

# Hurricane Preparedness Checklist

## Preparing Your Family

- Check your disaster supplies and replace or restock items as needed.
- Talk with members of your family and create an evacuation plan.
- Make sure you know where the closest local shelter is located.
- Put together an emergency supply kit that includes the following:
  - Water: at least a three-day supply; one gallon per person per day
  - Food: at least a three-day supply of nonperishable, easy-to-prepare foods, such as cereal or crackers, and canned goods
  - Can opener
  - Flashlights and extra batteries (count on the power being out for at least a day or two)
  - Battery-powered or hand-crank radio,
  - First aid kit
  - Medications (seven-day supply) and medical items (hearing aids with extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses, syringes, cane)
  - Sanitation and personal hygiene items, including toilet paper
  - Cellphone with charger,
  - Extra cash (remember that ATMs won't work),
  - Emergency blankets
  - Map(s) of the area
  - If needed, baby (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers) and pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, bowl)
  - Extra set of car keys and house keys
  - Extra clothing, hat and sturdy shoes
  - Rain gear
  - If you have children, computer games will operate for only a limited amount of time. Consider packing board games,

a deck of cards, arts and crafts supplies, and crayons.

- If you need to leave your home, be careful to avoid flooded roads and washed-out bridges.

## Preparing Your Home

- Bring in or secure anything that can be picked up by the wind (bicycles, lawn furniture).
- Close your windows and doors. If needed or advised to do so, windows and doors can be boarded up with plywood.
- Turn the refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting, and keep them closed as much as possible so that food will last longer if the power goes out.
- Turn off all propane tanks
- Fill your car's gas tank.

## General Safety Information

- Drive only if necessary.
- Keep far away from loose or dangling power lines, and report them immediately to the power company.
- Stay out of any building that has water around it.
- Use flashlights in the dark; avoid using candles.
- Before preparing food or drinking tap water, make sure it is not contaminated.
- Watch animals closely and keep them under your direct control.
- Use the telephone only for emergency calls.

**Hurricanes are serious business. There is no harm in being overly cautious. In most cases where a hurricane is concerned, it truly is better to be safe than sorry.**