



## EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PREPARING FOR HURRICANE SEASON

It's critical for homeowners to stay tuned in to their local weather forecast during peak season for tropical storms and hurricanes. These dangerous and destructive weather systems often produce high-force winds, heavy rain, and tornadoes.

### THREE HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS TIPS:

**1** | Map out a primary evacuation route based on your city's or county's emergency plan, but be aware of other roads and highways that you can use to drive to safety in case the main route is blocked.

**3** | Review your insurance coverage with your independent agent to make sure you have enough coverage to rebuild your home back to its original condition after a hurricane disaster.

**2** | Create a home inventory of all belongings, which can make the claims process easier if you have a loss. This article may help you get started: <https://www.iii.org/article/how-create-home-inventory>.

If your home is damaged by a storm, please report your loss to your independent agent. For emergencies that occur after hours or on weekends, call our claims team at 800-225-0770 for assistance.

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### HOW CAN YOU PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY FROM HURRICANE DAMAGE?

**Install** hurricane-resistant exterior doors, and put storm shutters or plywood panels, approved for wind pressure and impact protection, on all windows.

**Seal** windows, doors, and any holes coming through your exterior walls for pipes, cable, and electrical wiring with high-quality urethane-based caulk.

**Anchor** loose rain gutters and downspouts, posts supporting your porch and other attached structures, and outdoor grills and lawn furniture if they cannot be brought inside.

**Remove** damaged trees as well as gravel, rock, and other heavy landscaping materials that could become dangerous projectiles, and cut any limbs that could fall on your home.

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# DON'T PUT OFF BUILDING AN EMERGENCY KIT

Avoid storm-related chaos by stocking up on emergency items today. The following list is a good starting point for building a hurricane emergency kit.



One gallon of water per household member per day



At least a three-day supply of nonperishable food



Can opener



Toilet paper



Adhesive and gauze bandages, pads, and tape



Hydrogen peroxide and antibacterial ointment



Aspirin, ibuprofen, or acetaminophen



Antibacterial hand sanitizer, soap, and hand wipes



Insect repellent



Flashlight, headlamp, and AA, AAA, and D batteries



Phone charger, candles, and battery-powered radio



Matches, lighters, or waterproof fire starter



Portable waterproof container for important documents



A change of clothing for each family member

## Did You Know?



A hurricane watch is issued when sustained winds of 74 mph or greater are possible, and a hurricane warning is issued when sustained winds of 74 mph or greater are expected.



A typical hurricane brings at least 6 to 12 inches of rainfall, which is generally heaviest with slower-moving storms.



A tropical storm is characterized by sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph, and a hurricane is categorized by winds of 74 mph or greater.

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's "Hurricane Basics."

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