

Hurricane Preparedness Guide for Florida Property Owners

Introduction:

Living in Florida means being prepared for the possibility of hurricanes. These powerful storms can cause extensive damage to property and pose risks to personal safety. Being well-prepared is essential for protecting yourself, your loved ones, and your property. This comprehensive guide provides step-by-step instructions on what to do before, during, and after a hurricane.

Before the Storm:

- Develop a Hurricane Preparedness Plan:
 - Create a family emergency plan that includes evacuation routes, emergency contacts, and meeting points.
 - Discuss the plan with all family members and ensure everyone knows their roles and responsibilities.
- Secure Your Property:
 - Trim trees and shrubs to reduce the risk of branches breaking and causing damage.
 - Reinforce windows and doors with storm shutters or plywood.
 - Check and repair the roof for any loose shingles or damage.
- Stock Emergency Supplies:
 - Have a hurricane supply kit ready, including:
 - Non-perishable food items (enough for at least 3 days)
 - Water (1 gallon per person per day)
 - Flashlights and batteries
 - First aid kit
 - o Portable radio
 - Blankets and sleeping bags
 - o Personal hygiene items
 - o Important documents (insurance policies, IDs, etc.)



IV. Secure Outdoor Items:

- Bring in outdoor furniture, decorations, and other items that could become projectiles in high winds.
- Anchor down or store any outdoor equipment or machinery.

v. Review Insurance Coverage:

- O Ensure your property insurance policy is up-to-date and provides
- o adequate coverage for hurricanes and flood damage.
- Consider purchasing flood insurance if you are in a flood-prone area

During the Storm:

VI. Stay Informed:

- Monitor weather updates from reliable sources such as the National Hurricane Center or local news stations.
- Follow evacuation orders issued by local authorities if necessary.

VII. Stay Indoors:

- Seek shelter in an interior room away from windows, preferably on the lowest level of your home.
- Avoid using candles or open flames during the storm.

Be Prepared for Power Outages:

- Use flashlights or battery-powered lanterns instead of candles.
- Turn off major appliances to prevent damage from power surges when the electricity is restored.
- Use generators outdoors and follow all safety precautions.

IX. Listen for Updates and Alerts:

 Pay attention to emergency alerts and follow instructions from local authorities.



After the Storm:

X. Assess Damage:

- Once it is safe to do so, inspect your property for damage.
- Check for structural damage, roof leaks, and flooding.

XI. Document Damage:

 Take photos or videos of any damage to your property for insurance claims.

XII. Contact Your Insurance Provider:

- Report any damage to your insurance company as soon as possible.
- Keep records of all communication and documentation related to your claim.

XIII. Make Temporary Repairs:

- Make temporary repairs to prevent further damage, such as covering broken windows or patching roof leaks.
- Keep receipts for any materials or services used for temporary repairs.

XIV. Stay Safe During Cleanup:

- Be cautious of hazards such as downed power lines, debris, and standing water.
- Use protective gear such as gloves and masks when cleaning up debris.

XV. Seek Assistance if Needed:

 Reach out to local authorities or relief organizations for assistance if you need help with cleanup or temporary housing.

As always Repel Dry will be available to assist you with any emergency repairs or reconstruction needs you may have.