

Be Storm Ready

BY **De-Ann Smith** Posted **July 23, 2020**

This weekend, some of us across the region are preparing for a storm that reports say could possibly develop into a hurricane. As the storm progresses, we encourage you to stay locked to your local news via radio, television or social media to receive accurate and reliable updates.

5 Ways to Prepare for the Storm Now!

1. Determine your risk – if your home is not hurricane ready and you believe it’s at risk for damage, find a loved one you can stay with until the storm passes. Similarly, if you live in a flood – prone area, move to higher ground
2. Know the closest hurricane shelters – It doesn’t matter how prepared we are, storms can bring about the unexpected. Know where to go in the case of an emergency and learn more than one route to get there.
3. Develop an evacuation plan – Do you have an escape route? What if your main exit is blocked? Make sure your family knows what the plan is. Think about what to do and where to meet up if separated, different escape routes from the house, what to grab and what to leave etc
4. Gather supplies for at least 3 days – Keep in mind each person’s needs including medication etc.
5. Pack a “to-go-bag” – In the event you have to leave your home suddenly and head over to a hurricane shelter or by a loved one, pack a bag of necessities

Things to Stock Up On

Need to do some last-minute shopping? Here are just a few items to stock up on. Look at the checklist below:

HURRICANE KIT CHECKLIST

INCLUDE SPECIALTY ITEMS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES OR MEDICAL CONDITIONS OR OLDER ADULTS AND CHILDREN

- water – one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days
- food – at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- battery-powered or hand crank radio
- flashlight and extra batteries
- first aid kit
- whistle to signal for help
- dust masks
- moist towelettes
- toothbrush & toothpaste
- toilet paper
- garbage bags and plastic ties
- wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- manual can opener for food
- local maps
- cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger
- water sterilizing tablets



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