

The following is a suggestive list of things you need to do around your home in preparation for a hurricane/tropical storm:

Hurricane Prep Tips

When a major storm is coming, stay informed by following NOAA Weather radio or your local news channels for updates. In addition, make sure to obey all orders if requested to evacuate by the authorities. Follow these 10 hurricane and storm preparation steps to keep your home and loved ones safe before disaster strikes.

- **Make a plan**
If evacuation is necessary, turn off all utilities and follow community disaster preparedness plans. Select a common meeting place or single point-of-contact for all family members. If you have pets, have a plan for their evacuation as well.
- **Secure the exterior**
Trim large trees and shrubs and bring all outside patio furniture, potted plants, bikes and toys indoors. If necessary, secure outdoor sculptures with burlap or blankets tied with rope.
- **DO NOT LEAVE LARGE TRASH ITEMS BY THE ROAD.**
- **Move your cars**
Move cars to higher ground or park them in your garage against the garage doors. Do not park under trees, power lines or in low-lying areas.
- **Power up**
Fill your car's gas tank, charge your cell phone, test your generator and have plenty of fuel ready in case of power outages.
- **Unplug appliances**
Move appliances and household fixtures away from exterior doors and window openings. Store them in cabinets or interior closets.
- **Store important documents**
Keep important documents, such as legal papers, birth certificates, marriage license, financial papers and insurance policy information, as well as valuables such as jewelry, in a safety deposit box or in a bolted safe in an interior closet in your home.
- **Prep an emergency kit**
Gather flashlights, a portable radio, extra batteries, non-perishable food, bottled water, cash, blankets, clothing and toiletries.
- **Identify a shelter room**
This enclosed area should be on the first floor, in the central part of the house with no windows. Avoid all unprotected windows and doors until the storm passes.
- **Make sure you have plenty of food and water. Stock up on ice as well.**
- **Make sure your pets have shelter, do not leave them outside. If you evacuate, they evacuate!**
Look into pet friendly shelters in advance.
- **Take down bounce houses, trampolines, play equipment so they do not blow away or damage other homes.**

For more information visit the Red Cross website at:

<https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/hurricane.html>