

Though it may seem difficult or time-consuming to plan for the unexpected, planning ahead is the number one way to stay safe in the event of a disaster. It is important to prepare for all hazards that could impact you, especially large-scale disasters like hurricanes that may affect the entire community.

**Prior to hurricane season**, develop or update your **Family Emergency Plan**. Hold a meeting with your family to discuss what you will do in an emergency. Ask the following questions:

- WHAT IS YOUR ESCAPE PLAN?** When planning for hurricanes, understand your evacuation zone and establish an evacuation route (see back cover).
- DO YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT?** The kit should have enough supplies to last seven days for every person in your family, including a plan for yearly maintenance.
- WHERE WILL YOU MEET?** Your family should have a set meeting location in the event that you become separated. Also, consider where you would meet if you evacuate.
- HOW WILL YOU COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR FAMILY IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY?** You cannot always count on your cell phone to work, especially if cell towers are down.
- WHO IS YOUR OUT-OF-TOWN CONTACT?** Pick someone that each of your family members can contact to check-in with and report their status.
- DO YOU HAVE A PLAN FOR YOUR ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD?** This includes children, pets, and individuals needing additional assistance.
- DID YOU SHARE YOUR PLAN?** Your Family Emergency Plan should be shared with friends, co-workers, and out of town family members. Encourage them to develop Emergency Plans of their own. Disasters can affect everyone in the community!

## EVACUATION CHECKLIST

EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

CASH AND CREDIT CARDS

CONTACT LIST

FAMILY PHOTOS



### IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

Social security card, drivers license, passport, medical and homeowners insurance documents



### CHANGE OF CLOTHING

Enough for each member of your household



### PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS

Toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, lotion, deodorant, tissues, face coverings, and gloves



### MEDICAL NEEDS

Wheelchair, canes, walkers, medications, hearing aids, and extra batteries



### BABY NEEDS

Diapers, formula, food, and change of clothing



### PET CARE

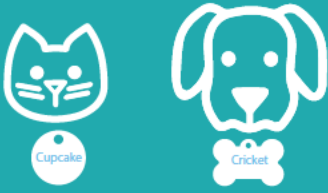
Identification and immunization records, carrier or cage, muzzle, collar, leash, food, and water



**TIP:** Prior to evacuating, consider taking photos or videos of your residence to assist in documentation of property. This may help provide information for potential insurance claims.

# ANIMAL PREPAREDNESS

## SMALL ANIMAL PREPAREDNESS



Be sure all dogs and cats are wearing collars with securely fastened current identification that includes the telephone number and address



Train both dogs and cats to feel comfortable being in a crate for fast transportation during a disaster



Always bring pets indoors during the first sign or warning of a storm or disaster



Keep an emergency pet kit and ensure that it is easy to carry and in an accessible place



Have current photos of your pets in case they get lost during a disaster



**TIP:** Identification microchips are recommended for all pets.

## LARGE ANIMAL PREPAREDNESS



Make sure your horse is identifiable with a bracelet or microchip



Train horses to lead and trailer so they become comfortable with the process



Identify evacuation routes where you can board your horses outside of an evacuation zone



Have a surplus of feed available. Don't get to the last bale when disaster strikes



Never turn your horse or livestock loose. You never know how they will react, and they could be a danger to you and others



# SEVERE WEATHER

## THUNDERSTORMS AND LIGHTNING



Thunderstorms can develop at any time, but they are most frequent in late spring through early fall. All thunderstorms produce lightning. Many hazardous weather events are associated with thunderstorms.

Thunderstorms can lead to:

- Flash flooding
- Strong winds
- Tornadoes
- Lightning
- Hail

During a thunderstorm you should:

- Go inside or seek shelter immediately
- Avoid objects that conduct electricity
- Get as far away from water as possible
- Avoid open areas and high ground

### SEVERE THUNDERSTORM RISK CATEGORIES

<b>Marginal Risk</b> (MRGL)	Isolated severe thunderstorms possible	Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity Wind to 40-60 mph, hail up to 1", and low tornado risk.
<b>Slight Risk</b> (SLGT)	Scattered severe storms possible	Short-lived or not widespread, isolated intense storms One or two tornadoes Reports of strong winds and wind damage Hail -1", isolated 2"
<b>Enhanced Risk</b> (ENH)	Numerous severe storms possible	More persistent and/or widespread, a few intense A few tornadoes Several wind damage reports Damaging hail 1"-2"
<b>Moderate Risk</b> (MDT)	Widespread severe storms likely	Long-lived, widespread and intense Strong tornadoes Widespread wind damage Destructive hail, 2" or greater
<b>High Risk</b> (HIGH)	Widespread severe storms expected	Long-lived, very widespread, and particularly intense Tornado outbreak Derecho (widespread, long-lived wind storms)

### TORNADOES



A tornado is a column of violently rotating air that extends from a thunderstorm to the ground. Lightning and hail are common in thunderstorms that produce tornadoes. The extent of destruction caused by a tornado depends on its intensity, size, path, and amount of time it is on the ground.

When conditions are right for a tornado, there are a few things you can do to protect yourself and your loved ones:

- Ensure you have multiple ways to receive weather alerts, warnings, and notifications.
- Stay tuned to local weather or listen to your NOAA weather radio.
- Go to the innermost hallway on the lowest floor of your home or workplace. Stay away from windows.
- Do not try to outrun a tornado in a car. Seek sturdy shelter immediately.
- If you live in a manufactured home, seek other sturdy shelter immediately.
- Do not leave your shelter until the danger has passed.



### TORNADO ALERTS

#### Tornado Watch

**BE AWARE:** Conditions are right for a tornado to form. Make sure you have a way to receive weather alerts and know your safe space.

VS

#### Tornado Warning

**TAKE ACTION:** A tornado has been spotted in your area or indicated by weather radar. Take shelter immediately in your safe space.

# SEVERE WEATHER

## WILDFIRES



A wildfire is an unplanned, unwanted fire. Wildfires often occur in wilderness areas, but they can happen anywhere. Wildfires can start by natural causes, such as lightning, but most are caused by humans. While wildfires are a year-round risk in Florida, peak activity usually occurs January through June. Some ways that you can protect your home from wildfires include:

- Creating and maintaining a defensive space (30 ft. area around your home that is free of anything that will burn)
- Regularly cleaning your roof and gutters
- Regularly mowing grass and disposing of dead, dry plant matter
- Thinning out trees so there is at least 10 to 15 ft. between tree crowns
- Adhering to the year-round burn ban

## WARM AND COLD WEATHER



### EXTREME HEAT

**HEAT ADVISORY:** Issued when the heat index ranges between 108°F and 112°F for any duration of time

**EXCESSIVE HEAT WARNING:** Issued when the heat index reaches or exceeds 113°F for any duration of time



Hydrate by drinking water or sports drinks.



Offer to help those you know with limited access to air-conditioning.



Stay in an air-conditioned area during peak heat hours.



Avoid unnecessary exertion.



Wear light, loose-fitting clothing.



Stay out of the sun if you do not need to be in it.

### EXTREME COLD

**FREEZE WARNING:** Issued when temperatures are expected to drop below 32° F for at least two hours

**HARD FREEZE WARNING:** Issued when temperatures are expected to drop below 28° F for at least two hours

#### 5 P's OF COLD WEATHER PREPAREDNESS

Protect Plants		Cover cold-sensitive plants to protect them from dangerous temperatures
Protect Pets		Bring outdoor pets inside or provide a warm shelter for them
Practice Fire Safety		Use safe heating sources indoors. Do not use fuel-burning devices such as grills; they release deadly carbon monoxide
Protect People		Dress in warm layers and wear a hat and gloves
Protect Pipes		Cover pipes and allow outdoor faucets to slowly drip to prevent them from freezing and breaking



# SEVERE WEATHER

## HURRICANES AND TROPICAL STORMS

Tropical disturbances, tropical depressions, tropical storms, and hurricanes are all different types of tropical cyclones, classified by their maximum sustained surface wind speed. Tropical cyclones are rotating low-pressure systems that form over warm tropical water.



Tropical storms and hurricanes are among the most dangerous risks. **The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1st to November 30th, with the peak occurring between mid-August and late October.** However, storms can form at any time throughout the year.

### SAFFIR-SIMPSON Hurricane Wind Scale



Category 1 - 5



**WIND:** 74-95 mph  
**DAMAGE:** Well-constructed frame homes could have damage to roof, shingles, vinyl siding, and gutters. Large branches of trees will snap, and shallowly rooted trees may be toppled.



**WIND:** 96-110 mph  
**DAMAGE:** Well-constructed framed homes could sustain major roof and siding damage. Many shallowly rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted and block numerous roads.



**WIND:** 111-129 mph  
**DAMAGE:** 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.



**WIND:** 130-156 mph  
**DAMAGE:** 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.



**WIND:** 157 mph or higher  
**DAMAGE:** 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.

### TROPICAL WEATHER ALERTS

#### Tropical Weather Watch

**BE AWARE:** Tropical Storm or Hurricane conditions are possible within 48 hours in the Watch area. Monitor alerts, check your emergency supplies, and gather any items you may need if you lose power.



#### Tropical Weather Warning

**TAKE ACTION:** Tropical Storm or Hurricane conditions are expected within 36 hours in the Warning area. During a Warning, complete your storm preparations and leave the area if directed to do so by local officials.

# SEVERE WEATHER

## FLOODING

Flooding is the most common natural disaster in the United States. The impact of a tropical cyclone can vary depending on the amount of rainfall, wind intensity, high or low tide, storm surge, and wave characteristics. As a storm approaches, water begins to back up the river, slowing down its flow into the Atlantic Ocean. When paired with high tides and rainfall, widespread flooding is a significant threat.



### FLOODWATER FACTS

- ◆ Six inches of moving water can knock over an adult
- ◆ Two feet of moving water can carry away most vehicles
- ◆ Floodwater can be electrically charged and very dangerous if there are downed power lines
- ◆ Floodwater can contain debris, sharp objects, sewage, and microorganisms
- ◆ Floodwater can hide holes or other hazards under its surface

### EVACUATION ZONES AND FLOOD ZONES ARE **NOT** THE SAME THING!

#### Evacuation Zones

Are calculated using many factors such as wave action, precipitation, drainage systems, and areas that could become isolated from emergency services.

#### Flood Zones

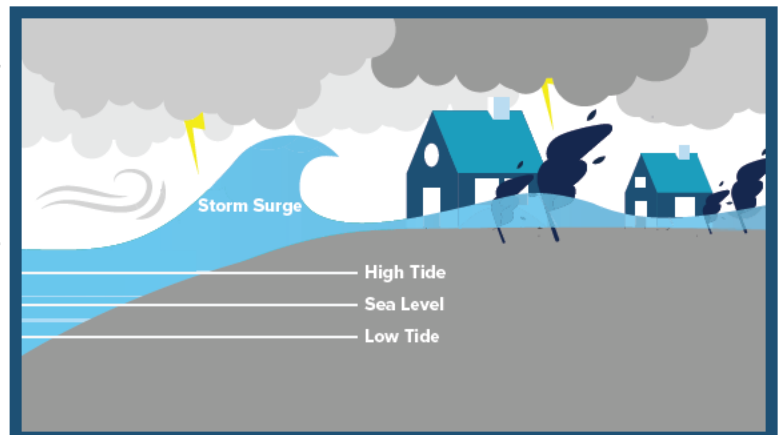
Geographic areas that FEMA has defined according to varying levels of flood risk. Flood zones are used for flood insurance ratings and building code requirements.

## URBAN FLOODING

Urban flooding, also referred to as nuisance flooding, is the accumulation of floodwaters that result when the inflow of stormwater exceeds a drainage system's capacity to infiltrate water into the soil or carry it away. Prolonged or sudden intense rainfall saturates the ground, and less rain can be soaked up by soil and drainage systems. You can help mitigate this by ensuring that grass clippings, mulch, and other debris remain clear of storm drains.

## STORM SURGE

Storm surge is an abnormal and dangerous rise of water generated by a hurricane or tropical storm. As these storms make landfall, they produce rises in water level and strong winds that push water into shore. A storm surge can increase the normal high tide by 15 feet or more. Along the coast, storm surge is often the greatest threat to life and property from a hurricane.





# HURRICANES

## PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY



One dollar invested in protecting your home can save up to six dollars in damage expenses. Wind, flood, and storm surge are three hazards that are common to coastal and river communities. **Below are some things you can do to address these hazards:**

### WIND

✓	Consider installing storm shutters for all large windows and glass doors
✓	Consider a new roof with hurricane-rated shingles
✓	Make sure roof is fastened to the structure with hurricane straps or clips
✓	Install head and foot bolts on double-entry doorways
✓	Use a security deadbolt with one-inch minimum bolt on all exterior doors
✓	Consider a hurricane-resistant or reinforced garage door

### FLOOD & STORM SURGE

✓	Keep gutters and drains free of debris
✓	Stockpile emergency protective materials
✓	Elevate water heater, electric panel, and heating/cooling systems if susceptible to flooding
✓	Dry Floodproofing, which means making a building watertight through the use of waterproof membranes, backflow valves, and other measures
✓	Wet Floodproofing, which means modifying uninhabited portions of your home to allow floodwaters to enter and exit

## HOME SAFETY

Take the time now to consider the impact that tropical-storm force winds will have on your home. Below are some things to consider when making preparations. Consult a qualified professional or licensed contractor if you have questions or concerns.



### THINGS TO KNOW

- When was your home built?
- Is your home located in an evacuation or flood zone?
- How many stories is your home?
- How strong are your walls?
- What kind of roof do you have?

### MANUFACTURED & MOBILE HOMES

- Anchors are required per Florida Law
- Check tie-downs at least once a year. Review Florida Administrative Code 15C-1 for tie-down requirements.
- No matter how good your tie-downs are, evacuating is the best plan to save your life.
- Don't forget that utility/storage sheds, carports, and other vulnerable structures need to be secured.



## PREPARING YOUR BOAT

If you own a boat, you need to have a plan for severe weather for your specific boat, local environment, and available safe havens. When a storm is approaching, quick action is needed.

⚓	Practice how to secure your boat in the marina
⚓	Check your lease or boat storage agreement
⚓	Know your responsibilities and liabilities
⚓	Gather important records and insurance policies
⚓	Have a photo of your boat and the Hull ID Number
⚓	Know how to contact the harbor master and Coast Guard

⚓	Listen to local officials for specific boat evacuation instructions
⚓	<b>DO NOT</b> stay aboard a vessel during a storm
⚓	Remove all objects that could become unsecured: canvas, sails, dinghies, radios, biminis, etc.
⚓	Lash down everything you cannot remove: tillers, wheels, booms
⚓	Make sure the electrical system is turned off
⚓	Remove the battery and portable fuel

## PREPARE

### MINIMIZE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP



Financial preparedness is critical. Take time to organize your financial documents and keep extra copies with your supply kit. Contact your insurance agent and ensure you are covered for hurricane-related hazards. **Flood insurance must be purchased separately!**



**PLEASE NOTE:** a flood insurance policy generally takes effect 30 days after purchase. Do not wait until the last minute to obtain this coverage!

- ✓ Make an inventory of your personal assets and keep it in a safe, dry place. If possible, take photos and video of your belongings and keep them with you during the event of an emergency.
- ✓ Be sure that you keep cash on hand as power outages may prevent access to ATMs and may limit the use of credit/debit cards.



**TIP:** Don't forget to set aside funds to pay your hurricane deductible.

### ORGANIZE DISASTER SUPPLIES

Your emergency supply kit should have enough supplies to last seven days for every person in your family, including a plan for yearly maintenance.



### PLAN TO BE SAFE



Planning ahead is the best way to stay safe from disasters. Plan for all hazards that could affect you, especially large-scale disasters like hurricanes. Every family is unique, so be sure to consider everyone's needs. Get together with your family and review your plan every year. **Some things to consider are:**

- Who is your out-of-town contact?
- Does your plan incorporate your entire household?
- Have you shared your plan with others?
- What is your escape plan?
- Where will you meet?
- How will you communicate with your family in the event of an emergency?

### PREPARE YOUR BUSINESS

When business is disrupted, it can cost money. Lost revenues plus extra expenses means reduced profits. Insurance does not cover all costs and cannot replace customers that defect to the competition. Ensuring that you have a plan in place will help minimize disruptions and unnecessary losses.



#### Plan and prepare your:

- Staff
- Surroundings
- Space
- Systems
- Structure
- Services



# HURRICANES

## RESPONSE

### EVACUATE OR SHELTER IN PLACE?

#### PREPARATION TIPS WHEN A HURRICANE IS EXPECTED



Review your family emergency plan



Refill prescription medications



Check for weather updates regularly on your TV, radio, or online



Trim or remove trees that are close enough to fall and cause damage to your home or property



Bring loose, lightweight objects indoors, such as patio furniture and garbage cans



Anchor objects that are unsafe to bring indoors



Purchase supplies to board-up windows if you do not have storm shutters



Gas and service your vehicles

### DECIDING TO STAY OR GO

If you are in a Mandatory Evacuation Zone, **take action immediately**. If you are not in a Mandatory Evacuation Zone, you may choose to stay in your home. Keep in mind; you may only need to travel a short distance to safely evacuate. Moving to a non-evacuation zone may be sufficient.



#### IF YOU DECIDE TO EVACUATE

Evacuation routes may be crowded, so plan ahead.

#### IF YOU DECIDE TO STAY

Keep in mind that you may not be able to leave your home for several days. Emergency responders may not be able to get to you if conditions are poor. Frequently check for weather updates on your TV, radio, or online.

#### FINAL ACTIONS IF EVACUATING



Turn off propane tanks and gas



Turn off power at main electrical panel using the main switch to flip all circuit breakers to the "off" position



Turn off the main water valve at the street or inside your unit if in an apartment or condominium



Secure all doors and windows



Take your Emergency Supply Kit with you

#### FINAL ACTIONS IF STAYING



Move your vehicle to higher ground, a garage, or another safe location



Fully charge your cell phone in case you lose power



Turn your refrigerator and freezer to the coldest settings and only open when necessary



Close storm shutters and stay away from windows and exterior doors



**SAFETY TIP:** Never use a generator inside or in a partially enclosed area

## RESPONSE

### EVACUATION SHELTERS



Evacuation shelters are a refuge of last resort and should only be considered if you need to evacuate and have no other options. If you can safely shelter in place, stay with friends or family, or stay in a hotel, it is recommended that you do so.

If your only option is to stay at a shelter, you should bathe and eat before securing your home and relocating. Residents are encouraged to bring their own food, pillows, and bedding. Do not bring any valuables with you. Smoking and alcohol consumption are not permitted at any shelter. Additionally, childcare is not provided at any shelter; you are required to supervise your children.

**Do not go to a shelter until it has been announced that it is open.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Not all shelters will open. Check local news outlets for a current list of openings.

#### ARRIVALS

Register with shelter staff and check out before you leave. Be considerate of others.

#### PREPARATIONS

Bring your emergency supply kit with you. Only basic necessities are provided.

### GENERAL POPULATION SHELTERS



General population shelters are managed by the American Red Cross and are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

### PET-FRIENDLY SHELTERS



Pet-friendly shelters provide shelter to evacuees and their pets. Only household pets, including dogs, cats, birds, and rabbits, are allowed in pet-friendly shelters.

#### WHAT SHOULD YOU BRING TO A SHELTER?

- Air mattress, blankets, pillows, or other bedding
- Food, water, and medication
- Important papers
- Your emergency supply kit

### SHELTER HEALTH AND SAFETY RULES

- Treat everyone with respect
- Respect all health and safety protocols—they protect everyone
- Sanitize your belongings regularly (electronics, toys)
- Avoid touching high-touch surfaces, such as handrails, as much as possible. Regularly wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds
- No weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol, or smoking
- Place all tissues and waste items into trash bins
- Comply with health checks at entry and while in the shelter
- If you feel ill, see a staff member immediately
- The shelter is subject to quarantine by public health officials

# HURRICANES

## RESPONSE

### SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS SHELTERS



A special medical needs shelter is a designated structure that has backup power and is capable of providing safe refuge for evacuees who have health conditions that require basic assistance or supervision from a medical professional during a disaster. Things to Consider:

- A caregiver must accompany any individual requiring more than basic assistance
- Individuals with special dietary needs should bring their own food
- You must **PRE-REGISTER** every year if you plan to stay at a special medical needs shelter



**TIP:** If you are staying at a special medical needs shelter, turn on a porch light before you leave your house so workers can tell when your power has been restored, and it is safe for you to return home.

### SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS REGISTRATION



#### Who needs to register?

The Special Medical Needs Registry is for individuals that may need to seek shelter during an emergency that may have the following medical needs:

- Medically dependent on electricity
- Require oxygen therapy
- Assistance taking daily medications
- Basic assistance from medical professionals for physical, cognitive, or medical condition



#### How do I register myself or someone I care for?

Visit your local community website prior to the storm for assistance.



#### What is provided at a Special Medical Needs Shelter?

- Basic medical assistance
- Food essentials
- Power
- Shelter



#### Do I need to bring a caregiver with me?

A caregiver is required for **memory impaired** clients. However, we encourage all clients to bring caregivers, if available.



#### Can I bring my pet with me?

Only **service animals** are allowed to accompany you to the shelter.



#### What are the transportation options to the shelters?

**Transportation Authority** will coordinate transportation with Special Medical Needs clients through the Emergency Operations Center during a disaster.



**REMINDER:** You must register every year to maintain your Special Medical Needs status.



# HURRICANES

## RECOVERY

### POST DISASTER SAFETY TIPS

If you evacuated, wait for public officials to announce that it is safe before you return home. Each year, there are a significant number of injuries while cleaning up after a storm. Consider the following tips to stay safe after a storm:



**AVOID DRIVING:** Following a storm, traffic signals may not be working, or there may be downed power lines and trees. Only drive if necessary.



**PROTECT YOURSELF:** Wear appropriate protective gear, such as gloves and masks, to shield yourself from debris and airborne hazards.



**AVOID FLOODWATERS:** Avoid driving or wading through floodwaters as they may be electrically charged, contain dangerous debris, or be covering places where the ground has washed away.



**PREVENT FURTHER DAMAGE:** Do what you can to prevent further damage to your home, such as placing a tarp over a hole in the roof or covering a broken window.



**CHECK FOR DANGER:** Check the outside of your home for loose power lines, gas leaks, or structural damage. Do not enter a building until it has been inspected.



**AVOID ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT:** Do not use electrical equipment if it is wet or if you are standing in water.

### STAY HEALTHY



**CLEAN AND DISINFECT** everything that got wet as floodwaters can contain sewage, bacteria, and chemicals.



**AIR OUT** your home by opening doors and windows whenever you are present, and conditions are safe.



**THROW AWAY** any food that was not maintained at a proper temperature or may have been exposed to floodwaters.



**MOVE OUT** saturated, porous materials such as upholstered furniture or mattresses, especially if there is visible fungal growth.



**REMEMBER THE COIN IN FREEZER TRICK.** If the coin is on top of the frozen cup of water, then the contents of your freezer stayed frozen and are safe for consumption. If the coin has moved, the contents may be questionable and should be thrown away.



**CLEAN OUT** and disinfect any remaining debris and mud in your home. If your home is damaged from a storm, first contact your insurance company or agent. You may need to contact a professional to dry out your home or tear out flooring, drywall, insulation, or other materials that were saturated by floodwaters.



# DANGER



Using a generator indoors can kill you in minutes. Generator exhaust contains carbon monoxide. This is a poison you cannot see or smell.



**NEVER** use a generator inside a home or garage, even if doors and windows are open.



**ONLY** use a generator outside and 20 feet from windows, doors, and vents. Point the exhaust away from your home.





## RECOVERY



### SEPARATING STORM DEBRIS



**PLEASE NOTE:** Tree contractors are required to haul away resulting debris and properly dispose of it per Ordinance.

**DEBRIS SEPARATION:** Separate debris into the four categories shown above. Failure to keep debris separated by type may prevent workers from collecting it.

**WHERE TO PLACE DEBRIS:** Debris should be placed curbside without blocking the roadway or storm drains. Place debris at least three feet from all obstacles. Do not stack or lean debris against utility boxes/poles, mailboxes, fire hydrants, or other structures. Do not place debris under trees or power lines.



#### WHITE GOODS/APPLIANCES



#### CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION/ BULKY WASTE DEBRIS

Building materials, carpet, drywall, fencing, furniture, lumber, mattresses, plumbing



#### VEGETATIVE DEBRIS

Leaves, logs, plants, tree branches, bag leaves for weekly pick-up (5 cubic yards/30 bags)  
Do not put vegetative debris in City-issued trash or recycling carts



#### ROUTINE HOUSEHOLD WASTE

**WHEN TO PLACE DEBRIS:** Debris should be placed curbside as soon as safely possible after the storm to ensure efficient removal. Storm recovery crews make multiple passes, targeting areas with the heaviest debris first.

**DO NOT BURN DEBRIS:** Burning storm debris can resort to a violation, check with your local government.

### MOSQUITO CONTROL

Mosquito Control Division expects an increase in mosquitoes, usually one week after a major storm event. In response, **most cities/counties** provides effective mosquito control while protecting public health and the environment. Follow these tips to protect yourself from mosquitoes after a storm:

- Cover bare skin with insect repellent
- Wear long sleeves and pants when outside
- Consider staying indoors
- Check and repair screens on windows and doors
- Drain standing water to prevent mosquito breeding sites
- Remove debris and water from rain gutters and downspouts

