

# HOME

# MATTERS



## Preparing for a Hurricane

Hurricane season lasts from June through November when storms with heavy rains and catastrophic winds can severely damage or destroy homes in low-lying coastal areas. As such, you and your family need to be prepared when a hurricane strikes. Utilize the following guidance to stay safe and limit potential damages in the event of a hurricane.

### Before the Hurricane

- Refill prescriptions, fill up your vehicle's gas tank and withdraw a week's worth of cash.
- Store valuable papers and items in waterproof bags.
- Cover windows and secure any outdoor items.
- If you are told to evacuate, do so immediately.

### During the Hurricane

- Tune into a battery-operated radio or TV and follow instructions.
- Seek shelter in an interior room away from windows, such as a closet.

### After the Hurricane

- Stay inside until an "all-clear" is issued. If you were evacuated, don't return until the area is safe.
- When inspecting your home, wear sturdy shoes and clothing for protection.
- Allow only those trained to turn off damaged utilities and appliances.
- Use only bottled water until tap water is determined safe.
- Contact your insurance agent promptly to report damages.

## Preparation Is Key

Plan evacuation routes and designate a post-disaster contact that family members know to call after a hurricane. Stock up on items such as a week's supply of bottled water and canned goods, along with a manual can/bottle opener, flashlight, battery-operated radio or television, nails, tarps and plywood. Keep an up-to-date log (including photos/video) of your possessions and review your insurance policy coverage annually to ensure full protection in the event of a hurricane.

For more additional home safety guidance and homeowners insurance solutions, contact us today.

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