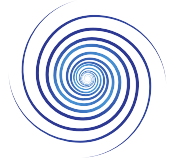




# Hurricane Prep Checklist



## What You Need (Emergency Supplies)

- ☐ Water (1 gallon per person per day)
- ☐ Non-perishable food (canned goods, snacks, etc.)
- ☐ Manual can opener
- ☐ Flashlights and extra batteries
- ☐ First-aid kit and prescription medications
- ☐ Important documents in waterproof containers
- ☐ Blankets, extra clothing, and sturdy shoes
- ☐ Personal hygiene items (toilet paper, hand sanitizer, etc.)
- ☐ Backup power (generator or portable chargers)
- ☐ Cash for emergency purchases

## Prepare Your Home

- ☐ Inspect and secure roof (fix loose shingles, seal vents)
- ☐ Install storm shutters or plywood on windows
- ☐ Reinforce garage doors
- ☐ Clear gutters and drains to prevent water backup
- ☐ Trim trees and remove dead branches
- ☐ Secure outdoor furniture and loose items
- ☐ Seal cracks in windows, doors, and foundation
- ☐ Elevate appliances and furniture in flood-prone areas
- ☐ Test backup generator and refuel
- ☐ Check for loose siding and shutters

## Handy Tips

- ☐ Fill bathtubs and sinks with water (for cleaning and flushing toilets)
- ☐ Freeze water bottles (for drinking and cooling)
- ☐ If Flooding is a threat, store small electronics in the dishwasher (to protect from water damage)
- ☐ Use ziplock bags for important items (keys, medications, etc.)
- ☐ Unplug appliances to avoid surge damage
- ☐ Pre-freeze food and turn fridge/freezer to the coldest setting
- ☐ Fill your car's gas tank well before the storm
- ☐ Unplug all Electronics
- ☐ Take Photos of Your Home
- ☐ Do NOT wait until the last minute to fill your tanks of gas or to prepare- Be proactive and ready!



# Hurricane Evacuation Check Lists & Pro Tips



## Evacuation Tips:

- **Turn Off Your Main Breaker:** Before evacuating, turn off the main breaker in your home's electrical panel to prevent electrical fires when power is restored.
- **Shut Off Water Supply:** Turn off the water at the main valve to avoid flooding or water damage from potential broken pipes during the storm.
- **Turn Off Gas:** If you have gas appliances, turn off the gas at the main valve to prevent leaks or explosions.
- **Unplug Electronics:** Unplug all electronics and appliances to protect them from potential power surges when power is restored.
- **Move Valuables to Higher Ground:** Move important items like valuables, documents, and electronics on higher floors or in elevated areas to protect them from flooding.
- **Lock Windows and Doors:** Secure all windows and doors before leaving to prevent damage or intruders during your absence.
- **Check Evacuation Routes:** Know your evacuation routes ahead of time, and keep a printed map handy in case GPS is unavailable.
- **Take Photos of Your Home:** Take pictures of the exterior and interior of your home for insurance purposes in case of damage.
- **Pack an Emergency Bag:** Have a "go bag" ready with essentials like clothes, medications, toiletries, chargers, and important documents. Don't forget pet supplies if you have pets.
- **Let Someone Know Your Plans:** Inform a friend or family member about your evacuation route and where you plan to go.

## Pro Tips:

- **Freeze a Cup of Water with a Coin on Top:** Before evacuating, freeze a cup of water and place a coin on top. When you return, if the coin is at the bottom of the cup, it indicates that your freezer lost power long enough for the food to thaw and refreeze, meaning the food may no longer be safe to eat.
- **Make a Digital Backup of Important Documents:** Before evacuating, take digital photos or scans of important documents like insurance policies, birth certificates, and property deeds. Save them to the cloud or on a secure USB drive that you take with you.
- **Turn Your Refrigerator to the Coldest Setting:** Set your refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting before evacuating. This can help preserve food for longer if the power goes out.
- **Bring Portable Chargers or Power Banks:** Charge all your electronic devices and bring portable power banks to ensure you can keep your phone and other essential electronics running while on the road.
- **Label and Photograph Your Belongings:** Take a photo inventory of your valuable belongings, label them with descriptions, and save it digitally. This can be critical for insurance claims after the storm.
- **Text, Don't Call:** During emergencies, cellular networks often become overloaded. Texting uses less bandwidth and is more likely to get through than making phone calls.
- **Protect Irreplaceable Items in a Safe Place:** Place irreplaceable items such as family heirlooms, photo albums, and keepsakes in waterproof, fireproof safes or boxes, and store them in a secure, elevated place.
- **Create a Pet Evacuation Plan:** Make sure you know which shelters, hotels, or relatives will allow pets. Have a pet "go bag" ready with food, water, medication, and comfort items for your pets.
- **Leave Internal Doors Open:** Before evacuating, leave interior doors open. This can reduce pressure on your house's structure if it faces extreme winds or changes in pressure during the storm.
- **Back Your Car Into the Driveway:** Back your vehicle into your driveway with a full tank of gas before the storm. This allows for a quick exit and ensures easy access to the road in case of debris.
- **Carry Cash and Small Bills:** In the event of a long-term power outage, credit card machines may not work, and ATMs might be down. Carrying cash in small bills ensures you can make purchases for essentials.