



2005

HURRICANE SEASON PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

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Hurricane Preparedness Tips

STARTING POINTS:

- ❖ Develop your personal disaster plan on how you will protect your household and your property.
- ❖ Check your insurance coverage and be sure it includes replacement coverage, flood and wind protection.
- ❖ Trim your trees and bushes in May so they will survive damaging winds. You can get tree-trimming tips from the City Of Sanibel Public Works Office.

CITIZENS CHECKLIST: Based on National Hurricane Center forecasts, Lee County will announce in the local media information about what citizens should be doing as a storm is approaching. **Once residents and tourists hear that a tropical storm has formed, listen for these stages of readiness:**

Ready: There is a storm threat – review your plan and get ready to act.

Set: A storm is likely – take actions to protect your home and business.

Safety: A storm is forecast to strike – orders and instructions to evacuate and/or to take shelter will follow.

EVACUATION: If you live in an evacuation zone, make plans to leave early to the inland home of a friend or family member.

- ❖ **IF YOU LIVE IN A MOBILE HOME OR ARE ELECTRICALLY DEPENDENT YOU SHOULD EVACUATE FOR ANY CATEGORY OF TROPICAL STORM OR HURRICANE.**
- ❖ Rehearse your evacuation plan with your household and leave extra time for traffic. Fuel vehicles.

- ❖ Beware of canals / road washouts hidden by high water.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- ❖ Establish an out-of-state or area phone number to relay messages to friends and family.
- ❖ Assign someone in your home the job of checking the weather everyday during Hurricane Season.
- ❖ Once a tropical storm has formed monitor the National Hurricane Center forecasts which are released at 5 a.m., 11 a.m., 5 p.m. and 11 p.m.
- ❖ Keep a battery-operated radio and two weeks supply of batteries on hand at all times.

SHELTERING IN PLACE: If your residence is not in an evacuation zone and has hurricane shutters, you may be able to take shelter there. Remember these things:

- ❖ Take refuge in an interior hallway or smaller room with no windows, like a closet near load bearing walls.
- ❖ Keep a mattress nearby to protect your head.
- ❖ Be sure to leave a clear path to exit in case of fire and keep a fire extinguisher nearby. Only use battery operated lamps or flashlights.

SAFETY AFTER THE STORM:

- ❖ Car accidents are the main cause of injury after hurricane; treat all intersections like a 4-way stop. Combine your trips and drive only if it's absolutely necessary.
- ❖ Stay away from all downed utility lines and do not drive over them. Do not wade in floodwaters after a storm.
- ❖ Limit your phone calls to absolute necessity and only call 911 for life threatening emergencies.
- ❖ **GENERATORS:** Ground your generator and do not run generators inside your home. Do not connect to your home's electrical system, it is a fire / electrocution risk.
- ❖ Operate chain saws safely, read warnings on saw.

Inside This Guide

	Hurricane Preparedness Tips
	Hurricane Kit List and more tips
	Evacuation Public Shelters List
	Contact Numbers / Special Needs Shelters
	Special Needs Application Form

GET YOUR KIT TOGETHER

The kit should have 3-14 days supply
Of the following items:

THE BASICS:

- Bottled Water (1 gallon per person per day)
- Manual Can opener*
- Non-perishable foods*
- Canned meat, fish, fruit or vegetables
- Bread in moisture proof packaging
- Cookie, candy or dried fruit
- Canned soups & non perishable milk
- Powdered or single serve drinks
- Cereal or granola bars
- Packaged ketchup, mustard or mayonnaise
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Instant tea or coffee
- Flashlight (1 per person)*
- Portable battery powered lanterns
- Large trash bags (lots of them)
- Battery operated radio*
- Extra batteries, including hearing aid batteries
- First aid kit including aspirin, antibiotic cream
- Mosquito repellent
- Sun screen (45 SPF recommended)
- Water proof matches / butane lighter
- Money*
- Unscented bleach or water purification tablets (Add 8 drops of bleach per gal.)
- Maps of the area with landmarks on it

COOKING:

- Sterno fuel
- Portable camp stove or grill
- Stove fuel or charcoal w / lighter fluid
- Disposable eating utensils, plates, cups
- Napkins and paper towels
- Aluminum foil
- Oven mitts

PERSONAL SUPPLIES

- Prescription medicines (1 month supply and copy of prescriptions)*
- Toilet paper
- Entertainment: books, games, magazines, etc.*
- Bedding: pillows, sleeping bag*
- Change of clothing*
- Rain ponchos and work gloves
- Extra glasses or contacts

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS*

- Insurance documents
- A list of all your important contacts (family, Doctors, insurance agents)
- Banking information
- Leases / mortgage
- Proof of occupancy (such as utility bill)*
- Photo inventory of your personal belongings*
- Waterproof container to keep the documents in

BABIES:

- Disposable diapers*
- Formula, food and medication*
- Bottle and feeding utensils

PET SUPPLIES

- Dry and canned food for 14 days
- ID tags and collars
- Proof of recent immunizations
- Water (½ gallon per day)
- Litter box and supplies
- Carrying container

OTHER NECESSITIES

- Tool Box
- ABC rated fire extinguisher
- Masking tape or duct tape
- Outdoor extension cords
- Spray paint
- Standard single line phone (After hurricanes, many people still have service, but no phone)
- Local phone book

**=If you are planning to evacuate to a Red Cross Evacuation Center, please be sure to take these items.*

DISASTER KITS TIPS:

- ❖ Water: Store water in sanitized bathtubs, washing machines and water heaters as well.
- ❖ FOOD: Store food that does not require cooking.
- ❖ Keep your Important Documents in your kit and keep extra copies in a safe place.
- ❖ COOKING: Do not use charcoal or gas grills indoors. Gases from open flame can be poisonous or cause fire.
- ❖ SUPPLIES: Pack your kit in something that you can carry.