



RICE

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# Hurricane Preparedness

**Are you Ready?  
Checklists**



### Make A Plan

- **Escape Routes**
  - Identify two routes from each room
  - Make sure children understand
- **Where to Meet**
  - Find a place near the home (e.g., neighbor's telephone pole)
  - Outside immediate area (e.g., nearby grocery store parking lot)
- **Family Communications**
  - Contact Name and Telephone #
  - Out-of-state Contact Name and Telephone#
  - Neighborhood Meeting Place
- **Utility Shut-off and Safety**
  - Natural Gas
  - Water
  - Electricity
- **Insurance and Vital Records**
  - Review Property, Health and Life Insurance
  - Important Documents
  - Money (cash or traveler's checks)
  - Special Needs
- **Caring for Animals**
  - Identify Shelter
  - Gather Food, Water, Medicine, etc.
  - Provide Pet Carrier and Leash
- **Safety Skills**
  - Learn First Aid and CPR
  - Learn to use a Fire Extinguisher

### Develop a Kit

- **Kit Locations**
  - Home: food, water, and supplies for at least 5-7 days
  - Work: "Grab and Go" bag with food and water for 24 hours
  - Car: food, water, first aid, flares, jumper cables, and seasonal supplies
- **Water**
  - 1 gallon of water per person per day, for 5-7 days
  - Safest and most reliable water is commercially bottled water
  - Review expiration dates
- **Food**
  - Avoid foods that make you thirsty
  - Stock canned food, dry mixes and other staples that do not require refrigeration, cooking, water, or special preparation; include manual can opener
  - Include special dietary needs (e.g., baby formula)
- **Basic supplies**
  - Portable radio, and extra batteries
  - Flashlight and extra batteries
  - First aid kit and manual
  - Sanitation and hygiene items
  - Matches and waterproof container
  - Whistle
  - Extra clothing
  - Utensils (e.g., can opener)
  - Cash and coins

### Take Protective Measures

- **Before a Hurricane**
  - Secure your property with storm shutters or board up windows with 5/8" marine plywood
  - Install straps or clips to fasten roof to frame structure
  - Trim trees and shrubs
  - Clear rain gutters and downspouts
  - Secure outdoor objects
  - Identify (or build) a safe room
- **During a Hurricane**
  - Listen to radio or TV for information
  - Turn refrigerator thermostat to its coldest setting and keep closed
  - Turn off propane tanks
  - Fill bathtubs or other large containers with water for sanitary purposes
  - Stay away from windows
  - Close interior doors
  - Keep curtains and blinds closed
  - Shelter in small interior room, closet, or hallway on the lowest level
- **After a Hurricane**
  - Keep battery-powered radio with you to listen for updates and news reports
  - Use batter-powered flashlight to inspect damaged home
  - Watch out for animals
  - Stay off streets; watch out for fallen objects, downed electrical wires, weakened walls, bridges, roads, and sidewalks



### First Aid Supplies

Supplies	Home (√)	Vehicle (√)	Work (√)
Adhesive bandages, various sizes			
5" x 9" sterile dressing			
Conforming roller gauze bandage			
Triangular bandages			
3" x 3" sterile gauze pads			
4" x 4" sterile gauze pads			
Roll 3" cohesive bandage			
Germicidal hand wipes or waterless, alcohol-based hand sanitizer			
Antiseptic wipes			
Pairs large, medical grade, non-latex gloves			
Tongue depressor blades			
Adhesive tape, 2" width			
Antibacterial ointment			
Cold pack			
Scissors (small, personal)			
Tweezers			
Assorted sizes of safety pins			
Cotton balls			
Thermometer			
Tube of petroleum jelly or other lubricant			
Sunscreen			
CPR breathing barrier, such as a face shield			
First aid manual			

### Non-Prescription and Prescription Medicine Kit Supplies

Supplies	Home (√)	Vehicle (√)	Work (√)
Aspirin and non-aspirin pain reliever			
Anti-diarrhea medication			
Antacid (for stomach upset)			
Laxative			
Vitamins			
Prescriptions			
Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses			

### Sanitation and Hygiene Supplies

Item	(√)	Item	(√)
Washcloth and towel		Heavy-duty plastic garbage bags and ties for personal sanitation uses and toilet paper	
Towelettes, soap, hand sanitizer		Medium-sized plastic bucket with tight lid	
Tooth paste, toothbrushes		Disinfectant and household chlorine bleach	
Shampoo, comb, and brush		A small shovel for digging a latrine	
Deodorants, sunscreen		Toilet paper	
Razor, shaving cream			
Lip balm, insect repellent			
Contact lens solutions			
Mirror			
Feminine supplies			



### Equipment and Tools

Tools	(√)	Kitchen Items	(√)
Portable, battery-powered radio or television and extra batteries		Manual can opener	
NOAA Weather Radio, if appropriate for your area		Mess kits or paper cups, plates, and plastic utensils	
Flashlight and extra batteries		All-purpose knife	
Signal flare		Household liquid bleach to treat drinking water	
Matches in a waterproof container (or waterproof matches)		Sugar, salt, pepper	
Shut-off wrench, pliers, shovel, and other tools		Aluminum foil and plastic wrap	
Duct tape and scissors		Resealable plastic bags	
Plastic sheeting		Small cooking stove and a can of cooking fuel (if food must be cooked)	
Whistle			
Small canister, ABC-type fire extinguisher		<b>Comfort Items</b>	
Tube tent		Games	
Compass		Cards	
Work gloves		Books	
Paper, pens, and pencils		Toys for kids	
Needles and thread		Foods	
Battery-operated travel alarm clock			

### Food and Water

Supplies	Home (√)	Vehicle (√)	Work (√)
Water			
Ready-to-eat meats, fruits, and vegetables			
Canned or boxed juices, milk, and soup			
High-energy foods such as peanut butter, jelly, low-sodium crackers, granola bars, and trail mix.			
Vitamins			
Special foods for infants or persons on special diets			
Cookies, hard candy			
Instant coffee			
Cereals			
Powdered milk			

### Clothes and Bedding Supplies

Item	(√)	(√)	(√)	(√)
Complete change of clothes				
Sturdy shoes or boots				
Rain gear				
Hat and gloves				
Extra socks				
Extra underwear				
Thermal underwear				
Sunglasses				
Blankets/sleeping bags and pillows				



### Documents and Keys

Make sure you keep these items in a watertight container

Item	Stored (✓)
Personal identification	
Cash and coins	
Credit cards	
Extra set of house keys and car keys	
Copies of the following:	
• Birth certificate	
• Marriage certificate	
• Driver's license	
• Social Security cards	
• Passports	
• Wills	
• Deeds	
• Inventory of household goods	
• Insurance papers	
• Immunization records	
• Bank and credit card account numbers	
• Stocks and bonds	
Emergency contact list and phone numbers	
Map of the area and phone numbers of places you could go	