



Hurricane Preparedness

Who's at risk?

If you live in on the Atlantic or Gulf coast of the U.S., chances are you'll experience a hurricane at some point. Hurricane season runs from June through November, with activity peaking early to mid September. However, hurricanes can hit outside the season, and some can spawn damaging wind and rain far inland.

How to Prepare for a Hurricane

Hurricanes, unlike tornadoes and earthquakes, can be forecasted several days ahead of landfall. Although we can't predict exactly when or where a hurricane will hit, or how destructive it will be, you should have time to prepare.

- If you have to evacuate, know where to go and how to get there. Contact your local emergency management agency for information.
- Educate yourself on procedures for recovery and safe clean-up. Ask your local authorities or visit www.cdc.gov.
- Establish an assembly point for family members to meet if separated. And choose one person everyone can contact with their whereabouts and status.
- Know how to shut off your home's utilities.
- Board up windows and secure loose items like patio furniture, grills, etc.
- Stock your home with emergency supplies, including canned food, bottled water, medications and personal hygiene items, in water-tight storage bins.

Riding the Storm Out

- If you still have power, monitor conditions on TV or radio.
- Listen for warning sirens.
- Stay indoors until authorities tell you it's safe to go outside.
- Stay away from windows and exterior doors. Seek shelter in a bathroom or basement.
- Be prepared to evacuate if necessary.
- If you're evacuating, don't walk through moving water more than six inches deep. And never drive through flooded roads.