What To Do Before A Hurricane?

Be ready to put your plan and preparation into action.



What to do when a hurricane is 6 hours from arriving

- [ ] If you're not in an area that is recommended for evacuation, plan to stay at home or where you are and let friends and family know where you are.
- [ ] Close storm shutters, and stay away from windows. Flying glass from broken windows could injure you.
- [ ] Turn your refrigerator or freezer to the coldest setting and open only when necessary. If you lose power, food will last longer.
- [ ] Keep a thermometer in the refrigerator to be able to check the food temperature when the power is restored.
- [ ] Turn on your TV/radio, or check your city/county website every 30 minutes in order to get the latest weather updates and emergency instructions.

What to do when a hurricane is 18-36 hours from arriving

- [ ] Bookmark your city or county website for quick access to storm updates and emergency instructions.
- [ ] Bring loose, lightweight objects inside that could become projectiles in high winds (e.g., patio furniture, garbage cans); anchor objects that would be unsafe to bring inside (e.g., propane tanks).
- [ ] Trim or remove trees close enough to fall on the building.
- [ ] Cover all of your home's windows. Permanent storm shutters offer the best protection for windows.
- [ ] A second option is to board up windows with 5/8" exterior grade or marine plywood, cut to fit and ready to install.

What to do when a hurricane is 36 hours from arriving

- [ ] Turn on your TV or radio in order to get the latest weather updates and emergency instructions.
- [ ] Build or restock your emergency preparedness kit. Include food and water sufficient for at least three days, medications, a flashlight, batteries, cash, and first aid supplies.
- [ ] Plan how to communicate with family members if you lose power. For example, you can call, text, email or use social media.
- [ ] Review your evacuation plan with your family. You may have to leave quickly so plan ahead.
- [ ] Keep your car in good working condition, and keep the gas tank full; stock your vehicle with emergency supplies and a change of clothes.

For details: https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes

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