



# HURRICANE PREP LIST

## STEP 1 ITEMS

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Be sure you have these at your home. Realize that many people wait until the last 2 to 3 days before preparing, so they have trouble obtaining gas, water, supplies, and groceries. Initiate step 1 items far in advance.

- Gas can for extra gas (plastic is the lightest)
- Flashlights/lanterns (LifeGear makes some good LED flashlights that are very lightweight. Coleman is known for its lanterns and they have a selection of LED models. Real candles or kerosene lanterns are too dangerous).
- Propane grill.
- Cigarette lighters & matches.
- Paper plates and bowls, plastic utensils & cups.
- Painters tape, duct tape.
- Tarps (for single-family or villa homeowners, in case your roof leaks after the storm).
- Visqueen (plastic to cover a broken window or for other uses).
- Large first aid kit & over the counter medicines.
- Food for 2-3 weeks (a number of survival companies sell food that can last 20 to 25 years).
- Water purification system (such as the 4.5 gallon Imperial Berkey).
- Plastic buckets (for pouring pool or tub water into the toilet tank).
- Water storage jugs (don't fill them up until the storm is coming, since water can get stale and milk jugs can break).
- Batteries (a good assortment; go to Target or Walmart and buy packs of AA, AAA, and D).
- Toilet paper, paper towels, garbage bags (suggest at least a 1-month supply after going through the 2020 shortage).
- Survival toilet (optional, but realize that entire sewer systems went out during Irma).
- Non-electric can opener.
- Gas powered chain saw (only if you are experienced; can be very helpful after the storm).
- Rain suits (preferably bright colors for safety).
- Crank, solar, or other mobile phone charger (in Katrina, many people found that texting was the only communication method still working after the storm) A rapid charger might also be a good idea.
- Generator (if in a single family home or villa) Keeping your AC running can prevent mold. Ideally, this is a larger full house or partial house generator, with an underground propane tank. Some people opt for the far less expensive gas operated portable generator than can be stored in the garage.
- Try to obtain extra medications (human or pet) that you may need in a prolonged shutdown, including pet calming Medication.
- Keep vital documents in a waterproof plastic bag that is inside a "go bag". If you evacuate, also put in check books, passports, birth certificates, and other items you wish to take. Keep a good amount of cash in the bag (mostly \$5, \$10, and \$20 dollar bills)
- Determine a safe room in the home, where family members can go if there is wind penetration during the storm (broken windows, failed roof). This should be a room without windows, such as a master bedroom closet.
- Tool kit with basic tools.
- Plastic and cloth gloves.
- Baby, pet, or elderly supplies.
- Multiple small fire extinguishers (these come in a spray can that looks like a large can of bug spray)



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## STEP 2 ITEMS

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Do Step 2 items 7 to 10 days in advance so that you aren't fighting the crowds.

- If possible, pick up any items at the tailor, dry cleaners, etc.
- Gas up all cars and fill up your portable gas can. Charge electric cars the day before the storm. Minimize driving.
- Put up or prepare to put up window coverings, if applicable.
- Fill up your pool. Fill your water jugs for drinking water.
- Go grocery shopping; buy slow perishing food, such as fresh non-refrigerated fruits, canned protein, vegetables, & fruits, dry packaged protein, pasta & rice, pickles, olives, cookies, crackers sandwiches w/ cheese or peanut butter, jerky, protein or breakfast bars, etc.
- Buy several bags of ice to put in your freezer. This will help save food during an electrical outage.
- Buy extra pet food, cat litter, dog chew toys, etc.
- Either you or your landscaper should trim any loose tree branches from your landscaping.
- Have the propane company top off the generator fuel tank, if applicable.
- Buy an extra tank of propane for your gas grill.
- Know the nearest public shelters (although avoid the "shelter experience" if at all possible).
- If evacuating, be sure to bring favorite toys for the kids, ample clothing, books & magazines & your go bag. Also bring all prescriptions, and other over the counter medicines, such as antacids, anti-diarrhea, pain relievers, etc.

## STEP 3 ITEMS

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- Do final washings of all laundry and dishes. Wash sheets and towels so that you start the storm with clean linens.
- Get the go bag fully prepared in case you do have to leave. However, don't leave your home during a storm unless it an absolute emergency. Flying debris can be very dangerous. And don't leave during the eye of the storm; the other side of the storm can hit very quickly.
- As late as possible, close the bathtub drain, put duct tape over it for a better seal, and fill with water. With a bucket, you can refill the toilet tank if water utilities are shut down.
- As late as possible, put your garage door in manual mode (this can be difficult to do after the storm when your cars are in the garage). Park the cars in the garage to protect them.
- Remove loose items from your yard or porches, including smaller potted plants. They can become flying projectiles. If you evacuate, then be sure to do this before you leave, to protect your neighbors.