

# Hurricane Evacuation & Safety — Checklist

A compact, printable list for families and crews

Always follow local authorities' instructions.

## 1) Pre-Season & Now

- ☐ Know your evacuation zone and local shelters.
- ☐ Choose 2 destinations (nearby & out of region); confirm with hosts.
- ☐ Save emergency numbers; print a paper contact list.
- ☐ Photograph/scan IDs, insurance, deeds, medical records; back up to cloud + USB.
- ☐ Check home insurance (wind/flood coverage, deductibles).
- ☐ Service roof, gutters, trees, sump pump; buy shutters or pre-cut plywood.
- ☐ Test smoke/CO detectors; stock fire extinguisher.
- ☐ Prep generator (outdoor use only); extension cords rated for load.

## 2) 7-Day Supplies (per person)

- ☐ Water: 1 gal / 3.8 L per day × 7 (plus pets).
- ☐ Shelf-stable food × 7 days; manual can opener.
- ☐ Meds for 14–30 days; copies of prescriptions.
- ☐ First-aid kit; masks, gloves, hand sanitizer.
- ☐ Hygiene items; baby & pet supplies.
- ☐ Power: power banks, spare phone cables, batteries, NOAA/AM-FM radio.
- ☐ Lighting (LED lamps/flashlights), no candles.
- ☐ Cash in small bills.

## 3) Go-Bag (per person)

- ☐ IDs, insurance, USB with documents, contact list.
- ☐ 3 days of clothes, sturdy shoes, rain gear.
- ☐ Personal meds + basic first aid.
- ☐ Snacks & water, whistle, multitool, small flashlight.
- ☐ Chargers, power bank, radio.
- ☐ Comfort items for kids; pet leash/carrier, vet papers.

## 4) Vehicle Ready

- ☐ Full tank (or 80%+), spare fuel where legal/safe.
- ☐ Tires, fluids, wipers OK; paper map of routes.
- ☐ Car go-bag: water, snacks, first aid, blankets.

## 5) Home Hardening (before arrival)

- ☐ Install shutters/plywood; brace garage door.
- ☐ Bring in/anchor outdoor items (furniture, grills, tanks).
- ☐ Clear gutters/drains; place sandbags if flood-prone.
- ☐ Move electronics/valuables off the floor & away from windows.
- ☐ Set fridge/freezer to coldest; freeze water bottles/ice packs.
- ☐ Unplug non-essentials; shut off gas/propane only if authorities advise.
- ☐ Fill bathtubs/containers for sanitation (if water outages likely).

## **6) Evacuate — Triggers**

- ☐ Official evacuation order or surge-zone notice.
- ☐ You live in a mobile home/low-lying or flood-prone area.
- ☐ Medically dependent on electricity/oxygen.
- ☐ You cannot secure home safely or are outside help zones.
- ☐ Leave 24–36 h before landfall if possible; follow lane reversals and approved routes.

## **7) If You Must Shelter at Home**

- ☐ Choose an interior, windowless safe room; helmets/mattresses inside.
- ☐ Keep radio on; phones charged; conserve power.
- ☐ Stay inside during the eye—the back side can be worse.
- ☐ Generator outdoors only, 6+ m from doors/windows; never in garage.
- ☐ Avoid floodwaters; do not wade/drive through.

## **8) After the Hurricane**

- ☐ Treat all downed lines as live; report hazards.
- ☐ Use bottled/boiled water until declared safe.
- ☐ Wear gloves/boots/respirator; watch for mold & sharp debris.
- ☐ Document damage (photos/video) before cleanup; start claims early.
- ☐ Ventilate before running generators/cleaning agents indoors.
- ☐ Check on neighbors, especially elderly/disabled; share supplies & info.