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 Sarasota County
Are you ready?
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, workplace, club, and somewhere in your community and enroll in a Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) offered by your county.

The 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,
- SARASOTA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Your Disaster Plan

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 are 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.

ARE YOU COVERED?

1. Know your flood risk. Standard homeowners insurance policies do not cover damage from floods, including storm surge from a hurricane.
2. Purchase flood insurance. There is a 30-day waiting period for flood insurance to go into effect. Do not wait until a storm is threatening to purchase coverage.
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 video surveys of your property and possessions to accurately price your coverage and speed up the claims process.
7. If you rent, you need insurance to protect your belongings.

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Insurance policies
Property inventories or business photos of your home and business tax license
Business supply/vendor lists

Disaster Safety Tips

FLOODING
1. Determine your flood risk and purchase flood insurance.
2. Elevating furniture, get a high ground. Plug using floodproofing devices in the basement.
3. Take daily monitoring of water levels, and a portable radio with you.

TORNADOES
Tornado Watch
- Tornadoes are possible. Remain alert and a weather radar.

- A tornado has been sighted or Tornado Warning

Mobile homes and RVs are not safe during tornadoes.

FIRE SAFETY
- A. Plan your shelter in case a tornado threatens. Take shelter immediately.

- B. Stay in your vehicle with the seat belt on. Put your head down below the windows, covering with your hands and a head blanket if possible.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
1. Keep household chemicals out of reach. Store them securely.
2. Replace or repair any leaky faucets or pipes.
3. Do not allow children to pump gasoline in garages. Sealed, white or blue, or red, or used for recycling.
4. Do not store more than 25 gallons gasoline, or raw sewage.

GAS SAFETY
- Make sure everyone knows at least two escape routes.

DISEASE OUTBREAK
1. Prevention is key. Get your flu shot and other vaccinations.
2. Wash hands often and thoroughly.

- Stay home when you are ill. Employers and schools should encourage this policy.

STAY CALM AND TALK TO SCANLINE.
- Do not touch electrical wires or gas pipes.

- Turn off heating, cooling, or ventilation systems.

- Get there. Unlike evacuating for a hurricane, with fire you may only have a moment’s notice. Have 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.

- Stay inside until local officials say you can leave safely.

- Move to the place/shelter designated by public officials.

- Keep car windows/air vents closed. Do not use the air conditioner until you are out of the evacuation area.

- Bring pets indoors.

- Close all doors and windows. Use duct tape and windows with damp towels.

- Close all gaps under doorways and windows.

- Take self-heating, eating, or ventilation systems.

- Stay inside until local officials say you can leave safely.

- 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.

- Turn around, don’t drown.

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**Bracing for the Storm**

Storms can be unpredictable. As the storms approach, stay tuned for the latest weather updates on local radio and TV stations, ReadyFlorida Weather Watch, and your county’s official social media.

**MORtE HOMEs® REV**

- Make sure that your pets have had all of their shots within the past year.
- Keep pets on a leash and under your control at all times during a storm.
- Keep a Safe Room: Make sure your pets have had all of their shots within the past year. To find a Safe Room, visit floodsmart.gov.

**AT-HOME HEALTHCARE®**

- Call FLASH toll-free at 1-800-FLA-SAVE (352-7283) or 941-861-5000.
- If a storm is approaching, there are two paths to consider.
- Select your safe place and be prepared.
- If you cannot drive or find a ride to a special needs/medically dependent shelter/evacuation center, your County provides transportation assistance.
- Consider carpooling with friends or relatives.
- Secure your home and pets. If you must evacuate, for the safety of you, your family, and your community, you must ALWAYS evacuate.
- Keep Pets Safe: Do not leave your pets behind, and do not use a pet as an excuse not to evacuate.

**HELP YOUR NEIGHBORS**

- Prepare pets for evacuation: Ensure that pets are microchipped, have a collar or harness, and are current on their shots.
- Call your local SPCA, Animal Control, or Humane Society for more information. If you plan to go to a general population shelter, bring an alternative shelter as a backup.
- If you will need assistance in an evacuation or need to go to an evacuation center, special needs/medically dependent shelters/evacuation centers do not allow pets.
- If you have special needs pets (i.e., pets with medical needs), do not rely on, including water, sewer, phone, and electricity, as these are critical during a storm. If you must leave your pets, have a plan on where to leave them.
- Keep Pets Safe: Do not leave your pets behind, and do not use a pet as an excuse not to evacuate.

**Disaster Supply Kit**

- Personal care needs
  - Toothbrush and toothpaste
  - Extra clothing, shoes, eyeglasses, hearing aids (and batteries)
  - Medical/specialty medications (including insulin)
  - Personal hygiene items
- Food and water
  - Enough non-perishable foods to feed your family for 3-7 days
  - 1 gallon of drinking water per person, per day, plus 2 gallons for pets
- Tools and cleaning supplies
  - Snaps, zippers, rubber bands, etc.
  - Whistle and/or distress flag
  - Plastic bag, sandbags, and ties, if available
  - First aid kit including bandages, antiseptic, tape, ice, scissors, and prescription medications
  - Extra water bottles
- Evacuation travel
  - Extra cash, personal checks, and credit cards may not be accepted, and ATMs may not be operational
  - Money for transportation assistance?
  - Check oil, fluids, and tire pressures before you hit the road
- Replenish for freshness:
  - 1 gallon of drinking water per person, per day, plus 2 gallons for pets
  - Extra batteries
  - First aid kit
  -哨子 and/or distress flag
  - Portable radio and batteries
  - Extra clothing, shoes, eyeglasses, and hearing aids

**items for Before & After a Storm**

- Take a chance on your life!
- Evacuate to a friend’s or relative’s home, hotel, motel, or shelter.
- Tell your home health agency and oxygen company where you will be during the storm.
- Keep Pets Safe: Do not leave your pets behind, and do not use a pet as an excuse not to evacuate.
- When possible, evacuate with your pets.
- Bring extra cash
- Replace your prescription medications
- Prepare enough supplies for your pets
- Microchipping
- Keep Pets Safe: Do not leave your pets behind, and do not use a pet as an excuse not to evacuate.

**Build or Remodel**

- Ask your insurance agent if there are any discounts for elevation, flood barriers, dry and wet flood proofing.
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- A comfort item such as a favorite toy, bed, or blanket
- Bath towels, baby blankets, and pet blankets
- Take extra cash to store with your other valuables
- Transportation for you and your pets
- If you live in a vulnerable area or home?
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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, phone, cell phone, businesses, etc. Immediate response may not be possible, so you must prepare to be self-reliant for at least 3-7 days after the storm.

1. **RE-ENTRY AFTER THE STORM**
   - Do not re-enter your home until it is declared safe by local officials.
   - Inspect the property thoroughly for any damage before re-entering.
   - Contact your local building department for information on required building permits.
   - Have a valid picture ID, documents showing proof of ownership/rental, County business tax license, and names of individuals authorized to be given access on a business.

2. **POST-STORM SAFETY**
   - Use battery-operated flashlights and lamps. Avoid candles.
   - Contact your local building department for information on required building permits.
   - Always supervise children.
   - Generators can provide power to your home or business in case of power outages.
   - Store fuel safely outside in labeled approved storage containers.

3. **GENERATORS - TAKE PRECAUTIONS & STORE FUEL SAFELY!**
   - Do not use generators indoors or near open windows.
   - Place generators outdoors and away from doors, windows, and vents.
   - Never connect a portable generator to building wiring. It MUST be professionally installed by a licensed electrician.
   - Avoid using generators in areas affected by high winds.

4. **CLEAN-UP & REPAIRS**
   - Know your insurance coverage for repairs.
   - Avoid working in hazardous conditions.
   - Have the work completed by qualified contractors.
   - Do not forget to check the oil every time you add gas.

5. **BEWARE OF CONTRACTOR FRAUD**
   - Be cautious of anyone coming to your home uninvited and offering to do home repairs.
   - Hire only licensed contractors. Be cautious of anyone coming to your home uninvited and offering to do home repairs.
   - Have the work completed by qualified contractors.
   - NEVER pay with cash. Do not pay the final balance until the work is completed to your satisfaction.
   - Check the license status of the contractor with your local building department.

6. **FLOOD INUNDATION ZONES**
   - Do not build in flood-prone areas.
   - Make emergency plans for your family.
   - Purchase flood insurance.

7. **WATER & SEWER SAFETY**
   - Do not drink water from any source.
   - Avoid driving. If you drive, treat any intersection as a four-way stop.
   - Be aware of snakes, insects, alligators, or animals driven to higher ground by floods.
   - Avoid downed or dangling power lines. Be especially careful at night.

8. **GAS SAFETY**
   - Contact your natural gas provider from a safe location.
   - Be aware of leaks.
   - Be aware of the possibility of a gas leak.
   - Open windows and doors to ventilate and dry your home or business.

9. **BE PATIENT**
   - Do not burn trash.
   - Drink plenty of fluids, rest and ask for help when you need it.
   - Always use proper safety equipment.

10. **MAKE TEMPORARY REPAIRS**
    - Make temporary repairs to correct safety hazards and minimize further damage.
    - Stay tuned to your local media for up-to-date emergency information.
    - Before refueling your generator, turn it off and let it cool down.
    - DO NOT WADE IN FLOOD WATERS
    - Keep grills and generators outdoors in a well-ventilated area.
    - Determine if you will need multiple outlets or multiple types of appliances before turning the power back on.
    - Licensed electrician inspect the electrical system and appliances before turning the power back on.

11. **RE-ENTRY AFTER THE STORM**
    - Avoid fire and explosion hazards.
    - Avoid using generators in areas affected by high winds.
    - Be aware of snakes, insects, alligators, or animals driven to higher ground by floods.
    - Avoid downed or dangling power lines. Be especially careful at night.

12. **FLOOD INUNDATION ZONES**
    - Do not drive into flood waters. Roads may have debris which can puncture your tires!
    - Do not light a match without first making sure that there is not a gas leak.
    - Do not use generators indoors or near open windows.
    - Place generators outdoors and away from doors, windows, and vents.

13. **WATER & SEWER SAFETY**
    - Do not drink water from any source.
    - Avoid driving. If you drive, treat any intersection as a four-way stop.
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**State of Florida Consumer Fraud hotline at 1-866-966-7226**

If you suspect a contractor of potential fraud, contact the Florida Attorney General’s office at 1-866-466-9900 or visit www.AGFlorida.com. 

State of Florida Business Information"