



2017 HURRICANE & FLOOD SURVIVAL GUIDE

Before Hurricane Season Begins

- Download the KPRC Channel 2 Hurricane App.
- Stock up on nonperishable foods, drinking water, batteries, diapers and formula for infants and pet food for animals. See “supplies” lists on the next page.
- Know your evacuation route, where you would go and how you would get there.
- If you're disabled or have transportation problems, see “IMPORTANT” highlighted information on page 1.
- Fill out your emergency numbers on map page of this guide and keep them close by.
- Create an emergency communication list in case you are separated from family and friends. Include home, work, school and cell numbers and exchange lists with family, friends and neighbors. Keep lists at home, at work and in your cars. Also, designate a contact person who lives outside the area for everyone to reach in case of evacuation.
- Keep cash on hand. Banks may close and ATMs may be inoperable during a storm.
- Make sure you have enough prescription medicines to outlast a storm and its aftermath. Refill your first-aid kit.
- Decide where to take pets, boats and travel trailers if you cannot take them with you.
- Pets are not allowed in many public shelters. Keep a list of “pet-friendly” places – hotels and motels, friends, boarding facilities or veterinarians – and phone numbers.
- Check all battery-powered equipment. Emergency cooking facilities and lights will be essential if utilities are interrupted.
- Charge all mobile devices.
- Charge up or check camera batteries. You may need to take photos of storm damage.
- Make sure smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors are working properly.
- Take inventory of your valuables and your home. Make a videotape, take photos or keep a written log.
- Double-check your insurance coverage:
 1. **Hurricane coverage** – If you want it, you need to get it now because you cannot get it once a storm enters the Gulf.
 2. **Flood insurance** – If your insurance company doesn't offer it, the federal government does, but it will not go into effect until 30 days after you've paid for it.
 3. **National Flood insurance Program** – Get information at floodsmart.gov or call 1-888-379-9531 to find an agent near you.
- If you have a generator, test-run it with a load to make sure it functions properly. Continue test-runs monthly throughout hurricane season to ensure that it will be in good working order if it's needed.
- Trim the trees and shrubs around your home. Make sure any dead branches are removed.
- Make sure gutters and downspouts are properly secured and unclogged.
- Tie down young trees to prevent uprooting in the event of strong winds.

When a Hurricane Threatens

- Store drinking water in any clean containers – bathtubs, bottles, pots, etc., as the water supply may become contaminated.
- Secure outdoor objects that may blow away or move them inside the house or garage.
- Fuel up your car. You may need to evacuate quickly and/or sit in traffic for hours. Service stations may also become inoperable.
- Secure homes and buildings by boarding up each window. Tape is not adequate.
- Moor your boat securely or move it to a designated safe place.
- If in a mobile home, check tie-downs and evacuate. Historically, manufactured homes suffer the greatest amount of damage during hurricanes.
- Move valuables, personal papers, family photos and important computer disks to a waterproof container on the highest level of your home or pack them to take with you.
- Turn off utilities if told to do so by authorities. Unplug small appliances.
- Turn off propane tanks.

If You Have To Evacuate

- Make sure your gas tank is full.
- Prepare your vehicle for what could be a very long ride.
- Stock your vehicle with necessities such as water, food, pillows and blankets, toiletries, current maps, baby supplies, pet supplies, prescription medicines, flashlights and extra batteries and cash.
- Bring proper identification and proof of residency—your driver’s license, a utility bill or rent receipt — in case you will need Red Cross or FEMA assistance.
- Bring copies of key papers, such as insurance policies.

During a Hurricane

- Stay away from windows, skylights and glass doors, even if they are boarded or covered.
- Stay on the floor that is least likely to be affected by strong winds and floodwaters. A small interior room without windows on the first floor is usually the safest place.
- Beware of the eye of the hurricane. If the calm storm center passes directly overhead, there will be a lull in the wind that can last up to half an hour. Winds will rise again to hurricane force.

After a Hurricane

- If forced into a public shelter, stay until told by local officials it's safe to return to your home.
- Watch **KPRC Channel 2 News**, log on to **click2houston.com** or the **KPRC Channel 2 Hurricane App** for advice and instructions about emergency medical, food and housing aid, and other forms of assistance.
- Do not drive unless it is absolutely necessary.
- Do not drink or prepare food with tap water until you are certain it's not contaminated.
- If you smell gas, leave your house and call your gas supplier.
- If structural damage has occurred to your home, turn off your utilities.
- Do not use electrical appliances that have water damage until they've been checked by a professional.
- Your water supply may be contaminated, so check with local authorities or have your well water tested before using it straight from the tap. Until then, boil your water for at least one minute to disinfect it before using it for drinking or cooking.
- Throw away any food items that you think may be spoiled or that may have come in contact with flood waters.
- Look for electrical system damage. Stay away from loose or dangling wires or power lines.
- Check for sewage and water line damage.
- Watch out for displaced animals, especially poisonous snakes that may have come into buildings with floodwaters.
- Watch for loose plaster, drywall and ceilings that could fall.
- Take photos of any damage, both of buildings and their contents, for insurance claims. Make minor repairs to prevent further damage or looting, but do not make major repairs or dispose of damaged property until it has been inspected by an adjuster. Save all receipts.
- If your power has gone out, open refrigerators and freezers only when necessary. A freezer without power can keep food in satisfactory condition up to 48 hours if it is kept closed. Wrapping a freezer in blankets will help insulate it.
- Open windows and doors to ventilate and dry your home.
- Avoid disaster areas; stay away from floodwaters, flooded roads and washed-out bridges.
- Stay away from river banks, bayous and streams until all potential flooding has passed. Stay alert for extended rainfall and subsequent flooding, even after the storm has passed.
- Call your insurance company if you have vehicle or property damage to report.

Supplies To Have On Hand

- Battery-powered radio or television
- Flashlights
- Extra batteries
- NOAA All Hazards Radio
- Extra set of car keys
- 1 gallon of water per person per day for 14 days
- Car charger for your cell phone
- Three-day supply of canned food
- Manual can opener
- Plastic plates, cups, and utensils
- First-aid kit and first-aid manual
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Map of the area and phone numbers of places you could go
- Signal flare
- Credit card and cash
- Personal hygiene items, including tooth brushes, toothpaste, soaps, hand sanitizer, paper towels, toilet paper, baby wipes, and vision care products.
- Garbage bags
- Personal identification
- Pet carriers and other supplies
- Sentimental photos, albums and important papers
- Games, books, and puzzles.

Pet Supplies

- Medications, medical records and a first-aid kit in a waterproof container.
- Leashes, harnesses and/or carriers (Pets may bite or try to run away while stressed.)
- Secure collars with up-to-date information. If you are evacuating to a shelter or other location, attach the phone number and location of your temporary address to the back of your pet's ID tags with temporary tags or adhesive tape and indelible ink.
- Current photos in case pets are lost.
- Food, water, bowls, cat litter pan and manual can opener.
- Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems and the name and number of your veterinarian in case you have to foster or board your pets.
- Pet beds and toys if easily transportable.





Basic Disaster Supplies Kit

A basic emergency supply kit could include the following recommended items:

- [Water](#), one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- [Food](#), at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to [shelter-in-place](#)
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to [turn off utilities](#)
- Manual can opener for food
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger

Additional Emergency Supplies

Once you have gathered the supplies for a basic emergency kit, you may want to consider adding the following items:

- [Prescription medications](#) and glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
- Cash or traveler's checks and change
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container. You can use the [Emergency Financial First Aid Kit - EFFAK](#) (PDF - 977Kb) developed by Operation Hope, FEMA and Citizen Corps to help you organize your information.
- Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or free information from this web site. (See [Publications](#))

- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper – When diluted, nine parts water to one part bleach, bleach can be used as a disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.
- Fire extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates, paper towels and plastic utensils
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children



First Aid Kit

In any emergency a family member or you yourself may suffer an injury. If you have these basic first aid supplies you are better prepared to help your loved ones when they are hurt.

Knowing how to treat minor injuries can make a difference in an emergency. You may consider taking a first aid class, but simply having the following things can help you stop bleeding, prevent infection and assist in decontamination.

- Two pairs of Latex or other sterile gloves if you are allergic to Latex
- Sterile dressings to stop bleeding
- Cleansing agent/soap and antibiotic towelettes
- Antibiotic ointment
- Burn ointment
- Adhesive bandages in a variety of sizes
- Eye wash solution to flush the eyes or as general decontaminant
- Thermometer
- Prescription medications you take every day such as insulin, heart medicine and asthma inhalers. You should periodically rotate medicines to account for expiration dates.
- Prescribed medical supplies such as glucose and blood pressure monitoring equipment and supplies

Non-prescription drugs:

- Aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever
- Anti-diarrhea medication
- Antacid
- Laxative

Other first aid supplies:

- Scissors
- Tweezers
- Tube of petroleum jelly or other lubricant

Supplies for Unique Needs

Remember the unique needs of your family members, including growing children, when making your emergency supply kit and family emergency plan.

For Baby:

- Formula
- Diapers
- Bottles
- Powdered milk
- Medications
- Moist towelettes
- Diaper rash ointment

For Adults:

- Denture needs
- Contact lenses and supplies
- Extra eye glasses

Ask your doctor about storing prescription medications such as heart and high blood pressure medication, insulin and other prescription drugs.

If you live in a cold climate, you must think about warmth. It is possible that you will not have heat. Think about your clothing and bedding supplies. Be sure to include one complete change of clothing and shoes per person, including:

- Jacket or coat
- Long pants
- Long sleeve shirt