



OFFICE OF
PREPAREDNESS
AND EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT

All-hazard Preparedness Checklist

Before the Storm

- ☐ Listen to local news and National Weather Service for continued storm updates.
- ☐ Gather a disaster supply kit or replace/restock items as needed.
- ☐ Locate the evacuation routes in your local community if applicable and be sure family members know the routes.
- ☐ Store important documents (insurance papers, home inventory, etc.) in a waterproof container.
- ☐ Have cash on hand in small denominations.
- ☐ Make sure vehicle gas tanks are full.
- ☐ Make sure you have sufficient amounts of prescription medications.
- ☐ If you have a generator, test it and make sure you have sufficient fuel.
- ☐ Have a portable battery powered radio (with sufficient batteries) or weather radio on hand.
- ☐ Secure your home by trimming trees; clearing clogged downspouts/gutters; securing or removing items that could become airborne (plants, furniture, grills, etc.).
- ☐ Turn off propane tanks.
- ☐ Fill bathtubs and large containers with water to use for sanitary reasons.
- ☐ Turn freezer and refrigerator to the coldest settings in case the power goes out.
- ☐ Charge cell phones, laptops and other portable electronic devices.
- ☐ If you or your family member has special medical needs, register with your local community and utility provider to obtain any available resources (i.e. transportation to shelter, priority electrical restoration, etc.).
- ☐ Make plans for pets in the event you need to evacuate.

During the Storm

- ☐ Listen to the TV or radio for weather information and updates.
- ☐ Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed.
- ☐ Avoid using corded phones except for emergencies.
- ☐ Stay indoors and away from windows.

After the Storm

- ☐ Continue to tune in to local news and weather for post-storm updates.
- ☐ Carefully inspect your home for any exterior damage or safety issues.
- ☐ Watch for downed power lines and do not go near them.
- ☐ Do not venture out on roads until you know it is safe to do so.
- ☐ If you had to evacuate your home, inspect it upon your return and if there are any safety issues (flood waters; odor of gas, structural damage, etc.) do not enter.
- ☐ **DO NOT** run generators, grills or other gas operated devices indoors.
- ☐ If there was an extended power outage check frozen and refrigerated food for spoilage. If you are in doubt, throw it out.
- ☐ Watch pets carefully to make sure they don't wander in damaged areas.