

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

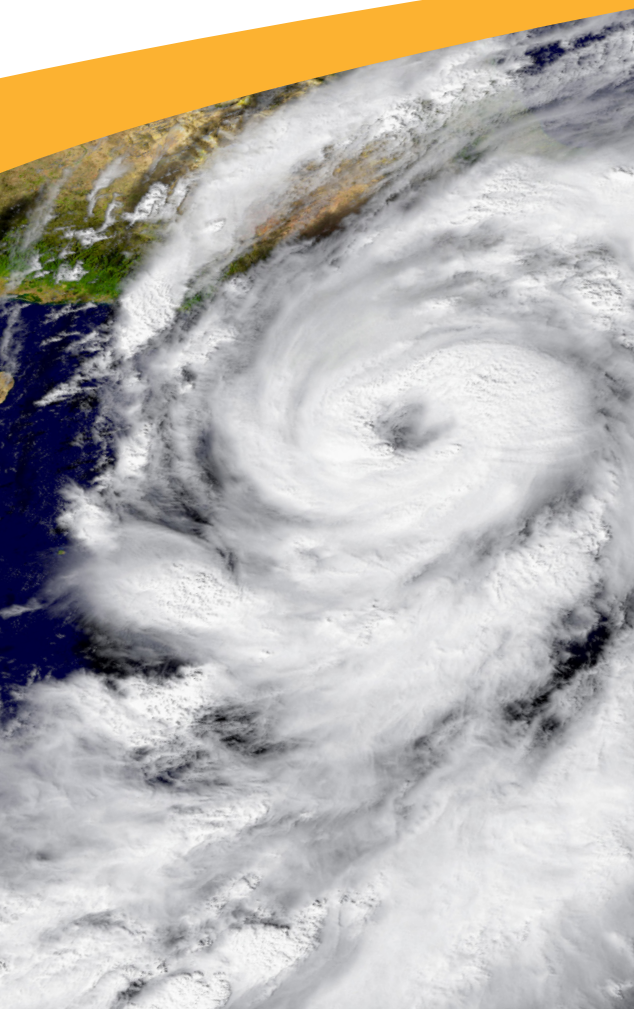


BE AWARE

Hurricane season is **June 1** through **November 30**.

The season involves any, or all, of the following storms:

- **Tropical Depression:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 38 mph or less.
- **Tropical Storm:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph.
- **Hurricane:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 74 mph or higher.
- **Major Hurricane:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 111 mph or higher, meaning a Category 3, 4, or 5 on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale.



WHAT TO DO BEFORE A HURRICANE

- Be prepared to evacuate your home if instructed by local police or other authorities.
- Plan how you will communicate with family if you lose power.
- Charge your cell phone so you have a full battery. Consider buying a solar or battery powered phone charger.
- Fill up your car with gas.
- Bring pets inside. If instructed to evacuate, take your pets with you.
- Anchor objects unsafe to bring inside (e.g. propane tanks).
- Bring objects inside that could become projectiles in high winds (e.g. patio furniture and garbage cans).
- If you have a generator, prepare it for use. However, do not bring a generator inside your home or workplace!
- If your property is flood-prone, place sandbags in appropriate locations.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS



BUILD A KIT

An emergency kit is a container of items your family may need during or after an emergency. Your emergency kit should be in an easily accessible place. Be sure to consider seniors, children, and pets when preparing your emergency supply kit. For more information, visit ready.dc.gov/kit

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation (make sure to include a can opener)
- Food, at least a three day supply of non-perishable food; manual can opener
- Radio, either battery-powered or hand-crank, and extra batteries (make sure you charge your batteries at least once a year)
- 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
- Emergency blankets
- Local maps
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Cash
- Cell phone charger, solar or battery powered
- Copies of important documents (insurance policies, prescriptions, phone lists)



STAY INFORMED

AlertDC sends you emergency alert and warning notifications from the District via email or text. Sign up now at alertdc.dc.gov



BE AWARE

The District is vulnerable to a variety of hazards: natural (hurricanes, floods and winter storms); acts of terrorism (biological attacks and active shooter incidents); and technological (hazardous material incidents and chemical/fuel explosions). Each hazard presents different challenges, so you and your family need to be prepared before, during, and after.



MAKE A PLAN

Having a plan is the most important way you can help yourself in the case of a disaster or emergency. ReadyDC shares tips on plans for family, seniors, people with disabilities and/or functional needs, pets, and home.



For more information about ReadyDC, contact DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management:

202-727-6161

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