

Hurricane / Disaster Kit

Hurricane Kit

Assemble this now. Put it aside in a special box in the garage or some other area. Keep heat sensitive items inside home and rotate stock throughout the season. Batteries can go in the refrigerator. Get these items now. When a storm threatens, lines will be long and supplies short.

Equipment

Flashlights - Buy one for everyone in the home and make sure they are of good quality.

Battery powered radio - Am/Fm radio a must. Weather radio is good. Police scanner may come in use after the storm to help keep tabs on looting.

Re-chargeable battery-operated lanterns - Candles and kerosene lanterns are fire hazards. You can use them but don't fall asleep or leave them unattended!

Clock - Wind-up or battery-operated

Work Clothing - A clean change of clothes for everyone. Store in water tight plastic bags.

Rain gear - Find in surplus stores.

Sturdy swamp boots - Flooding should be expected.

Sturdy working gloves - You'll need these for the clean up after the storm.

TV antenna - An inexpensive model, to use when cable goes out.

Working fire extinguishers - You should have one or two in your home at all times not just when a hurricane is expected. Inspect seal and check charge gage. Should be a class ABC!

Boca Grande
Fire Department
964-2908

Consumables Supplies

Extra batteries - Flashlight, lantern, radios, clock.

Extra bulbs - Make sure they fit the flashlights you buy.

Toilet paper - Gotta cover everything!

Matches - Good ones, Ohio blue tip, lighters, they are cheap so get a bunch.

Paper towels

Plastic garbage bags - Get quality for storage, get cheap for trash, double bag garbage. Get a bunch.

Documentation

Map of the area - Up to date and use to plan escape. Avoid rivers and streams.

List of phone numbers - Make this ahead of time and test the numbers.

Homeowners insurance policy - Talk to your agent about your coverage and keep a copy of your policy in a safe place and keep one with you in a zip lock bag.

Life insurance policy - keep a copy of your policy in a safe place and keep one with you in a zip lock bag.

Car insurance policy - keep a copy of your policy in a safe place and keep one with you in a zip lock bag.

Proof of Residence - Your drivers license should have your correct address. If not, the police may not let you back into the area.

Hardware

Hand tools - Hammer, screwdrivers to use now, shovel and pickax for after the storm

Scissors - What you have should be ok.

Plywood - 4' x 8' sheets of plywood 5/8 " to 3/4 " thick to put over windows. Ask for exterior plywood - you should have this way ahead of time

1/4" machine screw sockets and screws or other hardware - To mount plywood over all windows and openings in your home.

Plastic sheeting to cover furniture - Also good for holes in your roof.

Rope - You'll need it for something.

Duct tape - To waterproof items. Masking tape isn't strong enough and melts when wet. It will not protect windows.

Canvas tarps - Good for holes in your roof.

Nails - There are many kinds, so look over your home now and determine what you will need. Roofing nails - For holding down plastic sheeting and tarp.

Common nails - for temporary repairs.

Dry Ice

Dry ice can keep food in a cooler frozen for about a week. Place it on top of, not under, the food you are trying to keep cool. Open cooler only when necessary. Dry ice will not harm frozen food. Dry ice is solid carbon dioxide, usually produced in 10-inch by 10-inch blocks weighing about 55 pounds. They usually retail for 50 cents a pound, so a block should cost \$25 to \$30. Some places have a minimum purchase.

If not kept at -109 degrees, a block begins to convert back to gas at a rate of about 10 pounds per 24 hours. Dry ice also is available in cut blocks, nuggets and small "rice pellets;" smaller sizes are more convenient but dissipate at a much faster rate. Use in a well ventilated area.



Disaster Food Supplies

Food and Water

Purchase enough nonperishable foods that will feed your family for at least two weeks. Store this food in a good place and try to leave this cache alone. Avoid foods that are salty or high in fat or protein; they'll make you thirsty. Store at least a week's worth of water, 1 to 2 gallons per person per day. (This water is for cooking, drinking, brushing teeth, washing, for first aid, cleaning hands to handle contact lenses). When a hurricane threatens completely fill your refrigerator and freezer. Your food will stay cold longer when the power goes out and frozen foods are as good as a block of ice. Fill extra ice cube trays or plastic jugs and freeze them. Be careful about what kind of container you use to store your water in. Empty milk jugs are not recommended. No mater how well they are cleaned, you will never get all the milk out of the pores in the plastic! Bacteria will grow and you could get sick from it. Make sure coolers and freezers are packed with ice.

Perishable Storage Tips

Right now, before you change your mind, go out and buy all the nonperishable foods you will need, to feed your family for a week. Put this stuff in a box and leave them alone, except to rotate stock. After a hurricane watch is issued, stock up on ice and pack coolers as early as possible, if you wait too long the stores will be mobbed and sold out of ice. Freezing or storing ice ahead of time is alot less hassle than fighting for it at a store. Before the storm hits, turn your refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting, and let them get as cold as possible. After the power goes out drape blankets over them, this will help keep them cool. Then move perishables you'll use first into ice chests to limit opening of refrigerators. Designate one cooler you will open regularly; fill that with drinks and less perishable items. Set aside other coolers for more perishable things such as meats and open them only rarely. Before the power is lost, break out the ice cube trays and put them to use. Also fill jugs with water, so you can be making and storing ice in your freezer or coolers around the clock. Store cubes or small blocks of ice in sealed bags and containers so you can drink it after it melts.

Kitchen Supplies

Jugs or containers to store water - Remember milk jugs are not recommended.

Manual can opener - Wouldn't you feel like a fool if you had \$200.00 worth of food stored and no opener.

Bottle opener

Matches - The larger stick type and lighters will work here as well

Pocketknife - Preferably Swiss Army style

Camp stove - Or some other cooking device and plenty of fuel. Use canned fuel inside your home, not charcoal or gas

Ice chests - Coolers

Paper plates

Napkins

Cutlery

Cups

What to buy

Bottled water (small bottles) - These are very handy because you can carry them as you work

Ice - This is a must to keep your food cool

Shelf packaged juice and milk boxes - These store well.

Canned and powdered milk - These also store well.

Beverages - powdered or canned, fruit juices, instant coffee, tea.

Prepared foods - canned soups, beef, spaghetti, tuna, chicken, ham, corned beef hash, fruit cocktail, packaged pudding.

Canned vegetables and fruits - You can drink the juices and save your water.

Dried fruits - Snacks for you and the kids.

Snacks - crackers, cookies, hard candy, and nuts watch the salt content.

Snack spreads - peanut butter, cheese spreads, and jelly.

Cereals - They are good without milk.

Raw vegetables - keep them cool.

Sugar, salt, pepper - There has to be taste in your food!

Bread - This will keep for a little while.

Dry and canned pet food - don't forget these guys.

DISASTER SUPPLY KI
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