

Hurricanes

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Hurricanes are dangerous and can cause major damage because of storm surge, wind damage, and flooding. They can happen along any U.S. coast or in any territory in the Atlantic or Pacific oceans. Storm surge is historically the leading cause of hurricane-related deaths in the United States.

Eastern Pacific Hurricane Season: May 15-November 30.

Atlantic Hurricane Season: June 1-November 30.

Central Pacific Hurricane Season: June 1-November 30.

Prepare for Hurricanes

Know your Hurricane Risk

Hurricanes are not just a coastal problem. Find out how rain, wind, water could happen where you live [so you can start preparing now](#).

Make an Emergency Plan

Make sure everyone in your household knows and understands [your hurricane plan](#). Discuss the latest [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) guidance on Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) and how it may affect your hurricane planning. Don't forget a plan for the [office, kids' daycare, and anywhere you frequent](#).**COVID-19**

Gather Supplies

[Have enough supplies](#) for your household, include medication, disinfectant supplies, [cloth face coverings](#), [pet supplies](#) in your go bag or car trunk. **COVID-19**

Those with Disabilities

If you or anyone in your household is an [individual with a disability](#) identify if you may need additional help during an emergency.

Know your Evacuation Zone

You may have to evacuate quickly due to a hurricane. [Learn your evacuation routes](#), practice with household, pets, and identify where you will stay.

Recognize Warnings and Alerts

Have several ways to receive alerts. [Download the FEMA app](#) and receive real-time alerts from the National Weather Service for up to five locations nationwide. [Sign up for community alerts](#) in your area and be aware of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA)- which requires no-sign up.

Review Important Documents

Make sure your [insurance policies and personal documents](#) like ID are up to date. Make copies and keep them in a secure password protected digital space.

Strengthen your Home

Declutter drains and gutters, bring in outside furniture, consider hurricane shutters.

Get Tech Ready

[Keep your cell phone charged](#) when you know a hurricane is in the forecast and purchase backup charging devices to power electronics.

Help your Neighborhood

Check with neighbors, [senior adults](#), or those [who may need additional help](#) securing hurricane plans to see how you can be of assistance to others

Prepare your Business

Make sure your business has a [continuity plan](#) to continue operating when disaster strikes.

Stay Safe During a Hurricane

Stay Informed

- Listen for emergency information and alerts.
- If told to evacuate by local officials, do so immediately.

Dealing with the Weather

- Determine how best to protect yourself from high winds and flooding.
- 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.



Personal Safety

- If you must go to a community or group shelter remember to follow the latest guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for protecting yourself and family from COVID-19. [COVID-19](#)

- Be prepared to take cleaning items with you like soap, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, or general household cleaning supplies to disinfect surfaces you may need to touch regularly. COVID-19
- Maintain at least 6 feet between you and persons not part of your immediate family while at the shelter [by avoiding crowds or gathering in groups] as much as possible. COVID-19
- Anyone over 2 years old should use a cloth face covering while at these facilities. COVID-19
- Only use generators outdoors and away from windows.