Your new hurricane evacuation map inside

Hurricane season is June 1st – November 30th

Now is the time to prepare!

Know your risk! www.tampabayprepares.org

All-hazards disaster planning guide

The official guide for Hernando County

Are you ready?
Prevent panic and confusion by making sure everyone knows where to go and what to do in an emergency situation, whether at home or at work.

KNOW YOUR RISK
Learn what disasters might affect your area. Are you in a Hurricane Evacuation Level (see inside map) or FEMA Flood Zone? They are different! Prepare yourself for emergencies by taking first aid and CPR courses (redcross.org).

PICK TWO MEETING PLACES
The first should be just outside your home or business for sudden events such as a fire. The second should be outside your neighborhood, in case you cannot get home or family members get separated.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION
Ask someone out of the area to coordinate communications in a disaster. Family members should call this person to report their location. Send your contact copies of important papers (ID, insurance, etc.) Include contact information in your phones and make physical emergency contact cards.

BUSINESS OWNERS
If you own a business, develop and follow your Business Continuity Plan. For more information on how to create a Business Continuity Plan, visit disastersafety.org and ready.gov.

1. Know your flood risk. * Standard homeowner insurance policies do not cover damage from floods, including storm surge from a hurricane. **
2. Purchase a policy. Remember, there is a 30-day waiting period for flood insurance to go into effect. Do not wait until a storm is threatening to purchase a policy.
3. Insure your property for its reconstruction cost, not its real estate value.
4. Get covered for the costs of building code upgrades.
5. Set aside funds to pay your hurricane deductible.
6. Inventory and take a video survey of your property and possessions to accurately price coverage and speed up the claims process.

* Educational resources are available from the Insurance Information Institute (iii.org).

If a disaster struck, would you be ready?

Would your family be ready? Would your business be ready?

It takes an entire community to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a disaster. We need to involve everyone — our government, neighbors, faith-based, volunteer and civic groups, schools, businesses, and all residents. Talk about being prepared at your school, work, club, or place of worship. Go the extra mile and enroll in a Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) offered by your county.

This guide offers the most important tips to prepare for a disaster and highlights the extra things to consider for children, seniors, pets, and people with medical needs. Follow the simple steps and checklists in this guide to protect your loved ones, your home, and your business.

Helping you stay ready year-round,

- HERNANDO COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
Disaster Safety Tips

**FLOODING**
1. Determine your flood risk and purchase flood insurance.
2. Shovel snow away from drains to prevent flooding.
3. Turn off any natural gas if there is an emergency.
4. Take any needed medications with you if you are leaving.
5. Keep your home or business closed.

**TORNADOES**
- A tornado has been sighted or indicated by a weather radar. Take shelter immediately.
- Stay in your vehicle with the seat belt on. Put your head down below the windows, covering with your hands and a blanket if possible.
- If you are caught outdoors, seek shelter in a sturdy building, NOT a mobile home or portable structure.
- If you cannot quickly walk to a sturdy building, immediately move to the closest sturdy building. Take pillows/blankets with you.
- Get into a vehicle, buckle your seat belt, and try to drive to the closest sturdy building. If flying debris occurs while you are driving, pull over and park.

**Tornado Safety**
- A Tornado Warning is in effect.
- Follow your local emergency officials.
- Do not sweep or blow yard leaves, pine needles, grass clippings, or soil into the street or stormwater system. Doing so clogs storm drains, which prevents flood waters from draining.
- Test smoke alarms in your home monthly.
- Bring pets indoors.
- Stay inside until local officials say you can leave safely.

**FIRE SAFETY**
- Have a family disaster plan and practice it. Have two escape routes from each room.
- Keep car windows/air vents closed. Do not use the air conditioner until you are out of the evacuation area.
- Turn off heating, cooling, or ventilation systems.
- Stay calm. Quickly gather what you will need, unless you are told to leave immediately.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**
- If you are exposed to hazardous materials, seek medical attention immediately.
- Do not use your residence as a shelter.
- Keep car windows and doors closed.
- Keep car windows/air vents closed. Do not use the air conditioner until you are out of the evacuation area.
- Do not evacuate unless you are told to do so.

**KEEP A PAPER TRAIL**
- Make sure everyone knows at least two escape routes from your home or business and practice regularly.
- Make a family or business. Contact numbers are extremely important. PLAN:
  - You will need to take as you make your Disaster Plan for your family or business. Contact numbers are extremely important.
  - The time to plan for a fire emergency is now. Take a few minutes to discuss with your family or coworkers what actions you will take in an emergency. Contact numbers and emergency meeting place are key.

**FIRE DRILLS**
- Make sure everyone knows at least two escape routes from your home or business and practice regularly.
- Make sure everyone knows at least two escape routes from your home or business and practice regularly.
- Have at least two escape routes from each room.
- Do not return to the evacuation area until/unless the all clear has been given by public officials.

**FIRE SAFETY**
- Have a family disaster plan and practice it. Have two escape routes from each room.
- Keep car windows/air vents closed. Do not use the air conditioner until you are out of the evacuation area.
- Do not return to the evacuation area until/unless the all clear has been given by public officials.
- Do not sweep or blow yard leaves, pine needles, grass clippings, or soil into the street or stormwater system. Doing so clogs storm drains, which prevents flood waters from draining.
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- Bring pets indoors.
- Stay inside until local officials say you can leave safely.

**DISEASE OUTBREAK**
- Prevention is key. Get your flu shot and other vaccinations.
- Wash hands often and thoroughly.
- Encourage this policy.

FOLLOW HERNANDO COUNTY’S SOCIAL MEDIA:
- Facebook.com/HernandoCoGov
- Twitter.com/HernandoCoGov
- See Something, Say Something. Call local law enforcement, and a designated meeting place. Be prepared to respond to official instructions to evacuate the building or area.

**FIRE SAFETY**
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Bracing for the Storm

Nearly 80% of pets displaced by a storm are never
not provided hands-on medical care, only medical monitoring.
please register with your county's emergency management
If you are homebound, but not under the care of a home health
Tell your home health agency and oxygen company where you will
Mobile home and RV residents must evacuate for any hurricane
If you are not able to reach your destination on your own,

If a storm is approaching, there are two paths to consider.

1) Do you live in a vulnerable area in your home?

2) Have you been ordered by your local government to evacuate?

Assemble your Disaster Supply Kit

Assemble your Disaster Supply Kit

Select your safe place

Microscope lenses

Tape

Evacuate pets if you must stay

Important documents

Vaccination paperwork

Pet ID tags

Emergency food

Make sure your destination is NOT in an area

Do not rely on pets to save your life!

If you must evacuate, pack your emergency supplies with you.

Assemble your Pet Plan

Microscope

Vaccination paperwork

Pet ID tags

Emergency food

Stay alert

Check on your neighbors

Stay alert

Check on your neighbors

Staying safe is critical for you, and your pets.

Bing extra cash

Fill vehicle with gas

Evacuate pets if you must stay

Secure your home and important documents, stock extra supplies

Fill vehicle with gas

Set your thermostat to 55°F, lower if you have pets

Enact your Pet Plan

Microscope

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What to Expect After a Storm

After a disaster, you may be without power and many of the services you rely on, including water, sewer, gas, phone, cell phone, businesses, etc. Immediate response may not be possible, so you must prepare to be self-sufficient for at least 3-7 days after the storm.

**POST-STORM SAFETY**

1. **Prepare for further damage.** Take photographs of all damage before repairs and keep all receipts. Once your insurance company will cover and what you will need to submit a claim. Take photographs of all damage before repairs and keep all receipts. Once your insurance company.
2. **Avoid driving.** If you drive, treat any intersection with traffic signals that may be inoperable as a four-way stop. Traffic signals may be inoperable for an extended period of time. Treat any intersection where traffic signals are out as a four-way stop. Be extremely cautious with fire hazards, such as downed power lines, are cleared. It may be extremely important to read the 
3. **Be aware of snakes, insects, alligators, or animals driven to higher ground by floods.** Avoid downed or dangling power lines. Be especially careful when clearing fallen trees.
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6. **Avoid driving through rough terrain.** Roads may have debris which can puncture your tires! Until power is restored, live with it. Do not light a match without proper safety equipment. Use battery-operated flashlights and lamps. Be aware of snakes, insects, alligators, or animals driven to higher ground by floods. Avoid downed or dangling power lines. Be especially careful when clearing fallen trees.
7. **Be aware of snakes, insects, alligators, or animals driven to higher ground by floods.** Avoid downed or dangling power lines. Be especially careful when clearing fallen trees.
8. **Avoid driving, especially through water.** Roads may have debris which can puncture your tires! Until power is restored, live with it. Do not light a match without proper safety equipment. Use battery-operated flashlights and lamps.
9. **Be extremely cautious with fire.** Use battery-operated flashlights and lamps. Be aware of snakes, insects, alligators, or animals driven to higher ground by floods. Avoid downed or dangling power lines. Be especially careful when clearing fallen trees.
10. **Avoid candles.** Use battery-operated flashlights and lamps. Be aware of snakes, insects, alligators, or animals driven to higher ground by floods. Avoid downed or dangling power lines. Be especially careful when clearing fallen trees.
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**GENERATORS - TAKE PRECAUTIONS & STORE FUEL SAFELY!**

1. **Store fuel safely.** Long-term storage in tanks or barrels can cause leaks. Use of improper fuels can cause premature generator failure. If you store fuel in a cool, dry location, keep it away from other equipment to minimize the risk of fire.
2. **Avoid driving.** If you drive, treat any intersection with traffic signals that may be inoperable as a four-way stop. Traffic signals may be inoperable for an extended period of time. Treat any intersection where traffic signals are out as a four-way stop.
3. **Never connect a portable generator to building wiring.** Do not forget to check the oil every time you add gas. Keep your generator away from doors, windows, and air intakes. Do not plug appliances, etc., directly into the generator. There is an extreme danger of generator back-feed for the general public (downed wires etc.) and utility workers. Plug appliances into a transformer first before plugging them into the generator.
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