When the Storm Approaches

Listen for weather updates. Hurricanes are unpredictable, so

• Know your area. Check gas, oil, water and maintenance.
• Check your emergency supplies.
• Board up or put storm shutters on windows. When windows break, homes are destroyed.
• Secure your door. Remember that strong winds and rising tides will cause all traffic through the entire order is issued.
• Leave swimming pools filled. Super-chlorinate the water and cover pump and filter systems and make.

If you Must Evacuate

• Pack what you will need:
• Turn off gas, oil, and electricity at the main valves, breakers or fuses.
• Turn off propane gas tanks that serve individual appliances like a grill or stove. Cut off natural gas unless local officials advise to do so. While you have your gas and electricity back on, only a professional should turn gas back on to avoid the possibility of a leak leading to explosion. Since it can take weeks for a professional to respond, do not turn off the gas unless your local officials advise you to do so.

if you have to evacuate before yours, even if you leave early, your life is in danger. Someone will be injured or killed.
• You will not be allowed to return until basic services like electricity, water, and telephone are restored.
• You may be told to evacuate your car for long periods of time. The American Red Cross will give you the direction you need to go.
• You will have a full tank of gas, and cash.
• Assume your car is not available for an extended period of time. If you have to evacuate your car for long periods of time, the American Red Cross will give you the direction you need to go.

Lessons Learned From Past Hurricanes

• Remember that some areas of your city may have been asked to evacuate before yours, even if you leave early, your life is in danger.
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Build Your Disaster Supplies Kit

Water

• At least a seven-day supply of water for each person in your household.

Food

• A well-balanced diet can keep your family healthy. The American Red Cross recommends the following meals:
  - High-energy foods: peanut butter, jelly, crackers, nuts, dried fruit, and cheese.
  - Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits and vegetables.
  - Canned juices, milk, soup.
  - Canned fruits and vegetables.
  - Canned low-sodium soups and desserts.

Tools and supplies

• Matches or a hand-crank flashlight.
• A hand-crank flashlight.
• Radio and television listening to local frequent updates.
• Hurricane warning.
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• Hurricane warning.

When to Do Now

• Read this guide carefully.
• Decide where you plan to go if you are expected to evacuate. You may go to a hotel or motel, stay with friends or relatives in a safe location or go to a Red Cross shelter.
• Put together your disaster supplies list at the beginning of this guide.

What to Do Now

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• Leave swimming pools filled. Super-chlorinate the water and cover pump and filter systems and make.

If you Can Stay Home

• Obtain and mark clear instructions for staying water. You should have a complete list of gas, power, and water shut-off valves.
• Obtain a week’s supply of non-perishable foods. Don’t forget a non-electric can opener.
• Check your disaster supplies kit.
• Be a good friend. Offer your home as shelter for friends or relatives who are without power or mobile homes.
• Stay inside, away from windows.
• Be cautious of what the danger is 0. Don’t be fooled by the storm’s calm eye.

If a Warning Has Been Issued

In the event of a hurricane warning for the area, your local Red Cross will provide information and instructions about the storm as well as local evacuation procedures. Know that your local officials will give you the direction you need to go.

• Know that if you do not power out, once the storm is over and tools are fixed, it will be possible to restore service.
• Do not leave home until basic services like electricity, water, and telephone are restored.
• If you have to evacuate your car for long periods of time, the American Red Cross will give you the direction you need to go.
• You will have a full tank of gas, and cash.
• Assume your car is not available for an extended period of time. If you have to evacuate your car for long periods of time, the American Red Cross will give you the direction you need to go.
American Red Cross preparedness guide, continued

How to Prepare for a Tornado

What to listen for
Tornado watch: Tornadoes are possible in your area. Remain alert for approaching storms.

Tornado warning: A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. If a tornado warning is issued for your area and the sky becomes threatening, move to your pre-designated place of safety.

Severe thunderstorm watch: Severe thunderstorms are possible in your area.

Severe thunderstorm warning: Severe thunderstorms are occurring.

What you can do before the storm
- Develop a plan for you and your family for home, work, school and when outdoors.
- Have a tornado plan.
- Have a family evacuation plan.
- Know the elevation of your property in relation to nearby streams and other bodies of water.
- Keep children away from floodwaters near culverts and storm drains.
- Know the county in which you live and keep a highway map nearby to follow storm movement from weather bulletins.
- Be prepared to move out of danger's way at a moment's notice.
- Be particularly cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood danger.
- If you are on a road, watch for flooding at highways, bridges and low areas.
- When a flash-flood warning is issued for your area
- Listen to radio and television for information on evacuation.
- Know the county in which you live, and keep a highway map nearby to follow storm movement from weather bulletins.
- When a flash-flood watch is issued for your area
- Listen to radio and television stations and NOAA weather radio for additional information as conditions change and new reports are received.
- Be prepared to move out of danger's way at a moment's notice.
- Act quickly to save yourself and those who depend on you. You may have only seconds.
- Do not attempt to cross a flooding stream on foot where water is above your knees.
- If you are driving, don't try to drive through water of unknown depth. If your vehicle stalls, abandon it immediately and seek higher ground. Rapid rising water may sweep the vehicle and its occupants away. Many deaths have been caused by attempts to move stalled vehicles.
- Keep children away from floodwaters near culverts and storm drains.
- Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood danger.
- When you are out of immediate danger, tune in to area radio and television stations and NOAA weather radio for additional information as conditions change and new reports are received.
- Act immediately if threatening weather is possible.
- If caught outside or in a vehicle, lie flat in a ditch or depression.
- Do not attempt to outrun a tornado in your car.
- Stay away from windows.
- Do not seek shelter in an open field; seek shelter in a sturdy building.
- If caught outside or in a vehicle, lie flat in a ditch or depression.
- If a warning is issued or if threatening weather approaches
- In a home or building, move to a designated shelter.
- If an underground shelter is not available, move to an interior room or hallway at the lowest floor and get under a sturdy piece of furniture.
- Stay away from windows.
- Get out of automobiles.
- Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car.
- Do not attempt to outrun a tornado in your vehicle.
- If caught outside or in a vehicle, lie flat in a ditch or depression.
- Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes and should be abandoned.

Tips on Flooding

Before the flood
- Know the elevation of your property in relation to nearby streams and other waterways.
- Know where floodwater is likely to accumulate.
- If you hear a flood warning, do not wait for a Nathan, Warning, or Orders from your local government.
- Make plans of what you will do and where you will go in a flash-flood emergency.
- Know what to do in the event of a flash flood.
- Make plans to move your family, pets and property out of harm's way.
- Have a plan B in case you can't reach your plan A.
- Know the area
- Know the location of designated shelters.
- Know where floodwaters are likely to accumulate.
- Keep an emergency kit of supplies.
- Make plans of what you will do and where you will go in a flash-flood emergency.
- Know what to do in the event of a flash flood.
- Make plans to move your family, pets and property out of harm's way.
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Pet Safety

Before the storm
- Make arrangements well in advance for where your pets can stay. Use shelters, animal shelters or veterinary hospitals and boarding kennels as a last resort because they have limited space and can be costly. Make sure your pets are vaccinated before hurricane season. Many pet shelters require the following:
- Pet supplies needed at pet shelter:
  - Elbow pads/leg pads on pet
  - Leash
  - ID or all belongings
  - Water and food levels
  - Carrier or cage
  - Medication
  - If you have a cage, take your pet with you. Take extra food, water and medication in your supply kit for your pet.
  - Make sure all large animals have current immunizations, necessary papers and some brand or tattoo identification.
  - Keep arrangements to evacuate your valuable animals at least three days before the storm may strike. If you can’t evacuate animals, list location of enclosures. They have a better chance of survival in open pastures.
  - Secure livestock trailers and other vehicles with mobile home tie-downs in open areas away from trees. Inventory all livestock and equipment on video, and store with insurance information.

After the storm
- After the storm has passed, keep your pet indoors. Deemed power lines and stray and wild animals seeking higher ground pose a danger. Feral animals and scents may be altered, and your pet may become confused and lost.

Red Cross First Aid Kit
Contact your local Red Cross chapter to obtain a kit.
- Absorbent compresses 5” x 9” dressing
- Adhesive bandages, assorted sizes
- Adhesive tape (cloth)
- Antibiotic ointment packets
- Antibiotic ointment packets
- Aspirin (Chewable/Baby)
- Blanket (Space Blanket)
- Breathing barrier (with one-way valve)
- Cold pack
- Gloves (Non-latex/Non-Aqueous Size)
- Hydrocortisone ointment packets (rashes)
- Scissors
- Relief bandage 3” and 4”
-ct.
- Blanket (Space Blanket)
- Thermometer, oral (Non-Mercury/Non-Glass)
- Triangular bandages
- Tweezers
- First aid instruction booklet (First Aid Fast)
- First aid instruction booklet

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- Leash
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- Medication
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If a warning is issued or if threatening weather approaches
- In a home or building, move to a designated shelter.
- If an underground shelter is not available, move to an interior room or hallway at the lowest floor and get under a sturdy piece of furniture.
- Stay away from windows.
- Get out of automobiles.
- Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car.
- Do not attempt to outrun a tornado in your vehicle.
- If caught outside or in a vehicle, lie flat in a ditch or depression.
- Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes and should be abandoned.

When a flash-flood warning is issued for your area
- Act quickly to save yourself and those who depend on you. You may have only seconds.
- Do not attempt to cross a flooding stream on foot where water is above your knees.
- If you are driving, don’t try to drive through water of unknown depth. If your vehicle stalls, abandon it immediately and seek higher ground. Rapid rising water may sweep the vehicle and its occupants away. Many deaths have been caused by attempts to move stalled vehicles.
- Keep children away from floodwaters near culverts and storm drains.
- Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood danger.
- When you are out of immediate danger, tune in to area radio and television stations and NOAA weather radio for additional information as conditions change and new reports are received.
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