

# **Hurricane Safety Checklist**

Category	Wind Speed (mph)	Damage at Landfall
1	74-95	Minimal
2	96-110	Extensive
3	111-129	Devastating
4	130-156	Catastrophic
5	157+	Catastrophic

### **Know the Difference**

**Hurricane Watch**: Hurricane conditions are a threat within 48 hours. Review your hurricane plans, keep informed and be ready to act if a warning is issued.

**Hurricane Warning**: Hurricane conditions are expected within 36 hours. Complete your storm preparations and leave the area if directed to do so by authorities.

### What should I do?

- Listen to NOAA Weather Radio for critical information from the National Weather Service
- Check your disaster supplies and replace or restock as needed.
- Bring in anything that can be picked up by the wind (bicycles, lawn furniture, plants)
- Close windows, doors and hurricane shutters. If you do not have hurricane shutters, close and board up all windows and doors with plywood.
- Turn the refrigerator and freezer to the closest setting and keep them closed as much as possible so the food will last longer if the power goes out.
- Turn off propane tanks and unplug small appliances.
- Fill your car's gas tank.
- Talk with members of your household and create an evacuation plan.
- Unplug all electronics to reduce risk of a power surge.
- Learn about your community's hurricane response plan. Plan routes to local shelters, register family members with special needs as required and make plans for your pets to be cared for.
  - Evacuate if advised by authorities. Be careful to avoid flooded roads and washed out bridges.

### What supplies do I need?

- Water at least a 3 day supply; one gallon per person per day.
- Food at least a 3 day supply of non perishable, easy to prepare food.
- Flashlight
- Extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Medications (7 day supply) & medical items (hearing aids with extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses)
- Multi-purpose tool
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items.
- Copies of personal documents (medication list & medical information, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificate, insurance policies)
- Cell phone with chargers
- Family & emergency contact information
- Extra cash
- Maps of the area
- Baby supplies (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers)
- Pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, bowl

## What do I do after a hurricane?

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