



**#HURRICANESTRONG™**

# 2024 Family Hurricane Preparedness Guide

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## About the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH)<sup>®</sup>

The nonprofit Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) is the country's leading consumer advocate for strengthening homes and safeguarding families from natural and man-made disasters. The FLASH partnership includes more than 100 innovative and diverse organizations that share a vision of making America a more disaster-resilient nation including: FEMA, Florida Division of Emergency Management, Huber Engineered Woods, International Code Council, MyRadar, National Weather Service, Portland Cement Association, Simpson Strong-Tie,

State Farm, and USAA. In 2008, FLASH and Disney opened the interactive weather experience *StormStruck: A Tale of Two Homes*, in Lake Buena Vista, FL. FLASH's signature program *No Code. No Confidence.* - Inspect2Protect.org provides consumers with a one-of-a-kind building code transparency tool to easily identify their community's building code. Learn more about FLASH and access free consumer resources by visiting [www.flash.org](http://www.flash.org) and [www.Inspect2Protect.org](http://www.Inspect2Protect.org), calling toll-free (877) 221-SAFE (7233), following @federalalliance on Twitter, and Facebook.com/federalalliance.



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## Glossary of Weather Terms

**Eye** – The roughly circular area of comparatively light winds that encompasses the center of a severe tropical cyclone. The eye is either completely or partially surrounded by the eyewall cloud.

**Flood** – Any high flow, overflow, or inundation by water which causes or threatens damage and/or threatens human life.

**Hurricane** – A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind (using the U.S. 1-minute average) is 74 mph or more. The term hurricane is used for Northern Hemisphere tropical cyclones east of the International Dateline to the Greenwich Meridian. The term typhoon is used for Pacific tropical cyclones north of the Equator west of the International Dateline.

**Hurricane Season** – The portion of the year having a relatively high incidence of hurricanes. The hurricane season in the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico runs from June 1 to November 30. The hurricane season in the Eastern Pacific basin runs from May 15 to November 30. The hurricane season in the Central Pacific basin runs from June 1 to November 30.

**Hurricane Watch** – Hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are possible within the specified area. Because hurricane preparedness activities become dangerous once winds reach tropical-storm-force (sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph), a hurricane watch is issued 48 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical-storm-force winds. During a hurricane watch, prepare your home and follow instructions from local officials. If you live in an evacuation zone for storm surge, you might be told to prepare your home and evacuate even before or without a hurricane watch.

**Hurricane Warning** – Hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are expected somewhere within the specified area. Because hurricane preparedness activities become dangerous once winds reach tropical-storm-force (sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph), the hurricane warning is issued 36 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical-storm-force winds. During a hurricane warning, rush preparations to completion, follow instructions from local officials, and take shelter where you will stay during the storm. If you live in an evacuation zone for storm surge, you might be told to prepare your home and evacuate even before or without a hurricane warning.

**Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale** – The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale is a 1 to 5 categorization based on the hurricane's intensity at the indicated time. The scale provides examples of the type of damage and impacts in the United States associated with winds of the indicated intensity. The following table shows the scale broken down by winds:

Category	Wind Speed (mph)	Damage
1	74 – 95	Very dangerous winds will produce some damage
2	96 – 110	Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage
3	111 – 129	Devastating damage will occur
4	130 – 156	Catastrophic damage will occur
5	> 157	Catastrophic damage will occur

**Storm Surge** – An abnormal rise in sea level accompanying a hurricane or other intense storm, and whose height is the difference between the observed level of the sea surface and the level that would have occurred in the absence of the cyclone. Storm surge is usually estimated by subtracting the normal or astronomic high tide from the observed storm tide.

**Storm Surge Watch** – The possibility of life-threatening inundation from rising water moving inland from the shoreline somewhere within the specified area, generally within 48 hours, in association with an ongoing or potential tropical cyclone, a subtropical cyclone or a post-tropical cyclone. The watch may be issued earlier when other conditions, such as the onset of tropical-storm-force winds, are expected to limit the time available to take protective actions for surge (e.g., evacuations). The watch may also be issued for locations not expected to receive life-threatening inundation but which could potentially be isolated by inundation in adjacent areas. Prepare your home and follow instructions from local officials, and evacuate if and when told to do so. In some cases, you may be told to prepare your home and evacuate even before the issuance of a storm surge watch.

**Storm Surge Warning** – The danger of life-threatening inundation from rising water moving inland from the shoreline somewhere within the specified area, generally within 36 hours, in association with an ongoing or potential tropical cyclone, a subtropical cyclone or a post-tropical cyclone. The warning may be issued earlier when other conditions, such as the onset of tropical-storm-force winds, are expected to limit the time available to take protective actions for surge (e.g., evacuations). The warning may also be issued for locations not expected to receive life-threatening inundation but which could potentially be isolated by inundation in adjacent areas. Rush preparations to completion, follow instructions from local officials, evacuate if and when told to do so, and take shelter where you will stay during the storm. In some cases, you may be told to prepare your home and evacuate even before the issuance of a storm surge warning or watch.

**Tropical Depression** – A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind speed (using the U.S. 1-minute average) is 38 mph or less.

**Tropical Storm** – A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind speed (using the U.S. 1-minute average) ranges from 39 mph to 73 mph.

# National Hurricane Resilience Initiative – #HurricaneStrong

[#HurricaneStrong](#) is part of the national hurricane resilience initiative to save lives and homes through collaboration with leading organizations in the disaster safety and resilience movement.

The collaboration offers empowering hurricane safety and mitigation information for families and practitioners alike through business summits, digital channels, home improvement store workshops, kids programming, media outreach, school lesson plans, special events, and a social media campaign featuring a #HurricaneStrong “Pose.”



#HurricaneStrong “Pose”.

#HurricaneStrong follows five key messages to promote and elevate hurricane resilience:



This Family Hurricane Preparedness Guide will provide information to help you, your family, and your community prepare for hurricane season following the five key messages of #HurricaneStrong.

We encourage everyone to be prepared before a disaster strikes, and this guide can serve as a helpful tool in your preparations.

For more information, please visit [www.hurricanestrong.org](http://www.hurricanestrong.org) or [www.flash.org](http://www.flash.org).

# #1: Safety

## Know Your Evacuation Zone

Determine if you live in a storm surge evacuation zone. If you do, decide today where you would go and how you would get there. If not and you live in a safe home outside of flood-prone areas, identify a friend or family member in an evacuation zone and be their evacuation destination. Residents of mobile homes, that are not safe even in winds of tropical-storm-force, should also plan for evacuation. If a hurricane threatens your area, having a plan in place can reduce fear, reduce anxiety, and allow for safely sheltering in place or efficient and safe evacuation. Remember to always listen to instructions given by your local authorities.

### Prior to evacuation, remember to:

- » Maintain a full tank of gas;
- » Bring identification, insurance papers, and other important documents for every family member;
- » Bring adequate water, snacks, cash, medications, masks, hand sanitizer;
- » Obey all special traffic signs and law enforcement orders;
- » Move disabled vehicles from travel lanes; and
- » Only dial 9-1-1 if there is a life-threatening emergency.

[Click here](#) to view the annual hurricane evacuation zone survey. This survey contains available resources on local evacuation zones and storm surge mapping for your city, county, parish, or region from Texas to Maine.

The amount of time needed to evacuate an area depends upon a variety of factors that include the size of the vulnerable population, high hazard areas, and transportation routes. Anyone who lives in a designated evacuation zone is encouraged to develop a personal evacuation plan and identify local, alternative family and community resources for safe shelter.

### Evacuees should be prepared for the following:

- » Extremely heavy traffic with slow highway speeds; residents in highly vulnerable areas should leave the area sooner rather than later; and
- » Limited access to gas stations, restaurants, and restroom facilities.

*Example of a Hurricane Evacuation Zone Map.*



## #2: Preparedness

### Make a Plan. Build a Kit.

Electricity will likely be disrupted and communication networks such as cell phones, computers, landline telephones, and the Internet may be affected during a disaster.

Having a family communications plan in place in ahead of the disaster can help ensure that everyone knows how to connect and where to meet during an emergency.

Use this checklist to complete your family communications plan today!

- 
- Write down or capture telephone numbers and email addresses for everyone in your household. If you have children that do not have a cell phone, record the telephone number and email address for their school and/or daycare provider.
  - Write down or capture telephone numbers for emergency services, utility provider, medical providers, homeowners insurance company, automobile insurance company, veterinarian, and any other service providers that you may need to contact.
  - Become familiar with the disaster plans for your children's school and their communication methods as a disaster can strike during school and/or work hours. Remember to discuss these plans with your children.
  - Identify a family member or friend to serve as an out-of-state contact so all family members have a single point of contact. Write down or capture two contact methods for this individual such as telephone, cell phone, e-mail address, or social media. Determine safe places where your family can go for protection or to reconnect if separated. Be sure these locations are accessible, and if you have pets, identify animal-friendly locations. Identify the following locations:
 

<p><b>Indoors:</b> If you do not have a tornado safe room or storm shelter, the safest place may be a small, interior, windowless room such as a closet or bathroom on the lowest level of the structure.</p> <p><b>In your neighborhood:</b> This is often where your family can meet if there is an emergency and you need to leave your home. This could be a big tree, a mailbox at the end of your driveway, or a neighbor's house.</p>	<p><b>Outside of your neighborhood:</b> This is often where your family can meet if there is an emergency when you are not home and you can't get back to your home. This could be a place of worship, library, community center, or a family friend's home.</p> <p><b>Outside of your town or city:</b> Having an out-of-town meeting place can help you reunite if a disaster happens and you cannot get home or your family is separated. This is especially important if your community is instructed to evacuate the area.</p>
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  - Once created, make sure everyone receives a copy of the family communications plan. Store copies of the plan in your purse, backpack, or cell phone. Remember to post a copy of your plan in a central location in your home such as the refrigerator or family bulletin board.
  - Don't forget to practice your plan!**



### Here are a few reminders and tips:

- » Learn your family's social media handles, and consider signing up for social media applications such as *Facebook Safety Check*, *American Red Cross Safe and Well*, and *Google Person Finder*.
- » Remember, texting may work best before, during, and after a disaster as a text message may be more likely to reach the recipient as it requires far less bandwidth to send than making a phone call.
- » Store at least one emergency contact under the names "In Case of Emergency" or "ICE" for all cell phones and devices. This will help someone identify your emergency contact if needed. Be sure to inform your emergency contact of any medical issues that you or your family members may have, and explore new tools such as the Medical ID option on Apple devices.
- » To show why it is important to keep phone numbers written down, challenge your family members to recite important phone numbers from memory.
- » Make sure that everyone, including children, knows how and when to call 9-1-1 for emergency help. Remember, only call 9-1-1 if there is a life-threatening emergency.
- » Conserve your cell phone battery by reducing the brightness of your screen, placing your phone in "airplane" mode, and closing unnecessary apps that you do not need.



## #2: Preparedness Make a Plan. Build a Kit.

During a disaster event, you and/or your family will require specific items. Assemble supplies before disasters occur, including supplies for various locations (e.g., home, work, vehicle).

Your emergency supply kit should include the following items:

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three and preferably seven days, for drinking. You should also plan for emergency sanitation that conserves water since this water supply is primarily for drinking. Water needs vary depending on age, physical condition, activity, diet, and climate.
- Food. At least a three-day and preferably a seven-day supply of non-perishable food. Remember that some foods require water for preparation.
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a *NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards* with tone alert with extra batteries
- Smartphone weather alerting apps to ensure redundant alerting capacity
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle, to signal for help
- Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air, and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter in place from a chemical incident and airborne chemicals outside
- Moist wipes, garbage bags, and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Masks, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, and spray
- Manual (not electric) can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- Local maps
- Prescription medications and glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification, and bank account records in a waterproof and fireproof portable container
- Cash and change
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket
- Complete change of clothing including a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, and sturdy shoes. You may need additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Water purification system and/or household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper
- Fire extinguisher
- Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Mess kits, paper cups, plastic plates and utensils, and paper towels
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles, or other activities for children

Consider what items are needed to meet your unique family needs, including how many family members you have, age, diet, health, mobility, as well as the conditions in your location (cold climate, hot climate, etc.). Prepare separate, sets of emergency supplies for your vehicle and workplace that can last at least 24 hours as you may not know where you will be when an emergency occurs, and always include essential medications.

- » **Home:** Keep this kit in a designated place and have it ready in case you have to leave your home quickly. Make sure all family members know where the kit is kept.
- » **Work:** Be prepared to shelter at work for at least 24 hours. Your work kit should include food, water, and other necessities like medicines, as well as comfortable walking shoes, stored in a “grab and go” case.
- » **Vehicle:** Keep a kit of emergency supplies in your car in case you are stranded.



## #HurricaneStrong Checklists



[BUILD YOUR DISASTER KIT](#)



[DIY INSPECTION](#)



[EMERGENCY BOARD UP](#)



[EVACUATION ZONES](#)



[FLOOD & HURRICANE HOME RETROFIT OPTIONS](#)



[FLOODING](#)



[GENERATOR SAFETY](#)



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[STRENGTHEN YOUR GUTTERS](#)



[STRENGTHEN YOUR ROOF](#)



[STRENGTHEN YOUR SOFFITS](#)



[UNDERSTANDING YOUR BUILDING CODE](#)

## #3: Security Have an Insurance Check-Up

Understanding your insurance needs is an essential preparation step for you and your family. Getting the right type and amount of insurance can help you recover more quickly from disaster and avoid years of financial challenges.

Take steps today to identify and secure the right insurance policy(s) and safeguard your future financial health.

Many different lines of insurance are available to cover different types of disasters. A homeowners' insurance policy generally provides the following areas of coverage:

- » Dwelling - coverage for your house;
- » Other structures - coverage for structures such as garages, decks, and fences;
- » Personal property - coverage for items such as furniture, clothing, and appliances;
- » Loss of Use - compensation if you need to relocate temporarily due to covered damage;
- » Personal liability - coverage for accidents occurring on your property; and
- » Medical protection - payments for a person who is injured on your property.

Most landlords and professional property management companies will require proof of renters' insurance when a lease is signed. Renters' insurance policies can include the following coverage types:

- » Personal property - coverage for items such as furniture and clothing;
- » Loss of Use - compensation if you need to relocate temporarily due to damage;
- » Personal liability - coverage if sued due to accidental injury to others;
- » Medical protection - payments for a person who is injured on your property; and
- » Property damage to others - coverage if you accidentally break or damage someone else's property.

The insurance industry identifies the cause of loss, such as fire or theft, as a "peril." Insurance only applies when the covered peril (i.e., hazard) that caused the loss is part of a policy. Be sure to check your policy to determine which perils (hazards) are covered. A homeowners' insurance policy may provide coverage for different perils for the dwelling and for personal property. The policy may also have different deductibles based on the peril. Always check your individual policy for details.



If it can rain where you live, it can flood where you live, and if you live in a hurricane evacuation zone, you are also at risk from saltwater flooding. Losses caused by flood may not be covered by standard property insurance policies. Tell your insurance professional that you need flood insurance coverage, even if you are not in the highest-risk areas for flooding or mudflows, including flooding caused by hurricanes. Flood insurance coverage may be purchased through the National Flood Insurance Program. Coverage for other hazards, such as mold, may be provided as part of the basic property insurance, but the amount of loss payable under the policy may be limited.

Contact your state insurance department for referrals or information on what coverage is available from your state's involuntary market, shared market, or a state-backed plan if you are unable to find an insurance company that offers a policy that meets your needs.

Contact your insurance company or professional agent every year for an insurance check-up to ensure your coverages keep pace with your needs, belongings, and the perils you face.

Create and maintain a current home inventory to help determine the correct amount of insurance to purchase before the disaster to support the claims process afterward. Have your current home inventory available to determine the right amount of insurance.

Review whether property insurance policies cover actual cash value or replacement cost. Be sure you understand deductibles, waiting periods before coverage begins, and procedures for notification of insurers when a loss occurs.

Ask your insurance professional about potential discounts, incentives, or other savings available on the cost of your policy. Some insurers offer discounts for the following:

- » Purchasing home/renter's and auto insurance from the same provider;

- » Installing smoke detectors, burglar alarms, sprinklers, or other improvements, such as hurricane shutters or reinforced roofing, or other hazard mitigation devices;
- » Having a membership in a professional, alumni, or business group;
- » Being a senior or retiree; and
- » Being a long-term policyholder.

Maintain a detailed inventory of your belongings to help make the claims process efficient and swift. Photograph and keep records and receipts for all of your belongings. Remember, you may be entitled to tax credits or deductions for casualty losses, so documentation is essential.

Take photos or videos to record your belongings for your home inventory, but also write down descriptions, including year, make, and model numbers. Take photos or a video of the interior and exterior of your home as well. Store your inventory on a portable computer drive (e.g., CD, flash drive, or external hard drive), in online remote storage (known as "the cloud"), in an electronic file, or write it down on paper. Keep your inventory in a location away from your home where it can be accessed easily after a disaster.

Store insurance policies, deeds, property records, and other important papers in a safe place, such as a waterproof and fireproof box, safe, or bank deposit box. Also, make copies of important documents to include with your disaster supplies and consider storing electronic copies on the cloud. Always use strong passwords that include letters and characters. Keep your insurance policy number(s), your insurance professional/company phone number, and claim filing instructions in a secure, convenient location.

## #4: Resilience Strengthen Your Home

Preparing your home for hurricanes can mean the difference between minor damage and complete destruction. Strengthening your home to withstand high winds can be as easy as the **ABCs**.

### Ancor

- » Bring anything from the yard that could become windborne inside and ask neighbors to do the same.
- » Replace gravel/rock-landscaping material with fire treated, shredded bark, or other lightweight mulch to eliminate the potential for windborne missiles.
- » Trim and anchor down trees and foliage.
- » Strengthen your soffits by applying a bead of polyurethane sealant between the wall and the trim into which the soffit panels are inserted.
- » Secure an inspection to make sure your home has wall-to-foundation (anchor bolts/rebar) connections.

### Brace

- » Bolt all doors with foot and head bolts with a minimum one-inch bolt throw length.
- » Reinforce the garage door and tracks.
- » Brace all gable end walls with horizontal and/or diagonal braces.

In addition to flood insurance, there are many steps you can take to minimize flood damage, including elevating electrical outlets, anchoring fuel tanks, installing a floating drain, and elevating appliances inside and outside.

Keep your gutters and downspouts clear of debris, so they can carry rainfall and storm water away from your foundation. If flooding is imminent, you should secure sandbags. If they are properly filled, placed, and maintained, sandbags can redirect storm water and debris flows away from a home and other structures.

### Cover

- » Cover all large windows and doors, especially patio doors with securely fastened, tested, and approved impact-resistant shutters with proper mounting hardware, or replace them with impact-resistant, window and door systems if feasible.
- » Make sure all doors and windows are properly caulked and/or weather-stripped to reduce potential water intrusion.
- » Install a roof covering that is rated for high wind and impact from hail or debris.

### Strap

- » Tie down any free-standing fixtures in your yard.
- » Fasten rafters/trusses to walls with hurricane straps/clips

If you have a generator, don't forget these helpful safety tips:

- » Always operate the generator outdoors and away from open windows and doors -- NEVER operate it inside, including the basement, enclosed patio, or garage. Year after year, carbon monoxide poisoning from unsafe generator use kills people, even wiping out entire families. Generators can easily be used safely and these deaths are completely preventable.
- » Understand the primary hazards to avoid when using a generator—carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning from the toxic engine exhaust, electric shock/electrocution, and fire.
- » Always follow manufacturers directions supplied with the generator.
- » Keep the generator dry to avoid electrocution.
- » Never try to power the house wiring by plugging the generator into a wall outlet. Known as “backfeeding,” this practice puts utility workers, your neighbors and your household at risk of electrocution.
- » Be sure to turn the generator off and let it cool down before refueling. Gasoline spilled on hot engine parts could ignite.
- » Store fuel for the generator in an approved safety can. Use the type of fuel recommended in the instructions or on the label on the generator.
- » Ask your local fire department if local laws restrict the amount of fuel you may store at your location. Store the fuel outside of living areas in a locked shed or other protected area. To guard against accidental fire, do not store it near a fuel-burning appliance, such as a natural gas water heater in a garage.
- » Plug appliances directly into the generator, or use a heavy duty, outdoor-rated extension cord that is rated (in watts or amps) at least equal to the sum of the connected appliance loads. Check that the entire cord is free of cuts or tears and that the plug has all three prongs, especially a grounding pin.
- » Before the start of hurricane season, be sure to start your generator to ensure that it is fully operational after being stored.

## STRONG HOMES, SAFE FAMILIES! PODCAST

### Topics Include:

- Lessons from Hurricane Seasons
- The Scoop on Hurricane Shutters
- Building a Hurricane Supply Kit
- DIY Home Strengthening Tips
- Understanding Your Insurance Policy
- Making a Home Inventory to Plan for Claims
- Identifying Your Community's Building Code
- Weather Alerting Apps and Technology

HOSTED BY: LESLIE CHAPMAN-HENDERSON, PRESIDENT AND CEO, FLASH





## NO CODE. NO CONFIDENCE.

[inspecttoprotect.org](http://inspecttoprotect.org)

### Are You Code Confident?

*Modern building codes ensure that your home is built using the latest practices and standards to protect against disasters like floods and hurricane winds. But what if your home is older and you don't know what codes your builder followed?*

*According to Federal Alliance for Safe Homes research, eight of ten Americans are not worried about codes as they believe that they already have what they need to be safe. However, only one-third of U.S. communities have the codes necessary to meet Mother Nature's wrath.*

*You can find what you need to know about the building codes used where you live at the newly expanded [www.Inspect2Protect.org](http://www.Inspect2Protect.org) website. The site offers current and historic code information, disaster history for your community, upgrades to make your home #HurricaneStrong, and insights on future risk from all types of weather.*

2 OUT OF 3

Two out of three places prone to severe weather **don't have** the **building codes they need.**

See if your local building codes protect you.  
**InspectToProtect.org**

NO CODE. NO CONFIDENCE.



## #5: Service Help Your Community

Once you and your family are prepared, directly help individual family members or friends who are especially vulnerable and need help preparing, surviving, and recovering from hurricanes. Be particularly generous with your time and resources to help those with financial limitations and to help senior citizens you know. A disproportionate number of fatalities in recent hurricanes have occurred among our senior citizens.

You can also help your broader community before, during, and after disasters. Volunteers are invaluable resources in every community, in many different capacities. Find an organization in your community, and participate in a class, training, or discussion. Affiliate with the organization before disaster strikes.

Local nonprofits, faith-based organizations, schools, and civic groups are all great places to begin your search. Volunteer your time to an organization. There are many ways to help your community, including delivering food to older adults or organizing your own community project. Consider any special skills you may be able to offer.

Take training in CPR and basic first aid, as well as other hazard-specific training. A financial contribution or gift to a recognized nonprofit

disaster relief organization is always an effective way to support disaster recovery, and even small amounts can make a big difference.

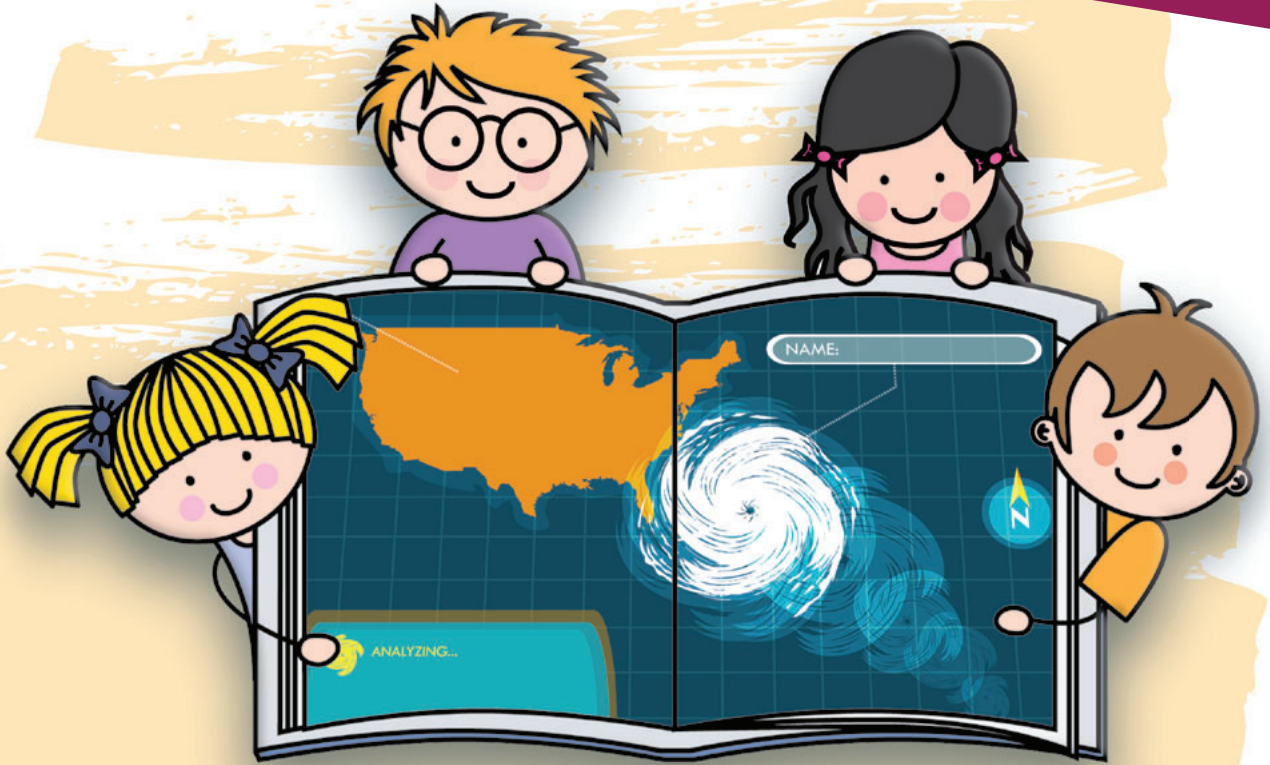
Here are some options to get you started to support community disaster resilience:

**Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program.** Join your local CERT program ([ready.gov/community-emergency-response-team](https://ready.gov/community-emergency-response-team)). CERT programs are typically sponsored, affiliated, or created in partnership with a local fire department, law enforcement agency, or emergency management agency. Get CERT trained in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

**Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster.** Find a volunteer opportunity with your state Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) ([nvoad.org](https://nvoad.org), "How to Help"). National VOAD is an association of organizations that mitigate and lessen the impact of disasters.

**Youth Preparedness.** Do not forget the crucial role youth play in disaster preparedness. Youth Preparedness at [ready.gov/kids](https://ready.gov/kids) has resources to integrate children and youth into family and community disaster preparedness.





Do you have what it takes to prepare for and track a hurricane?  
Test your knowledge and become a #HurricaneStrong Kid!

## Hands-On Activity: Unscramble These Vocabulary Words

ihgh iuhmidty \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

jnue \_ \_ \_ \_

onevmebr \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

ghitl idnw \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

wmra oneca maeetserrutp \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

*Solution: high humidity, June, november, light wind, warm ocean temperatures*

## Hurricane Quiz

**1. All hurricanes are?**

- A. Category 4 Storms
- B. Tropical Cyclones
- C. Tropical Tornadoes
- D. Atlantic Ocean Based

**2. What scale are hurricanes measured on?**

- A. Enhanced Fujita Scale
- B. Beaufort Wind Scale
- C. Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale
- D. Magellan Scale

**3. A Category 4 hurricane has wind speeds ranging from:**

- A. 130 - 156 mph
- B. > 157 mph
- C. 111 - 129 mph
- D. 74 - 95 mph

**4. A hurricane needs which of the following conditions to form?**

- A. Warm sea surface temperature
- B. Warm air
- C. High humidity
- D. All of the above

**5. Hurricane season begins in \_\_\_\_\_ and ends in \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. January, March
- B. July, October
- C. May, September
- D. June, November

**6. Hurricanes typically make landfall in which of the following places?**

- A. US East Coast states
- B. US Gulf of Mexico states (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
- C. Alaska
- D. Wisconsin
- E. Both A & B

**7. Hurricanes affect only coastal states.**

- A. True
- B. False

**8. Other weather perils that are produced by hurricanes include:**

- A. Floods
- B. Hail Storms
- C. Snowstorms
- D. Tornadoes
- E. Both A & D

**9. An important aspect of making sure things don't blow away during a hurricane is:**

- A. Outside preparedness
- B. The color of your house siding
- C. The type of grass in your yard
- D. All of the above

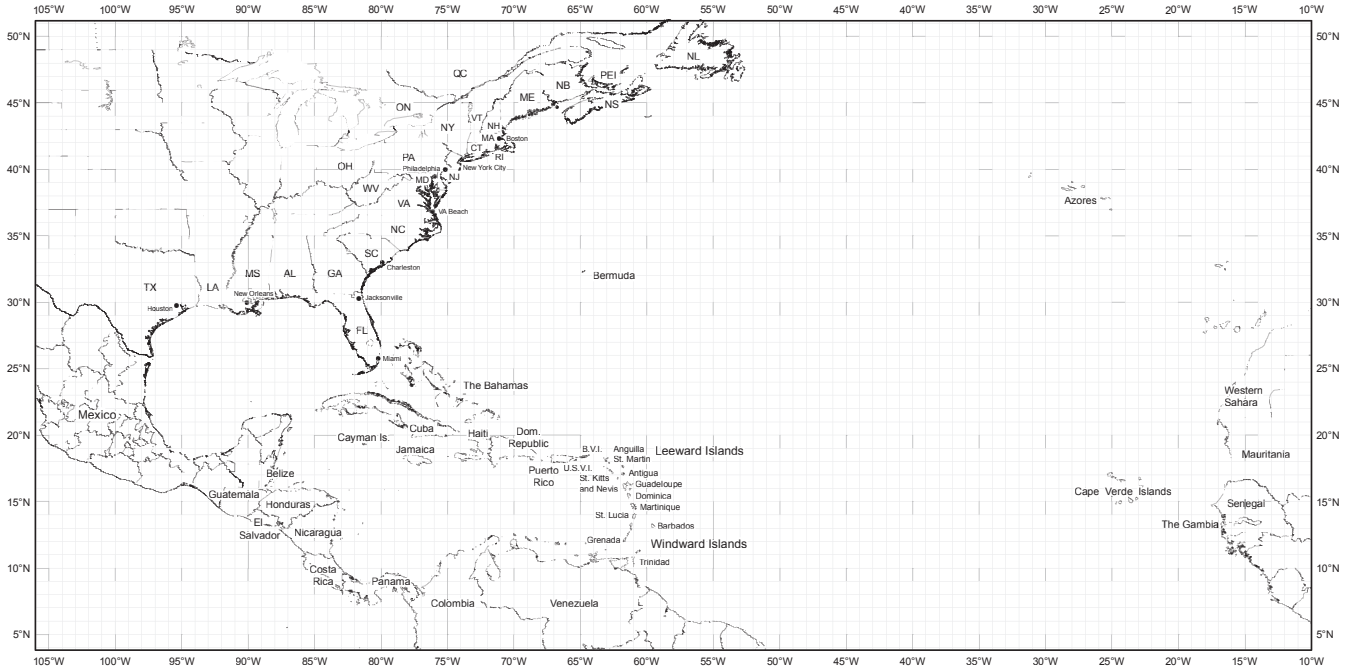
**10. Which direction does a hurricane in the North Atlantic rotate?**

- A. Sideways
- B. Counterclockwise
- C. Clockwise
- D. In a figure eight

Solutions: 1. B, 2. C, 3. A, 4. D, 5. D, 6. E, 7. B, 8. E, 9. A, 10. B



## Atlantic Basin Hurricane Tracking Chart National Hurricane Center, Miami, Florida



## 2024 Atlantic Hurricane Season Storm Names

Alberto	Gordon	Milton	Tony
Beryl	Helene	Nadine	Valerie
Chris	Isaac	Oscar	William
Debby	Joyce	Patty	
Ernesto	Kirk	Rafael	
Francine	Leslie	Sara	

## Hands-On Activity: Preparedness Word Search

I	G	A	S	K	T	U	M	F	Q	W	I	K	S	A	T	H	O	I	E
M	S	E	G	L	E	R	X	O	Y	V	U	A	L	F	O	S	W	N	F
S	R	I	N	A	M	B	I	O	L	E	S	R	Z	P	M	A	I	K	L
R	U	Y	D	E	E	D	Y	D	A	I	N	Y	X	I	B	C	H	U	A
E	O	C	B	M	R	I	S	S	T	R	E	L	A	W	I	D	Q	Y	S
B	H	V	L	E	G	A	E	X	U	C	H	U	B	D	Z	S	G	U	H
M	O	R	A	R	E	B	T	Q	S	J	Y	A	E	O	E	K	P	I	L
U	W	C	N	G	N	S	U	O	Y	E	S	M	Q	B	C	E	W	A	I
N	T	Y	K	E	C	M	O	H	R	A	I	O	D	J	S	E	R	T	G
T	Y	S	E	N	Y	U	R	Z	T	O	Q	R	K	M	C	B	O	H	H
N	T	E	T	C	P	B	N	H	C	I	Y	X	E	N	L	I	A	K	T
A	N	I	S	Y	L	D	O	C	Z	Q	K	H	A	T	O	P	X	W	G
T	E	L	O	K	A	G	I	Y	X	O	O	R	Z	W	T	J	L	M	P
R	V	P	D	I	N	J	T	B	A	R	U	S	E	L	H	A	R	K	Q
O	E	P	H	T	O	B	A	X	K	S	W	C	V	T	E	S	B	M	O
P	S	U	A	W	R	M	U	O	N	Q	N	I	A	F	S	O	V	H	G
M	O	S	A	I	C	Z	C	I	D	E	Z	M	O	J	C	A	D	E	T
I	N	T	E	R	N	Y	A	Q	W	X	B	L	U	E	Y	G	S	M	H
Y	E	E	L	P	X	O	V	B	T	I	K	D	I	A	T	S	R	I	F
R	H	P	Q	V	I	W	E	A	T	H	E	R	R	A	D	I	O	S	D

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|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Alerts         | Evacuation Routes | Medicine          |
| Batteries      | First Aid Kit     | Pet Supplies      |
| Blankets       | Flashlight        | Seventy-Two Hours |
| Cash           | Food              | Three Days        |
| Clothes        | Generator         | Water             |
| Emergency Kit  | Important Numbers | Weather Radios    |
| Emergency Plan | Insurance         |                   |



Solution

## Hands-On Activity: Hurricane Word Search

T	A	E	R	U	T	A	R	E	P	M	E	T	R	E	T	A	W	E	Z
R	M	F	B	O	Q	L	Y	H	I	D	P	Y	V	K	O	X	I	Y	M
O	V	N	O	S	P	M	I	S	J	H	U	R	R	I	C	A	N	E	P
P	G	Z	H	W	F	R	E	W	K	S	T	O	R	M	Y	A	D	O	E
I	V	N	N	A	L	V	A	G	D	L	O	G	R	A	W	O	R	Y	G
C	C	O	R	I	O	L	I	S	E	F	F	E	C	T	O	D	E	M	R
A	H	S	S	L	R	E	Y	K	P	Z	B	T	O	L	P	H	S	Q	U
L	U	P	T	S	I	R	M	W	A	M	Y	A	F	J	T	C	I	R	S
D	G	M	L	F	D	Q	J	E	E	P	I	C	K	Y	R	T	W	G	M
E	H	I	C	T	A	W	G	V	O	D	A	N	R	O	T	A	K	E	R
P	Q	S	M	E	A	L	O	W	J	S	R	D	F	S	B	W	C	S	O
R	X	R	L	P	E	N	O	L	C	Y	C	L	A	C	I	P	O	R	T
E	W	I	Z	B	M	A	D	S	Q	E	R	O	J	N	K	A	L	E	S
S	A	F	F	I	R	Y	X	R	O	T	C	M	E	O	I	S	C	Y	Z
S	R	F	L	A	N	K	A	Y	E	T	L	A	R	S	Z	R	V	W	I
I	N	A	Q	B	O	S	I	X	S	W	O	S	B	Y	H	K	T	E	C
O	I	S	R	E	Z	L	K	A	R	Y	A	L	L	A	F	D	N	A	L
N	N	L	A	N	D	O	E	M	Z	P	S	R	X	P	G	M	J	R	K
S	G	C	O	U	N	T	E	R	C	L	O	C	K	W	I	S	E	H	S
M	R	A	N	J	W	V	A	O	C	I	X	E	M	F	O	F	L	U	G

- |                  |                |                     |
|------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Andrew           | Florida        | Storm Surge         |
| Category         | Gulf of Mexico | Tornado             |
| Clockwise        | Hurricane      | Tropical Cyclone    |
| Coriolis Effect  | June           | Tropical Depression |
| Counterclockwise | Katrina        | Warning             |
| East Coast       | Landfall       | Watch               |
| Eye              | November       | Water Temperature   |
| Flood            | Saffir-Simpson | Wind                |

	G	O	C																
L	U	F	O	F	O	F	O	X	I	C	O								
T	U	C	L	O	C	K	W	I	S	E									
K											E								
A	L																		
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W																			

Solution

## Hands-On Activity: Mitigation Word Search

I	G	A	S	K	T	U	M	F	Q	W	I	K	S	A	T	H	O	I	E
M	S	E	G	L	E	R	X	O	Y	V	U	A	L	F	O	S	W	N	F
S	R	I	N	A	M	B	I	O	L	E	S	R	Z	P	M	A	I	K	L
R	U	Y	D	E	E	D	Y	D	A	I	N	Y	X	I	B	C	H	U	A
E	O	C	B	M	R	I	S	S	T	R	E	L	A	W	I	D	Q	Y	S
B	H	V	L	E	G	A	E	X	U	C	H	U	B	D	Z	S	G	U	H
M	O	R	A	R	E	B	T	Q	S	J	Y	A	E	O	E	K	P	I	L
U	W	C	N	G	N	S	U	O	Y	E	S	M	Q	B	C	E	W	A	I
N	T	Y	K	E	C	M	O	H	R	A	I	O	D	J	S	E	R	T	G
T	Y	S	E	N	Y	U	R	Z	T	O	Q	R	K	M	C	B	O	H	H
N	T	E	T	C	P	B	N	H	C	I	Y	X	E	N	L	I	A	K	T
A	N	I	S	Y	L	D	O	C	Z	Q	K	H	A	T	O	P	X	W	G
T	E	L	O	K	A	G	I	Y	X	O	O	R	Z	W	T	J	L	M	P
R	V	P	D	I	N	J	T	B	A	R	U	S	E	L	H	A	R	K	Q
O	E	P	H	T	O	B	A	X	K	S	W	C	V	T	E	S	B	M	O
P	S	U	A	W	R	M	U	O	N	Q	N	I	A	F	S	O	V	H	G
M	O	S	A	I	C	Z	C	I	D	E	Z	M	O	J	C	A	D	E	T
I	N	T	E	R	N	Y	A	Q	W	X	B	L	U	E	Y	G	S	M	H
Y	E	E	L	P	X	O	V	B	T	I	K	D	I	A	T	S	R	I	F
R	H	P	Q	V	I	W	E	A	T	H	E	R	R	A	D	I	O	S	D

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Alerts            | Food              |
| Batteries         | Generator         |
| Blankets          | Important Numbers |
| Cash              | Insurance         |
| Clothes           | Medicine          |
| Emergency Kit     | Pet Supplies      |
| Emergency Plan    | Seventy-Two Hours |
| Evacuation Routes | Three Days        |
| First Aid Kit     | Water             |
| Flashlight        | Weather Radios    |



Solution:

# Valuable Websites & Social Media Information

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## Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH)

[www.flash.org](http://www.flash.org)

X: @FederalAlliance

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## Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

X: @fema

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## Global Protection Products

<https://www.gppent.com/>

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## ISO/Verisk

[www.verisk.com/insurance/brands/iso](http://www.verisk.com/insurance/brands/iso)

X: @Verisk

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## Lowe's

[www.lowes.com](http://www.lowes.com)

X: @Lowe's

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## National Hurricane Resilience Initiative - #HurricaneStrong

[www.hurricanestrong.org](http://www.hurricanestrong.org)

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## National Hurricane Center (NHC)

[www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov)

X: @NWSNHC

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## National Weather Service (NWS)

[www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov)

X: @NWS

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## Renew Financial

[www.renewfinancial.com](http://www.renewfinancial.com)

X: @renewfinancial

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## Simpson Strong-Tie

[www.strongtie.com](http://www.strongtie.com)

X: @strongtie

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## State Farm

[www.statefarm.com](http://www.statefarm.com)

X: @StateFarm

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## USAA

[www.usaa.com](http://www.usaa.com)

X: @USAA

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