

PREPARE - Getting ready

STEP 1: Put Together an Emergency Kit

Always remember the six basics;

Water	Food	First Aid	Clothing / Bedding / Sanitation	Tools/ Emergency Supplies	Special Items
-------	------	-----------	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------

Food (At least a 3-Day supply for everyone – including pets)

- Canned ready to eat foods (fruit, meats, vegetables, milk, juice, soup etc.)
- Non-electric can opener
- Water (At least three gallons of water per person)
- Peanut Butter
- Crackers and Protein Bars
- _____
- _____

First Aid

- First aid handbook
- First aid kit (Band-aids, bandages, thermometer, gloves, ointment, etc.)
- Essential medications
- Prescription medications
- List of medications for each person
- _____
- _____

Clothing/Bedding/Sanitation

- Extra pair of glasses and sunglasses
- Protective clothing, rainwear
- Extra Clothes and Shoes
- Hat/gloves
- Bedding/Sleeping Bag
- Toilet paper/wipes
- Soap
- Disinfectant/Bleach
- Personal Hygiene items
- _____
- _____

Tools/Emergency Supplies

- Flashlight/lantern and battery powered radio
- Extra Batteries
- Utility knife, shut off wrench, and pliers
- Tape, paper and pencil
- Compass
- Insect Repellent
- _____
- _____

Special Items

- Baby bottle, diapers, formula, toys, coloring books etc.
- Form of Identification
- Pet food
- Car keys and keys to the place you may be going (friend's or relative's home)
- Written instructions on how to turn off electricity, gas and water if authorities advise you to do so (Remember, you'll need a professional to turn them back on.)
- Important papers in a portable, waterproof container:
 - Driver's license or personal identification
 - Social Security card
 - Proof of residence (deed or lease)
 - Insurance policies
 - Birth and marriage certificates
 - Stocks, bonds and other negotiable certificates
 - Wills, deeds, and copies of recent tax returns
- _____
- _____

Family Plan

STEP 2: Make Preparations

Prepare a personal evacuation/response plan

- Identify ahead of time where you could go if you are told to evacuate. Choose several places- a friend's home in another town, a hotel or a shelter.
- Keep handy the telephone numbers of these places as well as a road map of your locality. You may need to take alternative or unfamiliar routes if major roads are closed or clogged and cell phones may not work.
- Listen to NOAA (www.noaa.gov) Weather Radio or local radio or TV stations for evacuation instructions. If advised to evacuate, do so immediately.
- Prepare to bring inside any lawn furniture, outdoor decorations or ornaments, trash cans, hanging plants, and anything else that can be picked up by the wind.
- Prepare to cover all windows of your home. If shutters have not been installed, use precut plywood as described in following pages. Note: Tape does not prevent windows from breaking, so taping windows is not recommended.
- Fill your car's gas tank.
- Recheck manufactured home tie-downs.
- If you are not advised to evacuate, stay indoors, away from windows.
- Be aware that the calm "eye" is deceptive; the storm is not over. The worst part of the storm will happen once the eye passes over and the winds blow from the opposite direction. Trees, shrubs, buildings, and other objects damaged by the first winds can be broken or destroyed by the second winds.
- Stay away from flood waters. If you come upon a flooded road, turn around and go another way. If you are caught on a flooded road and waters are rising rapidly around you, get out of the car and climb to higher ground.
- Leave trees and shrubs alone. If you did not cut away dead or diseased branches or limb from trees and shrubs, leave them alone. Local rubbish collection services will not have time before the storm to pick anything up.
- Turn off electricity and water. Turn off electricity at the main fuse or breaker and turn off water at the main valve.
- Leave natural gas on. Unless local officials advise otherwise, leave natural gas on because you will need it for heating and cooking when you return home. If you turn gas off, a licensed professional is required to turn it back on, and it may take weeks for a professional to respond.
- Turn off propane gas service. Propane tanks often become dislodged in disasters.
- Cover the outside of windows with shutters or plywood. Use shutters that are rated to provide significant protection from windblown debris, or fit plywood coverings over all windows. Tape does not prevent windows from breaking. All tape does is prevent windows from shattering. Using tape on windows is not recommended.
- Make a visual or written record of all of your household possessions. Record model and serial numbers. This list could help you prove the value of what you owned if those possessions are damaged or destroyed and can assist you to claim deductions on taxes. Do this for all items in your home, including expensive items such as sofas, chairs, tables, beds, chests, and any other

furniture too heavy to move. Store a copy of the record somewhere away from home, such as in a safe deposit box.

The elderly, special needs and chronically ill are particularly vulnerable during an emergency such as a hurricane. Power outages can pose serious threats to someone dependent on respiratory devices or other medical devices.

Follow these steps to ease the difficulty of accommodating a special needs family member in an emergency:

- If a family member needs assistance with evacuation, register with local emergency authorities before hurricane season begins. Emergency response crews will not be able to help you when the storm arrives.
- Register with your local power company. Most companies do give special priority to homebound patients, but it may take time before crews can begin work.
- Make prior arrangements with your physician and medical supplier if you require medical devices that operate on electricity.
- If you require oxygen, check with your supplier about emergency plans.
- If you have to evacuate, make sure to bring any medications, special equipment, walkers, wheelchairs and other aids, along with written care instructions.
- Help those with special needs by preparing their homes and property for emergencies, shopping for supplies and writing a disaster plan.

If you do not evacuate, have a list of friends and family members with their phone numbers so you can make quick arrangements to stay with them in the event of a power outage. And identify the nearest hospital that could help provide emergency electricity for life-support equipment. Your family members living in a nursing home also need assistance to prepare for a storm.

Plan for pets and livestock

- If your animals are evacuating with you, don't forget any necessary food, water and medications.
- Depending on your pet there may be additional needs (litter/litter box, trash bags, leashes, pet carrier, toys etc.)
- Cattle and horse owners should move their livestock on their property that is least likely to flood where a herd can quickly and easily be moved when a hurricane threatens the area.
- It's important for livestock owners who plan to evacuate with a trailer of animals to leave as early as possible. During hurricane evacuations it is not unusual for routes to close to trailer and towing traffic.
- Bring health records, food, special medications, bridles, leads, rope, etc. For horses, be sure to bring proof of EIA testing.

STEP 3: Stay Informed

The Jefferson Davis Parish Sheriff's Office has resources for the public to stay up to date during an event. You can sign up for text alerts by doing the following:



To Register for

Jefferson Davis Parish Sheriff's Office Alerts

- Go to www.nixle.com
- Click "Sign up"
- Create an Account
- Enter an e-mail address & phone number where you would like to receive messages.
- Click "I Accept. Sign me up!"
- Enter your home address to receive local messages

-OR-

Text JDPSO to 888777

You can also check our website at www.jdpso.org or by searching for us on Facebook



Facebook @jeffdavissheriff

The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) will also provide state-wide information through the following social media platforms



Twitter @gohsep



Facebook @gohsep



YouTube www.youtube.com/gohsep