

Hurricane Preparation

Before

- Understand the difference between a hurricane watch and a hurricane warning. A hurricane watch means that a hurricane may occur within the next 24 to 36 hours. A hurricane warning means that a hurricane will probably strike your area within the next 24 hours.
- Prepare a survival kit.
- Plan your evacuation route in advance of the storm.
- Close storm shutters and board up all windows.
- Stock up on drinking water and non-perishable goods.
- Have a supply of batteries and be sure you have flashlights and a portable radio in good working condition.
- Review how to shut off utilities in an emergency with all family members.
- Secure all outdoor objects or move them inside.
- Secure your boat or move it to a safer place.
- Fuel your car in case you must leave immediately.

During

- Listen to the radio for important storm information and instructions.
- If at home, stay inside and away from all windows, skylights and glass doors. Do not go outside, even if the weather appears to have calmed. The "eye" of the storm can pass quickly, leaving you outside when strong winds resume.
- If you must evacuate, leave as soon as possible and be sure to tell someone outside of the storm area where you will be.

After

- Stay tuned to the radio or television. If you have had to evacuate, return home only after authorities advise it is safe to do so.
- Avoid downed power lines.
- Beware and check for gas leaks or electrical system damage.
- Make temporary repairs as necessary.
- Promptly report the loss to your carrier using their toll-free claim reporting number or to your agent.

Survival Kit

When preparing for a disaster, be sure to make a survival kit that includes:

Canned or other non-perishable food

Non-electric can opener

First aid kit and manual

Portable radio and/or television

Flashlights

Extra batteries

Water in non-breakable containers

Prescription medicines as needed

Extra clothing and blankets

Emergency cash and credit cards

A copy of your insurance policy