



HURRICANE SURVIVAL KIT



Your "Survival Kit" should contain the following seven basic categories: WATER, FOOD, FIRST AID SUPPLIES, CLOTHING AND BEDDING, TOOLS, EMERGENCY SUPPLIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ITEMS. Listed below are some items that could be included. Decide what items best fit your family's needs.

Courtesy of Lafayette Utilities System

FOOD

- fruit: canned, dried, roll-ups
- meats: canned or dried
- vegetables: canned
- powdered milk
- juices: canned or bottled
- drinking water
- peanut butter
- crackers
- canned soup
- high-energy bars

BABY SUPPLIES

- diapers, baby wipes
- milk, food, formula
- clothes
- disposable bottles and liners
- blankets, sheets, bed liners
- medications
- portable crib
- toys

PERSONAL ITEMS

- soap, toothbrush, deodorant
- towels and washcloths
- sewing kit
- shampoo
- feminine hygiene items
- shaving kit
- mirror
- eyeglasses and contact lenses

CHILDREN'S SUPPLIES

- quiet toys
- coloring books
- crayons
- puzzles
- books
- CD player
- extra batteries

SANITARY ITEMS

- portable toilet
- plastic garbage bags
- paper towels, toilet paper
- liquid detergent
- disinfectant

CLOTHING & BEDDING

- rain gear
- sleeping bags and pillows
- extra shoes and work boots
- extra clothes

COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT

- battery-operated radio
- extra batteries
- NOAA weather radio
- cellular phone
- non-cordless phone

LIGHTING

- waterproof flashlights
- fluorescent distress flag
- extra batteries

PAPERS & VALUABLES

- birth certificates
- Social Security cards
- marriage records
- death records
- computer backups
- small valuables
- legal IDs
- extra cash
- credit cards
- wills
- insurance policies
- deeds
- mortgages
- stocks and bonds
- checking account information
- savings account records
- household inventory (photo or videotape)

- driver's license
- pet veterinary records
- coins for phone calls
- passport
- maps
- postcards, stamps, cards, books, stationery

SAFETY SUPPLIES

- fire extinguisher
- waterproof matches
- insect repellents
- work gloves
- utility knife
- shovel, hand saw, ax
- hammer, nails
- tarp, duct tape
- small boat
- chain saw
- generator
- fuel
- wet/dry vacuum
- extra oil, gas

CLEANUP SUPPLIES

- washing detergents
- mops, brooms, etc.
- buckets, extra hose
- old blankets, towels, rags
- large plastic bags
- rubber gloves
- bleach, disinfectants
- camera and film to photograph home before cleanup

FIRST AID SUPPLIES

- first aid handbook
- scissors, tweezers
- thermometer
- first aid tape
- gauze rolls
- large nonstick pads
- bandages, such as Band-Aids™
- arm sling

- snakebite kit
- cotton swabs
- ice/heat packs
- latex gloves
- safety pins

COOKING EQUIPMENT

- gas grill
- extra propane gas
- barbecue grill
- lighter fluid/charcoal
- Sterno™ stove
- cooking utensils
- manual can opener
- bottle opener
- disposable eating utensils
- disposable plates and cups
- paper towels
- ice chest
- plastic storage bags

EXTERNAL MEDICATIONS

- antibiotic ointment
- antibacterial soap
- baking soda
- hydrogen peroxide
- calamine lotion
- betadine
- lip balm
- rubbing alcohol
- sunblock

INTERNAL MEDICATIONS

- aspirin/acetaminophen
- sore throat lozenges and spray
- prescription medication
- laxative
- eyedrops
- antacids
- nose spray
- vitamins
- cough medicine
- eardrops



“The first step toward building your Disaster Plan is to consider what preparations can be done on a continuing, year-round basis.”

In any kind of emergency situation — especially one involving an approaching hurricane — thorough planning and preparation are the keys to weathering the storm as safely as possible. Early and thorough emergency preparations will also help you protect your family and property and minimize your risk of injury or property damage.

Work as a family team to read and study the information in this Emergency Guide, and use it to construct your own Disaster Plan. Once the plan has been assembled, you should put together the Survival Kit described in the Guide, and rehearse your preparedness plan. Make sure that everyone in your family understands the plan completely and knows exactly what to do. Once you have completed the preparations outlined in each section of the Emergency Guide, keep the plan in a safe place where it will be easy to find and use during hurricane season.

The first step toward building your Disaster Plan is to consider what preparations can be done on a year-round basis. Make sure you are well on the way to finishing your emergency preparations long before hurricane season's first storm watch is issued. Use this checklist to get your early preparations underway.

INSURANCE INVENTORY

Inventory information should include values for each insured item as well as date of purchase and serial number. Do you have enough insurance? Is it the right kind of insurance? These are two important questions you need to ask yourself before hurricane season starts. Having appropriate insurance will help you recover from a disaster by minimizing your losses. Ask your insurance agent to review your current policy.

Four types of property insurance are issued on the market today:

HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE: This type of insurance usually covers losses caused by wind, storm and broken water pipes. However, flooding is not covered. Policies and coverages differ among insurance companies. It may be a good time to review your policy.

WIND AND HAIL INSURANCE: This type of insurance covers losses due to storm winds in coastal areas. This coverage may be available from insurance providers if it is not included in your basic homeowners policy.

FLOOD INSURANCE: This type of policy is underwritten by the National Flood Insurance Program. The policy is available to those communities that adopt and enforce flood plain management regulations. Important note: This policy has a 30-day waiting period before it is activated.

RENTERS INSURANCE: Both property protection insurance and flood insurance for contents are available for those who live in rental units. Contact your insurance agent for details.

IMPORTANT PAPERS INVENTORY

Gather up copies of your family's important paperwork and store them in a secure location that will be well within reach if you have to locate these documents quickly because of an approaching storm. Consider including copies of the following for each family member:

- Driver's license
- Vehicle registration and proof of insurance
- Insurance policies (life, health, property)
- Medical and vaccination records including medicine or food allergies and other specific health conditions
- Copies of prescription medicine labels
- Birth and marriage certificates
- Tax or other important business and personal records
- Will
- Veterinary and vaccination records for pets and livestock

PREPARE
EARLY,
PREPARE
WELL



GREET HURRICANE SEASON WITH FAMILY PREPAREDNESS PLANS

By the time hurricane season starts, your family should have already begun the process of planning for a hurricane emergency. (For example, making sure your insurance coverage is adequate. You may have also completed other preparations, such as building a quick-access file of important family papers in case you need them when a storm approaches.)

You've already taken the first step toward additional disaster planning by acquiring a copy of the Emergency Guide. It is time to put the Guide to good use by completing your Emergency Preparedness Plan List.

PROPERTY INVENTORY: It is important to start now to create an inventory of your property and personal possessions. An accurate inventory using photographs, videotapes and/or receipts will enhance your ability to recover your losses after a disaster.

INDOOR SAFETY PLAN: Identify potential indoor hazards that can cause damage or injury. Anything that can move, fall, break or cause a fire is a hazard during a hurricane. An indoor home inspection and teaching responsible family members how to turn off utility connections at the source will minimize potential problems and hazards.

OUTDOOR SAFETY PLAN: An assessment of all small outdoor items such as toys, potted plants and lawn furniture should be made. These items may cause property damage or injury during a hurricane. A list of these items should be posted and family members given responsibility for knowing their locations as well as how and where to secure them when the need arises.

CARING FOR TREES: Trees that are not maintained by trimming and pruning can cause damage during a hurricane due to falling limbs and flying debris. Large or diseased trees next to your home should be removed to prevent damage to your home. The key is periodic inspection and tree maintenance.

FINANCIAL PLANNING: Several factors should be considered as to how disasters will affect your family financially. You should be prepared to sustain yourself and your family away from your home for several days or, in a worst case scenario, several weeks or even months. Be advised, government agencies may not be able to react as quickly as you think they should.

The following breakdown will give you an idea of expenses for a family of four with one of the four having Special Needs requirements.

DISASTER SUPPLIES KIT: Water, food, first-aid kit, clothing, bedding, tools and special needs items. Anticipate spending \$100 or more. (Additional to items you already may have.)

HOME PREPARATION: The estimated cost of securing a 1,400-square-foot home with 11 to 13 openings requiring 5/8-inch plywood, plastic sheeting, screws, duct tape, etc., could cost between \$250 and \$350.

EVACUATION EXPENSES: These expenses include fuel, restaurants and your stay in hotels. The average hotel night is \$80. Add that to the fuel and eating expense and you may need to budget \$175 per day.

PET BOARDING: Average boarding costs, depending on the animal, are \$15 to \$20 per night.

PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES: You should budget enough money to pay for a month's supply.

CASH ON HAND: During a disaster, credit and bank card use may be limited due to loss of power and other disaster-related factors. Get more cash than you think will be necessary.

TIPS FOR EMERGENCY STORAGE

- Maintain and store emergency supplies in airtight plastic bags. Keep a supply of bags on hand to use throughout your hurricane preparations
- Also have on hand enough waterproof containers, such as plastic bins or buckets, to store last-minute items such as clothing, evacuation supplies, extra groceries and more
- Re-evaluate your Hurricane Survival Kit at least once a year to confirm it still meets your family's needs, and update as necessary
- Replace batteries according to expiration dates recommended by the manufacturer. Check at least every six months and keep a supply of fresh batteries on hand to operate radios and other emergency equipment for a period of several days
- Check all clothing items, rain gear, sleeping bags and similar supplies every six months and replace if necessary
- Ask your pharmacist how long prescriptions may be stored and make arrangements with your doctor to have extra refills available in case you need them

THE RESPONSE PYRAMID

As you prepare for hurricane season, you should understand the responsibilities for responding to a hurricane. Every citizen in the United States is part of a national emergency management system that focuses on protection — protecting people and property from all types of hazards. Think of the national emergency management system as a pyramid with you, the citizen, forming the base of the structure.

CITIZEN LEVEL: At this level, you have a responsibility to protect yourself and your family by knowing what to do before, during and after a hurricane. Some examples of what you can do:

Before the Hurricane

- Know the risks and danger signs
- Purchase additional insurance, including flood insurance, in addition to your homeowners policy
- Develop plans
- Assemble a Hurricane Survival Kit
- Volunteer to help others

During the Hurricane

- Put your plan into action
- Follow the advice and guidance of officials in charge
- Help others

After the Hurricane

- Repair damaged property
- Take steps to prevent or reduce future loss

LOCAL ASSISTANCE: It is sometimes necessary to turn to others within the local community for help. The local level is the second tier of the pyramid and it is made up of employees and volunteers from the private and public sectors. These individuals are engaged in preventing emergencies from happening and in being prepared to respond if something does occur. Most emergencies are handled at the local level, which puts a tremendous responsibility on the community for taking care of its citizens. Local officials face the following responsibilities:

- Identifying hazards and assessing potential risk to the community
- Enforcing building codes, zoning ordinances and land-use management programs
- Coordinating emergency plans to ensure a quick and effective response

- Fighting fires and responding to hazardous materials incidents
- Establishing warning systems
- Stocking emergency supplies and equipment
- Assessing damage and identifying needs
- Evacuating the community to safer locations
- Taking care of the injured
- Sheltering those who cannot remain in their homes
- Aiding recovery efforts

STATE ASSISTANCE: If support and resources are needed beyond what the local level can provide, the community can request assistance from the state. The state may be able to provide supplemental resources such as money, equipment and personnel to close the gap between what is needed and what is available at the local level. The state also coordinates the plans of the various jurisdictions so that activities do not interfere or conflict with each other. To ensure personnel know what to do and efforts are in agreement, the state may offer a program that provides jurisdictions the opportunity to train and do mock exercises together.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE: At the top of the pyramid is the federal government, which can provide resources to help state and local efforts. Resources can be in the form of the following:

- Public educational materials that can be used to prepare the public for protecting itself from hazards
- Financial grants for equipment, training, exercises, personnel and programs
- Grants and loans to help communities respond to and recover from disasters so severe that the President of the United States has deemed them beyond state and local capabilities
- Research findings that can help reduce losses from disaster
- Technical assistance to help build stronger programs

The National Emergency Management System is built on shared responsibilities and active participation at all levels of the pyramid. The whole system begins with you, the citizen, and your ability to follow good emergency management practices — whether at home, work or other locations.

