



Preparing for a hurricane involves several key steps to ensure your safety and readiness. Here's a comprehensive guide:

### 1. Stay Informed

**Monitor Weather Updates:** Follow local news, weather apps, and the National Hurricane Center for updates.

**Understand Warnings:** Familiarize yourself with hurricane categories and evacuation orders.

### 2. Create a Family Emergency Plan

**Designate Meeting Spots:** Choose a safe location for your family to regroup if separated.

**Communication Plan:** Ensure everyone knows how to reach each other and where to go.

### 3. Build an Emergency Kit

**Essentials:** Include water (1 gallon per person per day for at least 3 days), non-perishable food, a flashlight, batteries, a first aid kit, and any necessary medications.

**Important Documents:** Keep copies of IDs, insurance policies, and medical records in a waterproof container.

**Cash:** Have small bills on hand in case ATMs are down.

### 4. Secure Your Home

**Check Your Insurance:** Ensure your policy covers hurricane damage, including flooding.

**Reinforce Windows and Doors:** Use storm shutters or board up windows with plywood.

**Trim Trees and Shrubs:** Cut back any branches that could fall on your home.

### 5. Prepare Your Vehicle

**Fuel Up:** Fill your gas tank and keep your vehicle in good condition.

**Emergency Kit in Car:** Include water, snacks, a flashlight, and basic tools.

### 6. Know Your Evacuation Routes

**Plan Ahead:** Familiarize yourself with local evacuation routes and shelters.

**Arrange Transportation:** Have a plan for how you will evacuate if necessary.

### 7. Stay Connected

**Charge Devices:** Keep your phone and backup batteries charged.

**Social Media:** Follow local emergency management for real-time updates.

### 8. Practice Your Plan

**Drills:** Conduct a family drill to ensure everyone knows what to do.

### 9. Post-Hurricane Preparedness

**Check Supplies:** After the storm, check your emergency supplies and restock as needed.

**Assess Damage:** Carefully inspect your property for damage and report it to your insurance company.

By taking these steps, you can help ensure the safety of yourself and your loved ones during a hurricane. Stay safe!