#### 2025 Hurricane Survival Guide

For family & friends in a Hurricane path
 Copy of Presentation saved as pdf with active links

Ideas for you to do your own research • examples are not endorsements, lots of companies & choices available

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## Sales Tax Holiday - no date yet · <a href="https://floridarevenue.com/DisasterPrep">https://floridarevenue.com/DisasterPrep</a>

- Flashlights and lanterns costing \$40 or less
- Re-useable ice gel packs costing \$20 or less
- Self-powered Radios costing \$50 or less
- Tarps and ground anchors or tie down kits costing \$100 or less
- Coolers and portable power banks costing \$60 or less
- Batteries and fuel tanks costing \$50 or less
- Smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, and carbon monoxide detectors costing \$70 or less
- Generators costing \$3,000 or less
- Several items related to the safe evacuation of household pets

## 2024 Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday Poster:

https://floridarevenue.com/DisasterPrep/Documents/2024/DPposter8.5X14.pdf

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#### **Disaster Manuals**

- Division of Emergency Management <a href="https://www.floridadisaster.org/">https://www.floridadisaster.org/</a>
   planprepare/
- Family Plan <a href="https://www.ready.gov/plan-form">https://www.ready.gov/plan-form</a>
- 2024 Florida Hurricane Guide https://www.floridadisaster.org/globalassets/fdem-hurricane-guide-2024.pdf

## **DISASTER PREPARATION & RECOVERY -**

https://disaster.ifas.ufl.edu/trees--landscapes/

Trees & Landscapes: Selection, Pruning, Hiring an Arborist, Clean Up, Recovery

**Health, Home and Pets** - <a href="https://disaster.ifas.ufl.edu/health-home--pets-/">https://disaster.ifas.ufl.edu/health-home--pets-/</a> Healthy Cooking, Food & Supplies ••• Food & Water Safety Clean Up & Repairs ••• Finances & Insurance ••• Mental Health

## **Replacing Lost or Damaged Documents**

https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/DH/DH21500.pdf

**Recovery After Disaster: The Family Financial Toolkit** 

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zJQ4Vf\_vVNYGnh3H3e-KewhOoMbdLtsO/view

## **Protecting Your Home**

- Don't duct tape windows: still breaks, shards larger & more dangerous, glue will stick forever
- Clean out your gutters ahead of time!

## Find an Arborist for proper tree care - <a href="https://www.treesaregood.org/">https://www.treesaregood.org/</a> findanarborist

If you have trees that are in poor condition, leaning towards buildings or other targets needing protection, consider having them removed. An ISA certified arborist can assist you in making removal/remediation decisions.

## Windows Ultra Security Film (secured on the inside) (film example)

- https://www.3m.com/3M/en\_US/p/d/b00016667/
- https://multimedia.3m.com/mws/media/1173223O/3m-scotchshield-window-film-ultra-prestige-family-card.pdf?&fn=98-0150-0755-6 R4.pdf

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## **Window Coverings**

Make sure you have emergency exit doors or windows available.

Category 1 – Wind speeds 74 – 95 miles per hour

Category 2 – Wind speeds 96 – 110 miles per hour

Category 3 – Wind speeds 111 – 130 miles per hour

Category 4 – Wind speeds 131 – 154 miles per hour

Category 5 – Wind speeds 155+ miles per hour

**Storm Panels -** Plywood • Fabric • Corrugated Aluminum • Galvanized steel • Polycarbonate

Shutters - Accordion • Louvered • Solid Panel • Bahama • Roll Down

## **Article regarding Wood choices:**

https://plyfastner.com/board-up-windows-hurricane-protection

## OTOW Central 2/24 Hurricane Shutters page 13 -

https://ontopoftheworldinfo.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/OTOW-Central-Rules-and-Regulations-Recorded-2.14.24-BK-8252-PGS-0068-0135-OCR.pdf

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## **Garage Door Braces**

Wide variety of styles and prices • Installed or Do-It-Yourself

#### Wind-Loaded and Not Wind-Loaded - Video and Credit:

https://www.lowes.com/n/how-to/how-to-install-garage-door-storm-braces

Bracing Example - Credit: <a href="https://www.securedoorbraces.com/">https://www.securedoorbraces.com/</a>

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## Impact of Hurricane Helene 9-26-24 ===

https://zoom.earth/storms/helene-2024/

Eye 2 hours inland still 140mph • Category 4

A historic landfall: Helene made landfall at 11:10 p.m. EDT Sept. 26 about 10 miles west-southwest of Perry, Florida, at Category 4 intensity packing 140-mph winds, movement NNE at 24mph, and a pressure of 938 millibars, according to the National Hurricane Center. Hurricane Helene plowed into Florida with catastrophic storm surge and damaging winds, then dumped prolific rainfall inland over the Southeast, triggering historic, devastating river flooding in the Carolinas and Tennessee.

Perry FL to Valdosta GA = 61 miles

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## Power Outages - <a href="https://poweroutage.us">https://poweroutage.us</a>

Graphic showed over 4.3 million electric customers are currently without power due to Hurricane Helene • search for date: 9-27-24

Article: Florida Solar Panel Cost: Savings and Payback (May 2025) <a href="https://poweroutage.us/solar/fl">https://poweroutage.us/solar/fl</a>

## OFF THE GRID: United States Power Outage Tracker + Counties https://data.usatoday.com/national-power-outage-map-tracker/area/florida/

https://data.usatoday.com/national-power-outage-map-tracker/area/florida/12/

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#### Generators

Do your research and consider "what do I really need?"

- Search for top 10 Portable Generators for home use
- Varied size generators to fit your needs
- Consider 3-5 days or more without power
- Are you able to move the portable generator and set it up outdoors?
- Are you able to maintain a portable generator hooking it to either propane or gasoline?

## **Using Portable Generators Safely**

https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA3286.pdf

Never light candles during the hurricane - use flashlights only!

## **Home Standby Generator -**

- Automatically runs on natural gas or liquid propane (LP) fuel when the power is out. Professionally and permanently installed outside near your gas line.
- Purchase the generator, and coordinate with your Energy provider and Electrical installer.

## Whole House Surge Protector -

Check with your Energy provider or Electrical installer for a professional installation. Works at the meter to help block surges before they reach your home's interior wiring and appliances.

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#### **Solar Generators**

Do your research and consider "How much Capacity do I really need - Small, Medium or High?"

Informational Article: The best solar generators in 2025, tested by editors - <a href="https://www.cnn.com/cnn-underscored/reviews/best-solar-generators">https://www.cnn.com/cnn-underscored/reviews/best-solar-generators</a>

"First off, a solar generator isn't a "generator." It's a large rechargeable battery pack — not that different from the devices you might carry around to charge your phone while traveling — that integrates a UPS with surge protection and an inverter and line conditioner to power your AC devices.

These devices are known as "solar generators" because they're designed to be charged using a solar panel, making them suitable for long-term use in emergencies or off the grid (they can be charged via a wall outlet too). A wide range of battery capacities is available, from large models that can keep critical appliances running and the lights on during an emergency, to lightweight models more suitable for camping or tailgating.

The performance of solar generators is measured in watt-hours (Wh). For example, imagine you have a load of 100W (which may be typical of a large fan and a portable refrigerator combined), and your solar generator's capacity is 1,000Wh. Then you could keep the load (the fan and portable fridge) for approximately 10 hours before the battery power is depleted (assuming there is no interim recharge by your solar panels, as happens at night)."

## Article: A complete guide to solar power generators

https://www.energysage.com/energy-storage/solar-generators-overview/

## **Wide Variety of Companies and Sizes**

- portable solar generator (SG) usually sold by itself
- solar panels often sold separately

- plug SG into electric socket, car battery, or solar panels to charge
- energy stored in SG batteries
- inverter converts the stored DC electricity into alternating current (AC) power
- SG can be used inside home, no harmful gases, needs proper ventilation to prevent overheating
- plug in most devices and appliances
- · Capacity in Watt Hours (WH) · Output in Watts
- often have a mobile smart app
- small for camping large for indoor emergencies or even whole house backup power
- quiet operation

**Before storm:** Plug in solar generator (SG) into home electric outlet to charge the SG battery.

**After storm:** Local power grid might be out where you live for several days or more. Plug the coordinated solar panels into the SG during the day in the needed sunlight, to recharge your SG battery.

Article: Can a home with solar panels use a generator? <a href="https://www.solarreviews.com/blog/generators-for-solar-panels">https://www.solarreviews.com/blog/generators-for-solar-panels</a>

Article: Solar Panels vs Hurricane Winds: Will Panels Survive? <a href="https://palmetto.com/solar/solar-panels-vs-hurricanes-tips-tricks-how-to-prepare">https://palmetto.com/solar/solar-panels-vs-hurricanes-tips-tricks-how-to-prepare</a>

For Emergency storage for food, medicines, etc. Search: **portable refrigerator/ freezer** 

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#### **Weather Information**

**Emergency Weather Radio** - a wide variety of companies offer hand crank, solar charging, NOAA/AM/FM, cellphone charger, and flashlight features

**Portable Battery Phone Charger** - Charge it before the power goes out. **Have a charger cord for your car too!** 

The Weather Channel - <a href="https://weather.com">https://www.wunderground.com/hurricane</a>
Wunderground - <a href="https://www.spaghettimodels.com">https://www.spaghettimodels.com</a>
Elevation - <a href="https://whatismyelevation.com">https://whatismyelevation.com</a>

## **Food Safety During a Power Outage**

https://www.foodsafety.gov/food-safety-charts/food-safety-during-poweroutage

## Food Safety in a Disaster or Emergency

https://www.foodsafety.gov/sites/default/files/2021-05/severe-weather-large.jpg https://www.foodsafety.gov/keep-food-safe/food-safety-in-disaster-oremergency

https://www.ready.gov/food

**Mold on food** - <a href="https://www.fsis.usda.gov/food-safety/safe-food-handling-and-preparation/food-safety-basics/molds-food-are-they-dangerous">https://www.fsis.usda.gov/food-safety/safe-food-handling-and-preparation/food-safety-basics/molds-food-are-they-dangerous</a>

- Buy food supplies in May/June, rotate yearly in December
- Mark the month/year on each can or box.
- When in doubt throw it out. Look and smell NEVER taste!

## **Emergencies: Water, Sanitation & Hygiene**

https://www.cdc.gov/water-emergency/index.html https://www.cdc.gov/water-emergency/media/pdfs/make-water-safe-during-emergency-p.pdf

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#### **Think Nutrition**

**BREAD GROUP** • breakfast cereal • crackers • breakfast/nutrition bars • rice cakes • whole wheat or multi-grain bread • dry pasta • Boston brown bread with raisins • melba toast • taco shells • chips • vanilla wafers • bread sticks • muffins • graham crackers • pretzels • purchase just before storm: fresh bread, round flatbread for wraps

**VEGETABLE GROUP** • canned vegetables and soups • canned 3 bean salad, mushrooms • salsa • spaghetti sauce • purchase just before storm: fresh carrots, broccoli, etc.

**FRUIT GROUP** • canned fruit in its own juice • dried fruit • 100% fruit juice • trail mix with fruit • packaged: raisins, apricots, cranberries, etc. • fruit cocktail • unsweetened applesauce

**DAIRY GROUP** • non-fat milk (powdered, canned or shelf stable) • Ensure • puddings • nutritional drinks • processed cheese spread

**PROTEIN GROUP** • meat soups • canned: tuna, ham, salmon, sardines, chili, corned beef hash, ravioli, beans (kidney, lima, black eyed peas, lentils, etc.) • peanut butter • bean spreads • packaged nuts (unsalted, dry roasted, peanuts, walnuts, almonds, etc.) • beef or turkey jerky • Vienna sausage

**EXTRA** • bottled water, Gatorade, instant ice tea, instant coffee, tea bags, powdered drink mixes • cream soups • jelly • small packets of ketchup, mustard and mayonnaise • granola bars, fruit bars • infant food, formula • special diets

**COOKING** • fondue pot with sterno (canned heat) • camping stove • grill with burners • extra propane or charcoal for the grill • heavy duty aluminum foil • disposable aluminum pans • hand operated can opener • bottle opener • fire extinguisher (ABC type) • matches in a water proof container • sunscreen to use when grilling outdoors • first aid kit •

**NEVER USE CHARCOAL INSIDE YOUR HOUSE OR GARAGE** - the smoke and fumes are deadly. Gas grills need to be outside also for safety and fire hazards.

**TABLE SETTINGS** • plastic utensils: knives, spoons and forks • paper plates and bowls, paper towels, napkins.

**CLEAN UP** • kitchen gloves • garbage bags/ties • baby wipes • disinfecting wipes • sponges • bleach and medicine dropper • storage container or bucket with tight fitting lid • extra zip lock bags of all sizes • hand sanitizer

**SUPPLIES** • assorted batteries, extra cell phone battery, extra bulbs, flash lights, lanterns, and candles • battery operated TV and radio • room fans (if on generator) • toilet paper • diapers and other infant non-food supplies • fill red gas cans with extra gas if you have a generator

Credit: UF/IFAS Family & Consumer Sciences: Broward, Miami-Dade, Martin, Palm Beach - <a href="https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/media/sfylifasufledu/broward/docs/pdfs/fcs/other-pdfs/Think-Nutrition-During-a-Hurricane\_BMJ.pdf">https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/media/sfylifasufledu/broward/docs/pdfs/fcs/other-pdfs/Think-Nutrition-During-a-Hurricane\_BMJ.pdf</a>

## **Cooking Pots**

There are a wide variety of camping supplies to cook meals - look for a sturdy structure that won't tip over easily. Some require Sterno (usable inside/outside your home), some use solid fuel cubes (outside).

## MRE = Meals Ready to Eat

These are pre-packaged kits usually with a 3-5 year shelf life. Each meal is often 600-900 calories or more, often with a high salt/sodium level. Used for military, camping, emergency supplies, etc. where it needs no refrigeration. One pouch

becomes a heater (really hot) to cook the entree. Many companies and lots of dinner menu items available.

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#### Insurance

# Your policies to review and have accessible - Homeowners, Auto, Health, Life, Accident, Property, and Travel

Good idea to have "Replacement Value" on your Homeowners policy (furniture, computer, devices, etc.) to replace items at today's purchase price. You need to purchase this before an event.

## Flood Insurance - https://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is managed by the FEMA and is delivered to the public by a network of more than 50 insurance companies and the

NFIP Direct - <a href="https://www.nfipdirect.fema.gov/Membership/SignIn/">https://www.nfipdirect.fema.gov/Membership/SignIn/</a>
Floods can happen anywhere — just one inch of floodwater can cause up to \$25,000 in damage. Most homeowners insurance does not cover flood damage. 30-day waiting period.

**Flood insurance is a separate policy** that can cover buildings, the contents in a building, or both - <a href="https://www.floodsmart.gov/get-insured">https://www.floodsmart.gov/get-insured</a> <a href="https://www.floodsmart.gov/get-insured/flood-insurance-provider">https://www.floodsmart.gov/get-insured/flood-insurance-provider</a> <a href="https://www.floodsmart.gov/get-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-insured/flood-ins

**FEMA Recovery After a Disaster** - <a href="https://www.fema.gov/assistance/individual">https://www.fema.gov/assistance/individual</a> The "Help After a Disaster" brochure is a tool to help people understand the types of FEMA Individual Assistance support that may be available in disaster recovery.

## Survivors' Road to Recovery -

https://www.fema.gov/assistance/individual/program/road-to-recovery

## **Save Your Family Treasures -**

https://www.fema.gov/disaster/recover/save-family-treasures

**Disaster Assistance**: 800-621-3362 https://www.disasterassistance.gov/

#### Medical

Answering questions about -

- Can I go to any provider during an emergency or disaster if I have Original Medicare, a Medicare Advantage Plan, or other Medicare health plan?
- · Getting your prescription drugs, dialysis & cancer treatments
- Replacing lost or damaged Medicare card

For more information about plan rules during an emergency or disaster, find your plan's contact information on your plan membership card.

1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

https://www.medicare.gov/providers-services/disaster-emergency

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## **Reviewing Homeowners Insurance Info**

Break out your policy, read the fine print and review all items covered. You don't want to be surprised later. Make any changes now or as soon as possible.

Article - What Homeowners Insurance Covers and Doesn't Cover <a href="https://www.cgaa.org/article/what-does-homeowners-insurance-cover-and-not-cover">https://www.cgaa.org/article/what-does-homeowners-insurance-cover-and-not-cover</a>

Article - 7 Surprising Things That Homeowners Insurance Doesn't Cover <a href="https://www.aarp.org/money/personal-finance/surprising-things-homeowners-insurance-does-not-cover/">https://www.aarp.org/money/personal-finance/surprising-things-homeowners-insurance-does-not-cover/</a>

Article - What Does Homeowners Insurance Cover and Not Cover? <a href="https://www.investopedia.com/financial-edge/1211/what-is-and-isnt-covered-by-homeowners-insurance.aspx">https://www.investopedia.com/financial-edge/1211/what-is-and-isnt-covered-by-homeowners-insurance.aspx</a>

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## Mobile Hotspot Scenario

## Article: What Is a Mobile Hotspot? -

https://www.howtogeek.com/795007/what-is-a-mobile-hotspot/
When the electricity and wi-fi are off, you could choose to have your cellphone become a Mobile Hotspot, giving internet service to your tablet and computer. Your phone creates an ad-hoc wireless network with the ability to share the data connection with your other devices. This can get pricy, so go over your service provider's plans ahead of time.

Hotspots have a range of 30-60 feet, and only when cellular service is working. The network congestion during a hurricane might slow down your internet speeds, including your adding more devices. This is more secure because this hotspot is from your private phone, whereas Wi-Fi hotspots are public. So be aware of strangers who are in your immediate area, who might grab access to your private hotspot.

Use a personal hotspot on your smartphone - built in, battery intensive

**Apple:** Settings > Personal Hotspot

**Android:** Settings > Network & Internet > Hotspot & tethering OR Buy a dedicated mobile hotspot device - search for MiFi, 5G and dual-band Wi-Fi support through your carrier or device manufacturers

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## **Documents - Digital Kit**

## Scan and Sign documents Android phone:

Scan - <a href="https://www.androidauthority.com/scan-documents-android-3149362/">https://www.androidauthority.com/scan-documents-android-3149362/</a> Sign - <a href="https://www.howtogeek.com/how-to-edit-and-sign-a-pdf-on-android/">https://www.howtogeek.com/how-to-edit-and-sign-a-pdf-on-android/</a> Apple iPhone/iPad Notes - <a href="https://support.apple.com/en-us/108963">https://support.apple.com/en-us/108963</a>

**Cloud Services** - With your User Name and Password, access any photos or documents that you upload to the system through any device connected to the internet, and to download documents directly to your device.

Apple iCloud - https://www.icloud.com/

**Dropbox** - <a href="https://www.dropbox.com/mobile">https://www.dropbox.com/mobile</a>

Google Drive - https://www.google.com/drive/download/

**ICE (In Case of Emergency)** - Your vital health info and emergency medical contacts are on your smartphone lock screen, so first responders can see it immediately. Without your password, they can't get into your phone.

Android phone - <a href="https://support.google.com/android/answer/9319337?hl=en">https://support.google.com/android/answer/9319337?hl=en</a> Apple iPhone/iPad - <a href="https://support.apple.com/en-us/105072">https://support.apple.com/en-us/105072</a>

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## **Disaster Supply Kit Checklist**

https://www.floridadisaster.org/globalassets/plan--prepare/disaster-supply-checklist.pdf

http://cdn.cnn.com/cnn/2018/images/09/11/a-checklist-for-a-hurricane.pdf

Pet Plan - https://www.floridadisaster.org/planprepare/pets/

## **U.S. Small Business Administration: Prepare for Emergencies**

https://www.sba.gov/business-guide/manage-your-business/prepareemergencies

#### **Marion Evacuation Routes**

https://maps.floridadisaster.org/county/EVAC\_MARION.pdf

https://www.floridadisaster.org/planprepare/disaster-preparedness-maps/

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#### **Evacuation Checklist**

- Household member information: Everyone's name, date of birth, and cell phone number.
- Pets: Pets' names, species, microchip number, and veterinarian contact.
- Utilities, service contract, and insurance info: All policy IDs or account numbers, emergency contact numbers for water, gas, electric, sewer, cable, and home insurance.
- Emergency contacts: contact info for relatives, friends, and neighbors.
- Emergency kit/go-bag: The contents of the bag and the last time it was checked or stocked.
- Medical information: All doctors and current medication including condition meds are treating, dosage frequency, location in the household, and pharmacy contact.
- **Home layout:** Draw a layout of your home that includes locations of utility shutoffs for gas and electric as well as safety equipment, fire extinguishers, and emergency supplies.
- **Disaster meeting places:** List the nearby location and the spot designated outside of your neighborhood.
- General emergency situation information: List where and how you may be notified of an emergency and/or hazard. List media sources or county emergency contact information.

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## **Heading Out Early**

- Turnpike tolls are free
- Plan evacuation routes
- · Book your shelter early
- Full tank of gas
- Car cellphone charger

- 12V Cooler that plugs into cigarette lighter
- \$500+ Cash, smaller bills, no power = no ATM
- The FEMA app helps you to locate emergency shelters and disaster recovery centers. It allows you to register for disaster assistance online and share photos.

https://www.fema.gov/about/news-multimedia/mobile-app-text-messages

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## **Heading Out - Digital Kit**

- GasBuddy https://www.gasbuddy.com/app
- Waze: Traffic slowdowns, wrecks, closures <a href="https://www.waze.com/">https://www.waze.com/</a>
- Florida Turnpike https://floridasturnpike.com/
- Turnpike Live Traffic Updates <a href="https://www.tpktraffic.com/">https://www.tpktraffic.com/</a>
- Florida 511 Live Traffic Updates statewide accessible by mobile app, website, and Twitter - <a href="https://www.fl511.com">https://www.fl511.com</a>

## Hotels or Housing apps -

- Expedia <a href="https://www.expedia.com/app">https://www.expedia.com/app</a>
- AirBnB <a href="https://www.airbnb.com/">https://www.airbnb.com/</a>
- Hotels <a href="https://www.hotels.com/app">https://www.hotels.com/app</a>
- For pet friendly hotels try the Bring Fido app for
- Apple <a href="https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bringfido/id682820712">https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bringfido/id682820712</a>
   or Android -

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.bringfido.bringfido&hl=en\_US&pli=1

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## Heading Out "Go Bag"

- ••• Photo identification ••• List of current medications
- ••• Social security cards ••• Birth certificates ••• Immunization records
- Insurance and financial information: Homeowner's insurance, car insurance, contracts, deeds, stocks and bonds
- **Digital records:** Make a digital back up of photos and video of personal property. Store originals and copies in a waterproof, re-sealable bag or container. If traveling, paper records might get stolen or damaged, so digital is wise, with a passcode on the front of all your devices.
- Clothing, medication, individually wrapped food, snacks and water. Pack for 3-5 days per person in the household.

Build a Basic Disaster Supplies Kit - https://www.ready.gov/kit

## **Cleaning Up the Mess**

## **Closing Your Seasonal Home**

https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/HE887

## **Mold Cleanup in Your Home**

https://www.epa.gov/mold/mold-cleanup-your-home

## **Resources for Flood Cleanup & Indoor Air Quality**

https://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/resources-flood-cleanup-and-indoor-air-quality

## Flood Cleanup: Protecting Indoor Air Quality

https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-09/documents/floods.pdf

## A Field Guide for Flooded Home Cleanup

https://nchh.org/resource-library/a-field-guide-for-flooded-homecleanup english.pdf

## **Repairing Your Flooded Home**

https://nchh.org/resource-library/fema\_repairing-your-flooded-home.pdf

## Homeowner's & Renter's Guide to Mold Cleanup After Disasters

https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2017-08/documents/mold. homeowners and renters guide to cleanup after disasters.pdf

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## **OTOW / Marion County Resources**

- Sign up for <u>AlertMarion.com</u> for local Emergency alerts
- OTOW <a href="https://ontopoftheworldinfo.com/hurricane-preparedness/">https://ontopoftheworldinfo.com/hurricane-preparedness/</a>
- OTOW App for Alerts <a href="https://ontopoftheworldinfo.com/otow-app/">https://ontopoftheworldinfo.com/otow-app/</a>
- Emergency: 911
- Marion County Sheriff's Office Non-Emergency Line: (352) 732-9111
- Marion County Citizen's Information Line: (352) 369-7500
- Marion County Special Needs Registry (352) 369-8100 sheltering assistance for residents with physical, cognitive or mental impairment • <a href="https://www.marionso.com/special-needs-program">https://www.marionso.com/special-needs-program</a>
- Please check your own county for similar emergency resources.

## To Do List - Be Prepared Early

#### **Homework Now**

- Protect home call professionals: whole house generator, shutters, upgrade to hurricane windows, security film, trim trees
- Purchase flood insurance early if needed
- Purchase dry food and water bottles (store all inside, not garage). Use after hurricane season is over. <a href="https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/media/sfylifasufledu/broward/docs/pdfs/fcs/other-pdfs/Think-Nutrition-During-a-Hurricane">https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/media/sfylifasufledu/broward/docs/pdfs/fcs/other-pdfs/Think-Nutrition-During-a-Hurricane</a> BMJ.pdf
- Print Emergency Supply List <a href="https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/ready\_supply-kit-checklist.pdf">https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/ready\_supply-kit-checklist.pdf</a>
- Buy devices: backup batteries, generator, small refrigerator, small fans, food cooler for car, car safety glass breaker (side windows), etc.
- Organize important papers, review all insurance policies, make copies, upload to cloud or backup drives, info: family-doctors-neighbors
- Cash get small bills, stash now, no ATMs later
- Prescriptions set up 3-month supply
- Safer to store foods in plastic containers and zip bags rather than breakable glass.

#### 1 Week Before

- Organize To-Go Bag https://www.ready.gov/kit
- Fill gas in car(s)
- Reduce refrigerator/freezer foods to save on waste
- Make sure portable generator filled & working OR make sure solar generator and panels working
- Bring in furniture from porch, pool & yard items
- Clean out gutters.
- Family plan: staying leaving: where, how long
- Check in with neighbors
- Keep important papers in closed/sealed zipped bags, big bins with sealed lids, or fireproof device.
- Document your rooms with a continuous video, or photos which show overlapping furniture from one photo to the next. Also document your property outside your home.
- Clean and fill the tub because it could be a good place to store water if your local water supply has been interrupted or contaminated. This water can be used to flush your toilet when the power is out, wash your hands and laundry, but not for drinking. Use the water sparingly and dispose of it safely when there is no more need for it. Check the plug's quality to prevent leakage.
- Freeze a plastic cup of water and place a penny on top for a visual track of thawing.

#### After the Storm

- Use flashlight not candle to review damage
- Leave any damaged property as is, don't fix yet
- Contact insurance agent as soon as possible
- List all damaged or destroyed property
- Take photos of inside and outside home
- Keep all expense receipts for new supplies, hotel stays
- Drink bottled water until advised tap water is safe
- Licensed contractors The Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation warns the residents of Florida to check if the contractor is licensed or not.
- Florida Office of Financial Regulation https://flofr.gov/sitePages/verifyalicense.htm
- Angie's List <a href="https://www.angi.com">https://www.angi.com</a>
- Home Advisor <a href="https://www.homeadvisor.com">https://www.homeadvisor.com</a>
- Duke Energy Outages 800-228-8485 <a href="https://www.duke-energy.com/outages">https://www.duke-energy.com/outages</a>
- Peoples Gas 877-832-6747 Stay away from these storm hazards! <a href="https://www.peoplesgas.com/49c77f/siteassets/files/storm/peoples-gas-storm-brochure-final.pdf">https://www.peoplesgas.com/49c77f/siteassets/files/storm/peoples-gas-storm-brochure-final.pdf</a>

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It's always smart to plan for the worst and hope for the best!

If you can, try to get your home prepared so you don't have to travel.

This presentation was made to give you ideas for your own research and finding solutions.

Any products or articles referenced are used as examples only, and not as product endorsements.