# Preparing Your Emergency Kit

Assemble your storm kit. Don't wait until the last minute to stock up on nonperishable supplies. At a minimum, your storm kit should include drinking water, canned and other shelf-stable packaged foods that don't require cooking, a manual can opener, anti-bacterial hand wipes, gel hand cleaners, medicine, paper towels, flashlights, toi- let paper, a batteryoperated radio and television, and extra batteries. Have matches or a lighter on hand and avoid candles, they generate heat and are a fire risk. Include a basic first aid kit so you have appropriate supplies to deal with any injuries. Include some post- storm supplies such as tarps and tie- downs so you can take immediate steps to mitigate any damage that occurs.

# HELPFUL LINKS

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# Pre-Season Hurricane Preparedness







**Be Prepared!** 



### **Pre-Season Hurricane Preparedness Activities**

Does the term "hurricane preparation" conjure up visions of frantic last-minute shoppers clearing grocery store shelves of bottled water or people struggling in the wind to cover their windows with plywood? Or does it create a sense of confusion and fear because you aren't sure what it really means? It doesn't have to be that way. You may not be able to avoid the storm but you can avoid the panic. Here's how:

Understand that there are two phases to hurricane preparedness: pre-season and pre-storm. Taking care of the preseason tasks long before you hear a weather forecaster say, "A tropical wave has formed off the coast of Africa" will make your pre-storm prep far more manageable.



#### Hurricane Pre-Season Check List

The Atlantic hurricane season officially begins on June 1st. Here's what you need to do well in advance of that important date:

- Take pictures or video of your home and contents. Open cabinets and drawers so you can see what's inside. If you're doing a video, narrate it as you go along, describing the room and some of the key contents. Store printed images or create a disk with your insurance papers or backup electronic files in a safe cloudbased storage location. Update your visual inventory annually.
- Review your homeowners' insurance. Are your policy limits still appropriate for the value of your home and personal property? If not, let your agent know. Check your Hurricane deductible so you know what your out-of-pocket costs will be should you suffer a loss. Update the contact information you will need if you have to file a claim.
- 3 Conduct a storm check of your property Have trees professionally trimmed so that the wind will blow through the branches rather than pushing the tree over. If you have a generator, test it before you need it and be sure you know how to safely operate it.

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  - Decide how you will protect windows and glass doors. If you have shutters, make sure they can be securely closed; if using plywood, be sure you have the right sizes pre-cut and the necessary fasteners.
- Create a hurricane plan. Talk to family members, consider any special needs or circumstances you may face (such as an elderly or disabled family member, infants, pets, and work demands) and be ready take appropriate action if a storm approaches. If you do not live in your home year-round, identify someone, either a friend, family member or management company that you can rely on for pre-storm preparations

Homeowner's Policy Information
Insurance Provider:
Agent name:
Phone number to file a claim:
Policy number:
Vehicle Policy Information
Insurance Provider:
Agent name:
Phone number to file a claim: