

## Hurricanes Disaster Tips

Hurricanes are severe tropical storms that can lead to mass devastation to properties and the community. Heavy rainfall, high winds, and flash flooding are the major hazards posed by hurricanes. Proper planning and adhering to procedures will limit the effect these storms have on homes, businesses, and the community as a whole.

- Always check local weather/radio/news to see whether or not your area is in a hurricane watch as a storm approaches.
- Always have your Emergency Kit updated and on hand.
- Bring in all outdoor furniture, decorations, garbage cans, and any other loose items that could be subject to high winds.
- Keep trees and shrubs well-trimmed to make them more wind resistant.
- Secure your home's windows with either proper shutters or ply wood.
- Reinforce your garage doors. High winds entering a garage can cause serious structural damage.
- Ensure a supply of water for sanitary purposes such as cleaning and flushing toilets. Fill the bathtub and other large containers with water.
- Set your refrigerator to a colder setting than normal. This will help preserve food longer in the event of a power outage.
- Always have your family evacuation plan ready.
- Fill your car's gas tank to ensure travel ease in the event of evacuation.
- Consider acquiring a generator to combat potential power outages. This is especially for anyone with a resident/loved one reliant on life-support machinery. Do not operate a generator indoors to avoid a buildup of carbon monoxide gas. Do not connect generators directly to a home's electrical system.