



HURRICANE & WIND STORM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

Before a Hurricane/Wind Storm

- Sign up for local emergency alerts and NOAA hurricane tracking updates
- Review evacuation routes and shelter locations in advance
- Stockpile 3–7 days of non-perishable food, bottled water, and medications
- Install storm shutters or pre-cut plywood for windows and doors
- Reinforce garage doors and weak entry points
- Bring in or secure outdoor furniture, grills, and loose objects
- Trim trees and branches near your building or power lines
- Fill vehicle fuel tanks and store extra fuel safely
- Test backup generators and stock spare fuel
- Charge all phones, portable batteries, and power banks
- Check and restock first aid kit
- Store important documents in waterproof/fireproof containers
- Turn refrigerators/freezers to coldest setting to preserve food longer
- Train staff or household members on emergency procedures and roles
- Have cash on hand — ATMs and card readers may be down

During a Hurricane/Wind Storm

- Stay indoors and away from windows or glass doors
- Shelter in an interior room on the lowest level (or a small, windowless bathroom/closet)
- Keep pets in secure carriers or on leashes
- Use battery-powered lights — avoid candles to reduce fire risk
- Listen to weather alerts and updates on a battery-powered radio
- Do not go outside until officials confirm the storm has passed — the calm eye may be temporary
- Unplug appliances if safe to do so to prevent power surge damage

After a Hurricane/Wind Storm

- Wait for official clearance before leaving shelter
- Watch for downed power lines and report them to authorities
- Document all damage with photos before beginning cleanup
- Avoid floodwaters — they may be contaminated or hide debris
- Use caution with chainsaws and heavy equipment during debris removal
- Contact insurance providers promptly with documentation
- Check for gas leaks before turning utilities back on
- Dispose of spoiled food safely
- Be alert for further hazards such as loose debris, weakened structures, or secondary flooding