



WHAT DO I DO DURING A HURRICANE?

When a hurricane strikes your local area, the key to helping minimize the chaos is to have a series of steps to follow. According to FEMA and Ready.gov, you should do the following:



STAY INFORMED

- **Listen for emergency information and alerts.** If told to evacuate by local officials, do so immediately.
- **Know the warning signs.** Understanding hurricane terminology will help you anticipate your risk.
 - **Hurricane watch means hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are possible in a stated area.** Experts announce hurricane watches 48 hours before they expect tropical storm-force winds (sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph) to start.
 - **Hurricane warning is more serious. It means hurricane-force winds are expected in a stated area.** Experts issue these warnings 36 hours before tropical storm-force winds are expected in the area to give people enough time to prepare for the storm.

DEALING WITH THE WEATHER

- **Take refuge in a designated storm shelter or an interior room for high winds.** If trapped in a building by flooding, go to the highest level of the building. Do not climb into a closed attic. You may become trapped by rising flood water.
- **Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters.** Turn Around. Don't Drown! Just six inches of fast-moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.
- **Stay off bridges over fast moving water.**

WHEN TO EVACUATE

- **If you are directed by local authorities to do so.** Be sure to follow their instructions.
- **If you live in a mobile home or temporary structure;** such shelters are particularly hazardous during a hurricane no matter how well fastened to the ground.
- **If you live in a high-rise building;** hurricane winds are stronger at higher elevations.



800-954-9444
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