



A CHECKLIST TO PREPARE FOR A HURRICANE

Here are some suggestions on what to do as a hurricane approaches and once it arrives. The sources for this information are the [American Red Cross](#), [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#), the [Department of Homeland Security](#) and the [National Hurricane Center](#). Please click on the hyperlinks for additional details.

What to do as the storm approaches

- Stay inside
- Protect windows and doors** with permanent storm shutters or plywood
- Keep local radio, **NOAA radio** or TV stations on for new information
- Download the Red Cross emergency app (for **iPhone**, **Android**)
- Keep a hurricane lamp
- Make sure all **pets have identification tags**
- Store all lawn furniture**, trash cans, toys and gardening tools inside to prevent them from getting blown away
- Find **local emergency shelters**
- Fill plastic bottles with **drinking water**
- Fill bathtubs with water
- Fill your car's **gas tank**
- Unplug all small devices and turn off **propane tanks**
- Buy a **fire extinguisher**
- Have a to-go pack ready and learn **evacuation routes** in your area

What to have on hand as a storm approaches

- First aid kit** and instructions
- Fire extinguisher
- Flashlights
- Extra batteries**
- Sleeping bags, blankets**
- Cooking and eating utensils
- Week-long supply of **prescription medicines**
- Paper plates, cups, and towels
- Non-perishable/canned foods**
- Jumper cables
- Maps
- Roadside emergency kit**
- GPS

What to have on hand as a storm approaches (cont.)

- Cell phones and chargers
- Cash
- Toilet paper
- Disinfectant
- Plastic bucket with tight lid
- Plastic garbage bags
- Household bleach
- Feminine supplies
- Soap
- Wet wipes
- Rain gear
- Sturdy shoes

What to do after the storm arrives

- Let friends and loved ones know you're safe. You can mark yourself safe on [Facebook](#) or use the [Safe and Well website](#).
- Document any property damage with photographs. Contact your insurance company for assistance.

In addition

- If you evacuated, **return** only once authorities let you know it's safe to do so.
- Be alert for **tornadoes**. They are often spawned by hurricanes.
- Avoid contact with **floodwaters**. It may be contaminated with sewage or contain dangerous insects or animals.
- **Never walk or drive** on flooded roads or through floodwaters.
- Look out for downed or **unstable trees, poles, and power lines**.
- **Do not drink tap water** unless authorities say it is safe.