

**AUGUST 2016**  
Free Report



# **HURRICANE SEASON**

## **EVERYTHING TO KNOW ABOUT SURVIVING HURRICANES**

Dear Friend,

The deadliest hurricane in US history was The Great Galveston, that killed over 8,000 people. 2 ½ times the September 11 attacks.

And the costliest was Hurricane Katrina, causing \$108 billion in damage, while forcing a million people from their home, with over 100,000 people needing rescue.

Including the 30,000 who had to squat in a leaky-roofed stadium, without plumbing, or toilets, after hundreds of thousands lost their home, while the government sat still.

Because with almost 2 big ones hitting the US each year, there's no excuse for inaction. Because you never know when the next one will strike, or the damage it'll do.

Read below to discover how to prepare for a hurricane without ruining your budget, and protect your property and family today!

P.S.: Remember that sharing is caring, so share this info with any friends that might benefit!

*Alec Deacon*

*Survivopedia.com*

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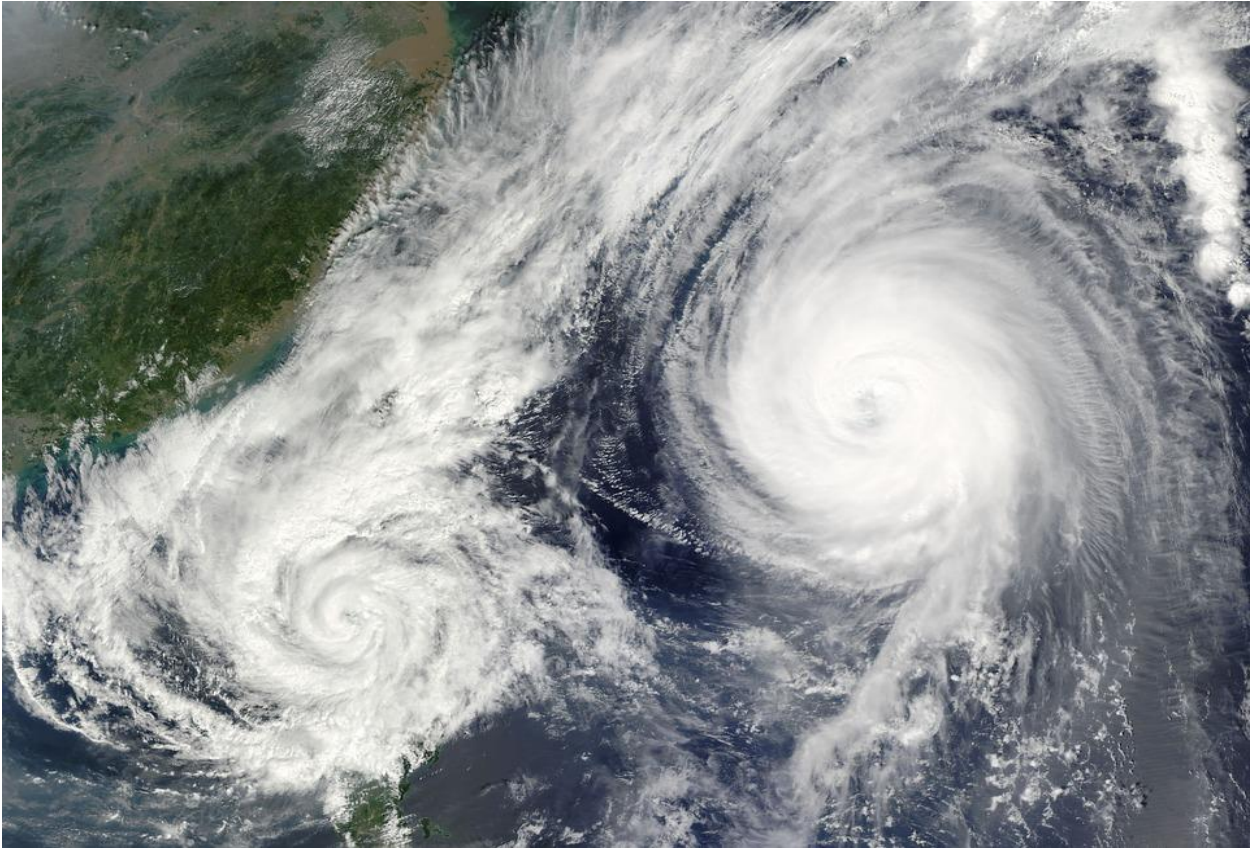
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# Hurricane Season: Questions Every Prepper Should Know the Answer To

The normal hurricane season for the United States starts on June 1st and ends November 30th. These very strong and deadly storms should always be taken seriously. Many people have lost their lives due to the fact they underestimated the impact of hurricanes.

The following report helps you to survive and to know what your options are in the event that you are in a hurricane land fall zone. But what steps should you take to ensure the safety of your home and family? We cover that and much more, including how to build your hurricane supply bag, in the pages below.



## **The Anatomy of a Hurricane**

### **What Is a Hurricane?**

A hurricane is a type of tropical cyclone. This refers to the organized, counter clockwise (in the Northern Hemisphere) movement of the circulating weather system in the northern hemisphere over tropical waters.

In order for a hurricane to progress from a tropical depression, then to a tropical storm, and finally build into a full-fledged hurricane, it must travel across the open ocean and keep in close contact with warm water currents. If a hurricane leaves the warm current of water, it will become

weaker and less organized. In some hurricanes, the prevailing wind pushes the hurricane off the warm water currents, and it only has a short period of time to reach the landfall before weakening.

### *Tropical Cyclones or Hurricane Classifications:*

In order to keep informed, it's important to understand the classifications of storms. Sometimes even small storms can wreak havoc, so it's important to follow the hurricane preparation steps below. Here are the classifications of storms.

#### ***Tropical depression***

- This is an organized collection of clouds and thunderstorms with a defined circulation and maximum sustained winds of 38 miles per hour or less.
- The winds must rotate fully around a closed low pressure center.
- Is a closed low pressure system.

#### ***Tropical storm***

- These are very organized and very strong thunderstorms and cloud systems with a defined circulation pattern and maximum sustained winds from 39 to 73 miles per hour.
- There is a clearly recognizable rotation in the storm.
- They are more organized than a tropical depression because of their tighter, more circular formation.

#### ***Hurricane***

Once a tropical storm reaches wind speeds of 74 miles per hour, they are reclassified as hurricanes. There are 5 categories of hurricanes as explained below. Hurricanes are categorized by the strength of their winds, with the greatest speed found in the center, or "eye". According



to the Affirm-Simpson Hurricane Scale, the weakest hurricane is a category 1, while a category 5 storm has the strongest sustained wind speeds.

- A hurricane is a very intense tropical weather system with a well-defined circulation and minimum sustained winds of at least 74 miles per hour.
- The circulation pattern is large and spins counterclockwise with rain bands that spiral to the center of the storm.
- Hurricanes receive their energy from the warm waters of the ocean below them, and have a warm core and a distinctive eye at the center.

## Where do Hurricanes Come From and Why Does it Matter?

During the hurricane season, hurricanes can start at three different points on the globe:

### Gulf of Mexico

- In the early part of the season, a tropical depression can start in the Gulf of Mexico and head northward into the US. These hurricanes are not as strong as the other types, hit landfall quicker, and the rainfall is very heavy as the storm changes from a hurricane to a very low low-pressure system. These low pressure systems travel eastward with the jet stream causing bad flooding in their wake.

### West Coast of Africa

- As the season progresses, the tropical depressions start off the West coast of Africa heading west through the Caribbean and finally striking the US mainland. As these hurricanes come westward, they pick up power and intensity. These hurricanes can turn into super hurricanes and are more likely than those that build in the Gulf to turn into more intense storms. Often, they can reach category 3, 4, or even 5. Water surges often

accompany hurricanes and can reach 25 feet or higher, causing bad flooding miles inland.

### Eastern Pacific

- Towards the end of the season, the tropic depressions start in the Eastern Pacific around Mexico or Southern California. These storms usually skirt Western Mexico and Southern California before heading out to sea on warm ocean currents. The named hurricanes in the Pacific Ocean are called hurricanes between the area of the West Coast and Hawaii. After this point they are called Typhoons. These hurricanes usually head out to sea with little wind or water damage to the coastline. There have been some of these hurricanes that have come ashore, but the damage is usually mild.

## What is the Difference Between a Hurricane Watch and a Hurricane Warning?

A Hurricane Watch means hurricane conditions are possible in the watch area, usually within the next 36-48 hours.

A Hurricane Warning watch means hurricane conditions are expected in the warning area within the next 24 hours. Some people do not believe that small hurricanes like a Category 1 or 2 can be very dangerous and do a lot of damage, and these are the people most likely to be injured or killed by them.

Always prepare before a Watch or Warning is issued.

- For your safety, be ready to evacuate when the watch comes or, earlier if so notified by the proper officials.
- Remember property can be replaced, but a life cannot.



## Making the Plans to Survive

### How do I Make a Hurricane Plan?

Like all dangerous storms, you must develop and test your Hurricane plan before the hurricane season. This is the time to make any changes to the plan before you find out the hard way that the plan doesn't work like it is supposed to. As a general guideline, there are 5 parts that every Hurricane Plan should cover (there are more, but these are the most basic):

- Where you will go and how you will get to a distant safe location.
- How to decide if it is safe to shelter in place, and how you will minimize risks associated with that decision.

- Tools, supplies, and equipment that you should have on hand to get you through the emergency.
- Who will be included in your plans and how you will all hone and maintain your skills.
- How you will practice and keep your hurricane preparedness plans up to date and as useful as possible.

### *What Do I Include in Plans for Handicapped or Special Needs People?*

It is very important to have a plan in place for the handicapped or special needs members of your family before the storm. `

- If the family member needs a wheelchair or a stretcher there must be a vehicle to carry them in.
- Must have portable and easy to carry support equipment.

If you think you will need assistance before, during, or after the storm, talk to family, friends, or others that will be part of the support team.

### *What Should I have in My Hurricane Supply Kit?*

It is very important to have a plan in place for the handicapped or special needs members of your family before the storm.

- If the family member needs a wheelchair or a stretcher there must be a vehicle to carry them in.
- Must have portable and easy to carry support equipment.
- If you think you will need assistance before, during, or after the storm, talk to family, friends, or others that will be part of the support team.

### *Basic Hurricane Supply Kit*

Be sure that you have fresh supplies for this hurricane season. This supply kit should last a minimum of two weeks.

#### **Food**

You need to store enough food so that your supply will last 7-14 days for each family member and other group members. The following is just a guide for the types of food that you might use in the food supply types. The choice is yours.

- Non-perishable canned or packaged foods and juices.
- Specialized foods for infants, babies, or elderly individuals.
- Snack foods like peanut butter, breakfast bars, crackers, canned fruit, raisins and other dried fruits.
- Hand operated can opener.
- Cooking stove, cooking tools, and fuel.
- Paper plates, paper cups, and plastic eating utensils.

#### **Water**

You must have at least 1 gallon of water per person per day for 7 to 14 days. Without this, you will run the risk of dehydration and other problems. Also you will need 1-2 gallons of water a day for cooking and personal hygiene.

#### ***Important papers and documents kept in a waterproof container.***

- Cash in the form of small denomination bills and coins.
- Keys to your home, cars, or any vehicles.
- Insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, and any other important papers needed to prove residency.

- Personal phone book with important numbers.

### *Extra Tools and Supplies for The Hurricane Kit*

- Flashlights and extra batteries
- Trash bags
- Duct tape
- A sledge hammer and an ax so that you can escape your home if you get trapped in the house during the storm.
- Bedding and pillows to sleep on
- Seasonal clothing with rain gear and sturdy shoes
- A good first aid kit with all necessary medications and prescription drugs
- Special items for elderly or babies if needed
- Moist wipes, toiletries, and hygiene supplies
- Bug spray and bug bite remedies
- Sunscreen to prevent sunburn
- Tarps to cover holes or broken windows if needed
- Bleach and water purification tablets for purification of water
- Waterless soaps or skin cleaners to help save water.
- Battery operated AM/Fm radio with a hand crank with a weather band to keep up on what is happening
- Hand held Ham Radio with extra batteries
- At least 5 five-gallon buckets (multiple uses including a makeshift clothes washer (requires 2 buckets), rat catcher, and toilet)
- At least 10 plastic drinking bottles (multiple uses including water purification and other needs)
- Fully charged cell phone with portable hot spot WI-FI booster
- Toys, books, and games to help pass the time

- Cardboard box and tin foil (to make a solar cooker)
- Keep your vehicles fully fueled at all times before the hurricane strikes. You may have to evacuate at a moment's notice.

### ***Pet Care Needs***

The size of your pets and the number of them must be considered when stocking the hurricane kit. Determine how much water your pet will need per day and stock enough dry and/or canned food to last them for 7-14 days. Also have on hand any pet medications that will be needed for this time period. Other items that you should have on hand include:

- A carrier or a cage for each pet to store them in
- A muzzle or a collar with a leash for each animal
- All identification and current immunization records for each pet

These items are crucial because if you're going to a pet-friendly shelter, they may be required before your pet will be admitted.

### **How do I Know if it is Safe to Shelter in Place?**

Even though many lives have been lost because people choose to shelter in place during a hurricane, there remains considerable controversy about whether to evacuate or not. The information provided below is subject to interpretation and may not apply to every situation.

Most evacuation orders are issued because of the threat posed by storm surges and damaging wind speeds. A storm surge is defined as an abnormal and dangerous rise in water pushed to shore by strong winds from a tropical storm or hurricane. When evaluating your home and area for suitability for sheltering in place, evaluating the following in terms of impact of storm surges and winds:

- Know how much wind speed your home can withstand before damage begins, and the

maximum wind velocity that your home can withstand before it will be destroyed.

- Don't forget to assess trees and nearby power lines that may hit your home or cause other damage. Heavy rains on soil that does not drain can also cause trees to uproot or fall over when strong winds arrive.
- Flying debris from any unsecured objects can also become deadly missiles that damage your home even if it would otherwise be safe to shelter in during the hurricane.
- You must also know the storm surge risk for your property.
- Know how much water must rise above the mean high tide before you must evacuate. If your home is located in a flood zone, you should also know how much rainfall will cause flooding.
- Even though your property is on the high ground and above the normal storm surge, it still might be to your advantage to evacuate if the hurricane predictions indicate stronger than normal storm surges.
- If your home is built above a creek, stream, or river, the water could overflow the banks and flood surrounding areas.
- Most coastal states have storm surge maps available to the general public to help the home owner make the decision to stay or leave.
- Remember that most hurricane deaths are caused by the storm surge.
- If the rainfall prediction is greater than what is safe for your home and area, evacuate early and quickly before the flooding starts and cuts off the evacuation route.





## **When Disaster Strikes**

### **What Should I Do as a Hurricane Approaches?**

If you are unable to leave the expected landfall zone or surrounding areas, you will have to rely on your emergency hurricane kit. Make sure your home, back yard, and the designated safe room are all as ready as possible. Here are some tips to help you buckle down.

- Board up windows
- Designate areas for bathroom needs, cooking, and sleeping.
- Keep your emergency tool kit and supplies for minor repairs in the room where you will be sheltering. Be ready to move to, and have supplies on, the upper floors or roof to wait for rescue. If your attic doesn't have windows, be sure to store sledge hammers,

axes, life jackets, rope, and tarps there so your family doesn't get trapped in the attic and drown there.

- Have on your person a good pocket knife or a multi-tool.
- In a tool box, have a good set of hand tools with nails and other fasteners.
- Have ropes, buckets, towels, and tarps to fix water leaks.
- To help preserve food stored in freezers and refrigerators, turn the temperature controls to the coldest setting possible. This will help keep the food a little longer if the power is lost.
- Before evacuation, call a good friend or family member that lives outside of the storm area to let them know what your hurricane plans are.
- Be sure that your hurricane survival kit is fully stocked and ready to go.
- Be sure that all battery operated devices are charged and ready to go.
- Make extra ice and bag it in the event power is lost to the freezers and refrigerators. Store it in coolers or in extra freezer space. Keep salt on hand to extend the usefulness of the ice.
- If you have a generator, test it away from the house (never in or near the house). Be sure you have plenty of fuel for the generator.
- Be sure all available functional vehicles are full of fuel.
- Secure all yard furniture, tools, and yard decorative items and anything else that could become a flying missile in high winds.
- Secure all boats, campers, RV's and other "toys" that can't be stored in a garage in the safest place in your yard by tying them down or anchoring them down. Remember to take into account that there may be some storm surge.
- Secure all doors and windows with locks and shutters or use plywood.
- Also plywood the garage doors and windows.
- Store your cars or other motor vehicles in the garage to further protect them from the storm.

- Move items from the lower floors to higher floors if they can be water damaged and you are not taking them with you.
- If you can, seal all important small items that you're leaving behind into water proof containers and move them to the higher floors.
- Caulk and fill bathtubs and sinks to help store extra water for personal hygiene.
- Do your laundry, wash dishes, and take a shower before the storm arrives to save water.
- Close and fasten gates so they will not swing in the wind.
- Close chimney flues.
- Close and lock all inside doors and cabinets.
- Cover and protect all skylights on the roof.
- Lock down and cover all roof turbines.
- Make sure you have adequate insurance on your property, including flooding and water surge protection coverage.

*If you have a boat, prep it before the hurricane:*

- Remove the life jackets and first aid kit to the house in the event that they may be needed.
- Remove all cushions, boat tops, and other loose items and store them in the garage.
- Tie down all hatch covers.
- If you have a boathouse, turn off all exterior electricity to boat house.
- If your boat is moored at a dock and cannot be removed, tie down the boat with as many dock lines as possible to keep the boat safe.

## What Do I do During the Storm?

- Stay inside and away from all windows.

- Always be alert for tornadoes and high wind shear warnings. These are extremely high wind conditions and can kill you or destroy your home or other buildings.
- Do not play in flood waters or storm surge. It can be deadly to humans or pets.
- Warning! Be aware of the eye of the storm. It may be calm, but the winds can pick up speed very quickly once the eye passes over and you could be caught outside in possibly deadly conditions.
- Always unplug electric and electronic devices that are not in use to avoid electrical surge damages.

## What Should I Do After the Storm Leaves the Area?

- Avoid downed power lines, know power line safety.
- Know what food is safe to eat and for how long it will be safe to eat before it spoils due to lack of refrigeration.
- Know how to use a chain saw safely.
- Know how to use your electric generator safely.
- Know how to safely treat drinking water and when to do so.
- Listen to the local news casts regularly.
- Always use flashlights instead of candles to reduce the risk of starting a fire.
- Inspect your house for damage as soon as it is safe to do so.
- Stay off the roads as much as possible for your safety. There may be washed out roads, power lines down, flood waters in your area, or other unsafe conditions.
- If you have a pool, it may have to be super chlorinated before it can be used again safely.
- Beware of heatstroke. After a hurricane, there are usually days of very hot humid weather. You must take steps to keep yourself and others cool. Remember to wear light colored clothing with a hat, drink plenty of liquids, and eat smaller, lighter meals. Dampen your clothes and yourself to use evaporation to help cool you.

- Beware of stray pets and wild animals. In their disoriented condition they might attack humans out of fear.
- Under no conditions should you try to capture animals or corner them after the hurricane. Call the animal control of your city or county.
- If any animal bites you, seek medical attention immediately.
- If you get snake bitten, try to identify the type of snake and if it is poisonous so that the correct anti-venom can be given.
- Rats can be a problem after a hurricane. Secure all food supplies and keep traps up and in good operating condition.
- Remove all animal remains on your property.
- If you find displaced hazardous chemical containers on your property, stay away and call your fire department to inspect them and remove them.

## How do I Evacuate from a Hurricane Area?

If you must drive during or after a hurricane, be aware that there are many risks. Unless it is a life or death emergency, **DO NOT** drive during a hurricane! Here are a few things that you must always keep in mind:

- Always assume that all floodwater is contaminated. Sewage and other toxic waste can eat at your skin or cause infections if you come in contact with them.
- When driving and the road ahead of you is flooded, **turn around and don't drown!**
- Never drive through flooded roadways. There might be deep water or sections of the roadway that have been wash out.
- If your vehicle stalls out, leave it immediately and get to high ground.

If you must evacuate from your home, go to a shelter or leave the area. Here are a few tips that will help:

### *If you go to a shelter*

- Before leaving your house, videotape or photograph your home interior. Regardless of which method you use, make sure that you capture each room from all angles so that all walls, windows, personal items, floors, and ceilings are captured. Later on you may need these photos for filing insurance claims.
- Store important papers in a safe place and send certified copies to family members outside of the hurricane area.
- Shelters usually do not allow alcoholic drinks, pets or firearms. The exception to this rule is if your pet is a service animal. By federal law they can go anywhere with you. There are some shelters that are pet-friendly, but not many.
- Have pillows, blankets or sleeping bags, folding chairs, and cots for each family member.
- Bring extra clothing and rain gear.
- Bring personal hygiene products.
- Bring books and games to help pass the time.
- Have certified copies of all important family paperwork like identification, medical information, and a copy of your home mortgage with home plot information.
- All necessary medications in original containers for each family member.

### *If you must evacuate to an area outside of the hurricane warning area*

- Always stay informed with the latest weather news and other important news bulletins. This includes keeping up with all reports for areas that you plan to travel through. Remember, others will also be evacuating from different areas, so traffic patterns may be more congested than usual. The earlier you leave, the better.
- Listen for orders to evacuate and which routes to use, and follow that advice.
- Know the locations of emergency shelters.
- Be ready to evacuate immediately when weather warnings and watches are issued.

- Leave early – this is the safest way to avoid being stranded, not just by the weather, but traffic jams, gasoline shortages, and trying to deal with panicked people sharing the roadways with you. Leaving a few days early is nothing compared to trying to evacuate a city at the last minute, or trying to pass through other areas where city evacuees are expected to be moving through.
- Be prepared for delays.
- When an emergency evacuation is ordered is given, most bridges and tunnels will try to stay open until the evacuation is over, however they may also wind up closing or with restricted use. Even if these facilities are not gated, barricaded, or otherwise physically closed to traffic, it does not mean the bridge or tunnel is a safe way to go. If the conditions worsen and these escape routes are closed, be ready to use your backup routes to safety.
- Always consider your own personal safety before using bridges or tunnels during very severe weather conditions. This includes your ability to maintain composure on a swaying bridge combined with other stressful factors. If you think you cannot handle going over the bridge, choose another route rather than cause an accident that endangers others.
- If a road is blocked with a barricade do not, under any circumstances, go around it. The road is closed for a good reason.

### *Where do I go if I have to evacuate?*

These plans should be made well before the hurricane season and reviewed on a yearly basis at the beginning of the hurricane season.

- Keep a list of friends and family within 10 – 15 miles that are likely to be outside of more common storm surge areas. You should also keep a list of hotels and other

accommodations that you can book easily. These arrangements should be made and honored as soon as you suspect you need to take shelter away from home. Remember, others will be thinking about the same situation and booking a room is always done based on who makes the arrangements first.

- Have another list of friends, family, and hotels within a 50-mile radius. If local impacts are expected to be heavy, aim for these places of refuge and leave before evacuation orders are given. At worst, you will catch up with old family, have a nice visit, or take a mini-vacation. At best – you will be out of the impact area, away from the traffic jams, and safe.
- Keep a third list of friends, family, and long-term stay hotels in other states and regions. You should have at least one safe harbor in each of the 8 compass directions where there is no expectation of hurricane damage, plus enough money set aside until you can get back to work and resume some semblance of a normal life.

If the storm becomes a worst-case, category 5, massive flooding scenario, be ready for catastrophic loss in your own area. You'll need enough money and a place to live until you can either rebuild or relocate.





## **The Aftermath is a New Beginning**

### **When is it Safe to Return Home?**

- Every situation is different. Some storms may not be that strong, so you can return in just a few days. Other situations, such as Hurricane Katrina, may result in displacement for weeks, months or even years.
- Agencies that are in charge of the hurricane emergency will notify individuals when they can return home.
- If you return home before it is safe to do so, you could expose yourself and your family to danger, or be arrested as a possible looter. While there are many good people that will help others in a crisis, there are also criminals and thugs that will take advantage. Going back into an area just because you think the storm waters are receding enough can truly expose you to problems you never dreamed possible.

## How Do I Clean Up My Home After a Hurricane?

Hurricane clean-up can be a messy, dangerous job. Not only are there visible hazards, there is also the risk of biologic and chemical hazards such as toxins, bacteria, viruses and fungi that have seeped into the ground and contaminated property via floodwaters and wind. Always wear safety gear while you clean, including:

- Hard hats to protect against bumps to your head.
- To protect eyes, wear safety goggles.
- Wear heavy gloves to prevent hand cuts.
- Wear waterproof boots with steel or Kevlar toes.
- Use heavier clothes that will protect your skin from toxins and debris
- After a hurricanes or floods, molds can be a serious problem. You must clean it up and prevent it from getting a foothold in your home.
- To prevent mold, you must dry out and clean up the house within 24-48 hours of contact with flood water.
- Open all doors and windows to air out the house.
- If you have electricity, use fans to help dry the wet areas.
- Use soap and water to clean all wet surfaces and wet items.
- Fix all water leaks in the roof, plumbing, and walls.
- Throw out anything that cannot be dried or cleaned quickly. An example of this is wet furniture or carpets.
- If you spot mold, use mixture of bleach and water to clean it up (1 cup household bleach to 1 gallon of water).
- Always open windows and doors before using a bleach solution in a closed space.
- Wear rubber gloves to protect your hands when using a bleach solution.
- Remember that flood waters should be considered contaminated and could be carrying germs. Wash and sanitize all toys and personal items to ensure that these items are

clean. Make a cleaning solution of 1 cup of bleach to 5 gallons of water. Wash these items carefully with the cleaning solution, then let the personal items and the toys air-dry.

- Some toys like stuffed animals and baby toys may not be able to be cleaned enough to kill the germs that are on them.
- Always throw out any toys or personal items that can't be cleaned enough to kill germs that are on them.
- Always pace yourself when cleaning up after a hurricane. Take frequent breaks and stay hydrated.
- To keep from being overwhelmed. Decide which cleaning tasks must be done first and focus on them.
- Try to work with other people so you can divide up the tasks, save time, and reduce the risk of injury or overlooking important aspects of cleaning up.
- Get help to lift heavy or bulky items.
- If things get to be too much for you emotionally, get help from counselors, therapists, ministers, or friends that can help you cope with the stress. Don't refuse help for your mental problems and just hope it will go away. It will not!

Hurricanes are very dangerous storms and must be respected. Failure to plan for them is dangerous and foolhardy, and can even be fatal. Be smart and develop your hurricane safety plan and know what to do and how to do it.

## Resources

### Survivopedia Articles

[When Nature Predicts, Learn To Read the Signs](#)

[12 SHTF Warning Signs from Animals](#)

[When Summer Turns Into Disaster](#)

[The Basics Of Tornado Preparedness](#)

[5 DIY Ways to Power Your Home During Floods](#)

[How To Survive And Escape From A Collapsed Building](#)

[What To Ask For From A Lifesaving Shelter](#)

### Other Resources

<http://www.haveahurricaneplan.com/guide.pdf>

[Eyeing the Storm](#)

<http://www.livescience.com/46575-hurricane-survival-guide.html>