

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF A HURRICANE

Hurricanes are terrifying weather events that in Tuscaloosa, we won't be in the clear for until November 30th. This date marks the end of the Atlantic hurricane season, and with that in mind, it's always a good idea to reflect on what you should do and have if a hurricane touches down.

Here is a disaster relief checklist provided by your local team of property restoration experts at Restoration 1 of Tuscaloosa.

FOR YOUR HOME:

- ☐ Inspect your roof now, long ahead of time, to make sure it's in good condition and will not be vulnerable to the heavy winds, or provide a way for water to leak in.
- ☐ Clean your gutters out to ensure proper drainage of water away from your home.
- ☐ If you have time and the hurricane is expected to be Category 3 or higher, you should consider boarding up your windows for added protection.
- ☐ Inspect your foundation to make sure there are no gaps or cracks that could let water in.
- ☐ Pick up some sandbags to place around entrances to your home if flooding is anticipated.
- ☐ Make sure your sump pump works, if you have one. Service or clean these routinely, as they could be a home-saver in a dangerous storm.
- ☐ Reinforce your garage door to serve as another barrier of protection for your house.
- ☐ If you have to evacuate, be sure to disconnect your water and gas lines and turn off your electricity.



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FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY:

- ☐ Have a plan of action ready to go for you and your family members. This includes where you should meet in your home, where you will go if you have to evacuate, who will be in charge of what, etc.
- ☐ If you have pets, they come with you or stay with you. They are not to be left outside or behind.
- ☐ Have your most important documents in a safe, waterproof container. This could include: birth certificates, the deed to your home, your will, passports, social security cards, and other crucial documentation.
- ☐ Prepare a stocked first-aid kit to have on hand. You never know what could happen in the midst of evacuating, and you can never be too prepared.
- ☐ Additionally, make sure that any medications that you or your family members need are packed.
- ☐ Pack a few flashlights with backup batteries on hand, as no power is to be expected.
- ☐ Have a cell phone with a charger to contact loved ones and emergency personnel, as well as to keep track of the storm's progress.
- ☐ Pack basic hygiene supplies for when you have to leave in a hurry.
- ☐ If you have to evacuate, be sure to disconnect your water and gas lines and turn off your electricity.
- ☐ Grab some clothes to change into if you need to, including warmer pieces.
- ☐ Pack a substantial amount of non-perishable food for you and your family.
- ☐ Have lots of water – plan for one gallon per person per day.

