

Preparing for Hurricane Season and Tropical Storms

Hurricane Season is from June 1st to November 30th

Key Points:

- Get ready for hurricane season by making a plan, gathering supplies, and getting your homes, car and family ready for the storm.
- Know what you should do or where to go if told to evacuate or stay at home.

Plan: Before the Storm:

- Write down emergency phone numbers and keep them in a spot known to everyone in the household.
- Prepare an emergency supply kit.
- Locate the nearest shelter and the different routes you can take to get there.
- Plan your route for evacuation and where you are going to go.
- Pet Owners: Identify a pet-friendly hotel and/or out-of-town relative or friend where you can go in case of evacuation.

Emergency Supplies:

It is good to have a tote dedicated to emergency supplies for weather events such as this.

- Water and food supplies
 - Gallons or cases of water
 - Ready to eat canned meat, fruits and vegetables
 - Food for infants
 - Food for pets
- Medicine Supplies
 - A list of daily prescriptions, including information about diagnosis, dosage, frequency, medical supply needs, and allergies.
 - Nonprescription drugs, like pain and fever relievers, antihistamines and antidiarrheal medicines.
 - Cooler with ice packs for any medicines that need to be refrigerated.
 - First Aid Kit
- Emergency Power Sources such as flashlights and extra batteries
- Important documents
- NOAA Weather Radio
- A fire extinguisher – it is important that everyone in the home knows where it is and how to use it.

Home:

- Clear your yard – make sure all items in yard are under cover or tied down. Make sure nothing can be blown around during the storm that can damage your home.
- Cover up windows and doors – use storm shutters or plywood on your windows for protection.
- Be ready to turn your power off. If you see downed power lines and/or flooding, or leaving your home, switch the power off.
- Fill up your sinks and bathtubs before the storm, in case of power outage.
- Fill up your vehicle's gas tank and keep an emergency kit in your car.

During the Storm:

- Closely monitor TV, Radio, Weather App or NOAA Weather Radio to monitor the storm's progress.
- Have all emergency items ready and plan in place if evacuation becomes necessary.
- Have a designated 1st floor interior room that avoids windows and doors.
- Keep an eye for Tornadoes which often are spawned by hurricanes.

After the Storm:

- Do not drive through flooded and/or barricaded roads. TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN.
- Avoid weakened bridges and/or washed-out roads.
- Watch for downed power lines and other hazards and avoid walking through water if possible.