

Hurricane Safety

[More Hurricane safety details and Emergency Management](#)

[Live Hurricane Tracking Map](#)

This information is provided to assist you in developing your own family hurricane plan in the event that a storm is approaching. Preparing is the key to the safety of you and your family.

[Visit Palm Beach County Division of Emergency Management comprehensive storm website](#)

Develop a Family Hurricane Plan

Discuss the types of hazards that could affect your family. Know your home's vulnerability to storm surge, flooding and wind. Secure your home (doors and windows). Locate a SAFE ROOM or the SAFE AREAS in the home for each hurricane hazard. Determine safe escape routes and meeting places prior to the storm. Have an out-of-state friend as a family contact, so all your family members have a single point of contact. Make arrangements prior to the storm for pets in case of mandatory evacuation. Gather all non-emergency phone numbers and discuss the proper use of 911 with all children. Prepare a Family First Aid Kit and put it in the SAFE ROOM. Have a battery-operated radio for weather and safety updates.

Prepare a Disaster Supply Kit:

- Water (1 gallon per person for 3 to 7 days)
- Food (3 to 7 day supply for each person)
 - non-perishable packaged or canned food/juices
 - foods for infants or elderly individuals
 - snack foods
 - non-electric can opener
 - cooking tools/fuel
 - paper plates/plastic utensils
- Blankets/Pillows, etc.
- Clothing
- First Aid Kit/Medicines/Prescription Drugs
- Special Items

- Toiletries/Hygiene items/Moisture wipes
 - Flashlight/Batteries
 - Radio (battery operated)
 - Cash
 - Keys
 - Toys/Books/Games for children
 - Important documents (waterproof container: birth certificates, insurance documents, medical records, bank account information, pictures)
 - Tools
 - Vehicle fuel tanks filled
 - Pet care items (If not going to shelter)
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Hurricane Watch vs. Hurricane Warning Know the Difference

Hurricane Watch: Hurricane conditions are a possibility for a specific area usually within 24 to 36 hours.

Hurricane Warning: A Hurricane is expected within 24 hours or less (winds 74 miles per hour or greater, or dangerously high water or rough seas). Begin precautionary actions immediately.

Hurricane Watch - What To Do

- Listen to local radio and television stations for up-to-date storm information.
 - Prepare to bring inside any lawn furniture, outdoor decorations, trashcans, hanging plants, and anything else that can become a flying object during a storm.
 - Cover all windows and doors of your home.
 - Fill your car/vehicles with gas.
 - Check your Disaster Supply Kit.
 - Turn refrigerator/freezer to coldest settings.
 - Store drinking water in clean jugs, and bottles.
 - Secure boats and trailers.
 - Make arrangements for pets.
 - Make arrangements for elderly and others with special needs such as those who depend on electrical life support.
 - Make arrangements for a shelter if you are in an evacuation area.
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Hurricane Warning - What To Do

- Listen to local radio and television stations and listen to the advice of local officials on whether to evacuate or not.
 - Complete preparation for storm.
 - If you are not advised to evacuate, stay indoors and away from windows.
 - Be aware that the calm “eye” of the storm is deceptive; the storm is not over. Stay inside until local officials say it is safe to leave the home.
 - Be alert of tornados. Stay indoors, in the center of your home, in a closet or bathroom without windows.
 - Stay away from floodwaters.
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After the Storm - What To Do

- Listen to local radio and television stations for safety instructions.
- If evacuated, return to home when local officials tell you to.
- Stay away from disaster areas. DO NOT SIGHTSEE!!!
- Obey all curfews and emergency orders that are issued.
- If you must drive, drive with CAUTION!! Lights are down, so use all four-way intersections as a four way stop.
- Advise interested parties that you are safe.
- Call for emergency workers if medical assistance is needed.
- Avoid downed power lines. Assume that they are all live.
- Use flashlights in the dark, not candles.