

Hurricane/Tornado/Severe Weather

Safety Checklist



Hurricane

A hurricane is a large rotating storm with high-speed winds that forms over warm waters in tropical areas. Hurricanes have sustained winds of at least 74 miles per hour and an area of low air pressure in the center called the eye.

Tornado

A tornado is a violently rotating column of air between a cloud and Earth, touching both. ... Falling rain or hail pulls air down to form downdrafts. Since the tornado is in rising air, the wind around it is flowing into the tornado. Damaging winds can hit hundreds of yards from the tornado's vortex.

Severe Weather

High winds, hail, excessive precipitation, and wildfires are forms and effects of severe weather, as are thunderstorms, downbursts, tornadoes, waterspouts, tropical cyclones, and extratropical cyclones. Regional and seasonal severe weather phenomena include blizzards (snowstorms), ice storms, and duststorms.

TO-DO CHECKLIST

- Create a supply kit.**
- Be Weather-Ready: Check the forecast regularly to see if you're at risk.**
- Sign Up for Notifications: Know how your community sends warnings.**
- Communication Plan: Have a family plan with an emergency meeting place and related information.**
- Practice Your Plan: Conduct a family severe thunderstorm drill.**
- Help Your Neighbor: Encourage your loved ones to prepare for the possibility of helping others.**

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Warning: Take Protective Action

Weather hazard is occurring imminent or likely
Poses a threat to life/property

Watch: Have a Plan of Action

Risk of weather hazard in the near future.
Could pose a threat to life/property.

Advisory: Use Caution

Weather hazard is occurring imminent or likely
Could cause significant inconvenience

Outlook: Prepare a Plan of Action

Risk of weather hazard in the next 7 days
Could pose a threat to life/property

SUPPLY CHECKLIST

- Water: 3-day supply; 1 gallon per person per day**
- Food: at least 3-day easy-to-prepare food**
- Flashlight**
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio**
- Extra batteries**
- Portable USB Phone Battery Charger**
- First aid kit**
- Medications (7-day supply)**
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items**
- Copies of personal documents**
- Cell phone with chargers**
- Family and emergency contact information**
- Emergency blanket**
- Baby supplies**
- Pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, bowl)**
- Tools/supplies for securing your home**
- Extra clothing**
- Rain gear**
- High water boots**
- Insect repellent and sunscreen**



Let Your Family Know You're Safe

If your community has experienced a hurricane, or any disaster, register on the American Red Cross Safe and Well Web site available through [RedCross.org/SafeandWell](https://www.redcross.org/SafeandWell) to let your family and friends know about your welfare. If you don't have Internet access, call 1-866-GET-INFO to register yourself and your family.