

Hurricane Kits

It is important to create a kit of supplies that you could take with you if you are forced to evacuate. This kit will also be useful if you are able to stay in your home, but are still affected by the storm, such as through the loss of power. One common trend seen when hurricanes are approaching is a widespread panic. When this happens, people rush in large numbers to get all the supplies they think they need. However, if you prepare your kit ahead of time, you can alleviate a lot of the potential stress of a very chaotic situation. You should create your kit in a bag that you can easily take with you. Some recommended items to include are:

- Non-perishable food (enough to last at least 3 days)
- Water (enough to last at least 3 days)
- First-aid kit (include any prescription medication you may need)
- Personal hygiene items and sanitation items
- Flashlights (have extra batteries on hand)
- Battery operated radio (again, have extra batteries)
- Waterproof container with cash and important documents
- Manual can opener
- Lighter or matches
- Books, magazines, games for recreation
- Special needs items: pet supplies and baby supplies if applicable
- Cooler and ice packs
- A plan for evacuation and for if family members are separated

Securing Your Home

Know how to secure your home in the event of damaging winds, storm surge and flooding.

- Cover all of your windows, either with hurricane shutters or wood.
- Although tape can prevent glass from shattering everywhere, be warned that tape does not prevent the window from breaking.
- If possible, secure straps or clips to securely fasten your roof to the structure of your home.
- Make sure all trees and shrubs are trimmed and clear rain gutters.
- Reinforce your garage doors.
- Bring in all outdoor furniture, garbage cans, decorations, and anything else that is not tied down.

- If winds become strong, stay away from windows and doors and close, secure and brace internal doors.

Power Outages

In the event a storm should leave you without power, there are a few things to consider and help you be ready and stay safe outside of your normal hurricane preparedness.

- **Gas:** Make sure your tank is full far in advance of an approaching storm. Most people wait until the last minute, rush to get extra gas for cars and generators, and subsequently gas stations can run out early.
- **ATMS:** Have extra cash on hand in the event no ATMS in your area are accessible or working.
- **Cell Phones:** Charge your cell phone and limit use after power is out.
- **A/C:** This can be the most uncomfortable side effect of losing power during a storm. Try to prevent as much light from entering and warming the house by covering up your windows on the inside. If you have back-up or battery operated fans, don't run them unless you are in the room. Fans create a difference in perceived temperature but do not cool the room; instead they create a cooling effect by dispersing the heat off your skin. It is said they can actually add heat to a room just by running.
- **Water:** Fill bathtub and large containers with water for washing and flushing only.
- **Food:** Turn your fridge temperature down and/or freeze any food or drinking water that can be frozen if you expect a power outage. Here is a guide on freezing food: [Freezing and Food Safety](#). Have a cooler with ice packs prepared to cool your drinks and snacks after power has been out for more than 4 hours. And importantly, check out this food safety guide for when to discard your perishable food: http://www.foodsafety.gov/keep/charts/refridg_food.html
- **Health/Safety:** The CDC has a great guide on how to stay safe in the event of a power outage: [Power Outages](#)

Remember, any severe storm can be deadly and destructive. If you've survived a landfalling cyclone, you know the inconvenience and distress it can cause. One of the best tips to be prepared is knowing the cycle of a cyclone - **Approach, Arrival & Aftermath**. Prepare ahead of time and listen to the directions of officials for the approach. Secure your home, or find a safe shelter for its arrival, and know how to proceed safely during the aftermath.

IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS & WEBSITES

Broward County Animal Care and Regulation	954.359.1313
American Red Cross of Broward County	954.797.3800
FPL	954.797.5000
Bellsouth Repairs	888.757.6500
Broward Emergency Management Offices	954.831.3900
Broward County Health Department	954.467.4700
Sheriff's Office Non-Emergency Broward	954.765.4321
Large Animal Disaster Planning Committee	954.370.3725
Special Needs Shelter and/or transportation	954.537.2888/ TTY 954.537.2882
Homeless Shelters	954.792.2337 or toll free 1.877.524.2337
Broward County Hurricane Hotline	954.831.4000 or 954.831.3940
Community Emergency Response Teams	954.831.3900
National Flood Insurance	800.638.6620
School District Hotline	754.321.0321
Elder Affairs Hotline	800.963.5337
FEMA Hotline	800.342.3557 or 850.413.9900
First Call for Help	211
Emergency	911
Sanitation Waste and Recycling Services	954.765.4202
Transportation Broward County Paratransit	954.357.6794
Mass Transit Rider Services	954.357.8400
Transporation for Homeless	954.792.2337
Broward County Licenced Tree	954.519.1456

Trimmers	
Utilities TECO Energy/People's Gas 24 Hour Emergency	877.832.6747
FPL to report an outage	800.468.8243

Important websites

petswelcome.com
arcbcc.org
fema.gov
nhc.noaa.gov
wsvn.com
nbc6.net
msnbc.com
floridadisaster.org
broward.org

**Humane Society of Broward County's Pet Hurricane
Hotline: 954.266.6871**