



FORT MYERS FIRE DEPARTMENT

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS GUIDE



Information Resources

Websites

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|---|---|
| www.cityftmyers.com www.fortmyersfire.com www.fmpolice.com | Each of these City sites is a means to obtain helpful documents and/or news releases during events. |
| www.LeeEOC.com Code Red-Automated telephone notification system. Know Your Evacuation Zone Special Needs Application which can be filled out on line. All Hazards Guide | The Lee County Emergency Operations website provides breaking news alerts via RSS Feed. A link to sign up for Code Red can also be found on the City's website (under the Public Safety Services Tab). |
| www.ready.gov/hurricanes | National Weather Service |

Social Media

| | |
|---|--|
| Facebook – Link to Fire Department Page | www.facebook.com/fortmyersfire/ |
| Facebook – Link to City of Fort Myers Page | www.facebook.com/ftmyers/ |
| Facebook – Link to Police Department Page | https://www.facebook.com/fmpolice/ |
| Facebook – Link to Lee County Emergency Management page and Volunteers page | www.facebook.com/LCEMFL www.facebook.com/LCEMvolunteers |
| Twitter – Lee County Emergency Operations and Emergency Management | https://twitter.com/#!/LeeEOC https://twitter.com/#!/LCEMFL |
| YouTube | www.youtube.com/LeeCountyEOC |

Smart Phone, iPad and Tablet Apps

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|-----------------------|--|
| LeeAlert (Apple OS) | Available for iPhone and iPad from the iTunes Store. |
| LeeAlert (Android OS) | Available for Android phones and tablets from Google Play. |

Phone Numbers

| | |
|--|--|
| Fort Myers Fire Department, non-emergency | 239-321-7311 |
| Fort Myers Police Department, non-emergency | 239-321-7700 |
| Public Works Utilities After Hours Emergency | 239-321-8100 |
| City of Fort Myers - City Hall | 239-321-7000 |
| Lee County Emergency Management | 239-533-0622 |
| Lee County Special Needs Program | 239-533-0640 |
| Lee County Storm Hotline | 211 |
| Lee County Domestic Animal Services | 239-533-7387 |
| FEMA | 1-800-621-3362 (telephone) 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) |

Disaster Supply/Preparation Kit

Checklist (checkoff what is done – this will help keep you on track).

| EMERGENCY SUPPLIES LIST | | |
|---|--|--|
| Food Service Needs | | |
| Drinking Water (1 gal per day/person for 7 days) | | Non-Perishable Food |
| Manual Can Opener | | Juice/Soft Drinks/Instant Coffee or Tea/Dry Milk |
| Camp Stove, Grill (with fuel) FOR OUTDOOR USE ONLY | | Lighter/Waterproof Matches |
| Pots/Pans/Cooking Utensils | | Aluminum Foil |
| Disposable Plates, Cups and Cutlery | | Plastic Wrap/Zip Lock Bags/Garbage Bags |
| Cooler for Food Storage and another for Ice | | Freeze water in jugs or ziplock bags to help keep food cool |
| Basic Tools | | |
| Basic Tool Kit (hammer, wrench, screwdriver, pliers) | | Specialized Tools (water or gas valves) |
| Plastic Tarps (with grommets) or a Roll of Plastic | | Assorted Screws, Nails and Other Fasteners |
| Duct Tape | | Canvas or Leather Work Gloves |
| Basic Safety Equipment | | |
| NOAA Weather Radio | | First Aid Kit |
| Landline Telephone | | Battery Powered Television, Radio, and Clock (extra batteries) |
| Flashlights (extra batteries) | | Whistle (to signal for help if needed) |
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| Sanitation/Clean Up Supplies | | |
| Unscented Bleach (for clean-up/disinfect water) | | Water for Cleaning |
| Assorted Cleaners, Sanitizers, and Disinfectants | | Rubber Gloves |
| Brushes, Brooms, and Mops | | Towels and Rags |
| Bucket (w/ tight fitting lid) for Emergency Toilet | | Toilet Paper/Sanitary Supplies |
| Paper Towels | | Wet Wipes/Waterless Hand Sanitizer |
| Miscellaneous Items | | |
| Spare Keys (complete set for home and vehicles) | | Pens/Pencils/Paper |
| Important Papers (put in a watertight container) | | Keepsakes/Photos (put in a watertight container) |
| Coins, Cash, Credit Cards and/or Travelers Checks | | Prepaid Telephone Card(s) |
| Maps and Evacuation Information | | Books, games and other quiet entertainment |
| Pet/Service Animal | | |
| Water (1 gal per day for 7 days – each animal) | | Cage or Carrier for each animal |
| Food/Treats | | Toys/Comfort Items |
| Clean Up Supplies | | Identification/Immunization Records/Photo |
| Other Special Considerations | | |
| Have enough prescribed medications | | Make an itemized inventory of belongings |
| Review and update policies | | Record policy numbers and claims telephone numbers |
| Prepare Your Home | | |
| Make sure address numbers are visible | | Clean and Maintain a buffer around your home |
| Clean gutters of debris | | Inspect Roof (shingles, tiles, vents, anchors, sheathing) |
| Inspect Storm Shutters/Window Protection | | Inspect Garage Doors including bracing |
| Identify location of all utility shut offs | | Inspect and trim all trees and limbs that could fall on home |

Additional information can be found on the Lee County Emergency Management Website.

Create a Family HURRICANE Plan

Develop a plan and know what to do before a hurricane. Residents should know what evacuation zone you are in. This is designated by a letter A, B, C, D, or E, information on zones can be found in Lee County’s All Hazards Guide or visit the Lee County Emergency Management website.

Lee County Emergency Management has identified four options which will guide you in developing a hurricane plan.

- Option A:** Stay at home. If your home can withstand the expected winds, and you are away from the coast and not in a flood prone area, consider staying home. Never stay in your home if your area is under an EVACUATION ORDER.
- Option B:** Stay with a relative, friend, or hotel outside the evacuation area. If you plan to do this, make arrangements in advance, and make sure you leave early. Always have an alternate plan.
- Option C:** Relocate out of the area. Local officials will tell you which evacuation routes to use. Plan your route ahead of time, also plan alternate routes. Include maps and directions in your hurricane kit. Leave early to avoid high winds, flooding, and traffic.
- Option D:** Go to a public shelter if you have no safe place to go. Local media will announce which shelters are open. Do not wait until the last minute to learn the route to the shelter. This includes which shelters accept pets and which shelters are equipped for special needs.

Remember to know the following:

1. Know your Evacuation Zone.
2. Does your home have a hurricane rated garage door?
3. Does your home have shutters and all the needed hardware?
4. If your home was built prior to 2003, is two or more stories, constructed of wood, or you are in a flood zone you may want to consider evacuating.

Hurricane Preparedness Checklist

| June 1 st or before the start of hurricane season | | 72 hours before a storm | |
|--|---|--|---|
| | Review your plan before the start of season | | Stay informed with local TV/Radio for evacuations |
| | Keep your prescriptions full and up-to-date | | Make sure to have cash |
| | Check First Aid Kit, include sunscreen/insect repellent | | Pay any bills that are due soon |
| | Get a car or solar charger for your cell phone | | Fill vehicle fuel tank, check tires, fluids |
| | Have emergency numbers available | | Gather valuables and important papers and put in a safe place (weather proof) |
| | Rotate food and other supplies | | Start freezing water in containers or bags for freezer |
| 48 hours before the storm (Hurricane Watch) | | 36-24 hours before the storm (Hurricane Warning) | |
| | Turn fridge and freezer to coldest setting | | If you are staying home prepare a room away from windows or doors “safe room” and relocate supplies |
| | Have suitcase packed and ready to go | | Fill bath tub with water (for sanitary use only) |
| | Move patio furniture and other loose items indoors | | If you have a swimming pool put in extra chlorine |
| | Install window shutters | | If evacuating, pack car |
| | Take down awnings and canopies | | If evacuating, turn off all utilities |
| | Continue to monitor TV/Radio for changes | | Stay Informed and Prepare! |

What do you do after a storm?

Hurricanes can leave a community crippled and the amount of damage can be widespread among miles. What is important to know is that even before a storm has passed City and County representatives are already working on resources and help. This is where all the planning comes into play. The most important thing to remember is safety. Listen to local media for continued updates and only drive if necessary.

Remember:

1. Stay calm and be patient.
2. Power outages will vary and there is no schedule for power restoration. No power means no air conditioning, no lights, no fridge, possibly no stove, and remember this includes all well equipment.
3. Landline telephone services may be limited. Cell phone usage may be affected, a text may be more successful.
4. Water supplies may be unsafe to drink due to flooding or standing water. All water should be treated until advised otherwise.
5. Many sewer lift stations will not work. This will affect flushing toilets, sink drains, and showers. Make sure there is no backup into your home.
6. When it is safe to go outside start by inspecting damage to home from the outside looking at the roof; electrical lines and meters; exterior equipment and gas lines or tanks. If you smell gas do not stay in the structure.
7. Be careful of downed electrical wires and report them to the power company and/or fire and police departments.
8. Check overhead for any low hanging objects or anything loose that could fall.
9. Beware of wild or domestic animals. Look for fire ants, bees, wasps, snakes, rodents and anything else that may be seeking higher ground.
10. Do not connect generators to your house wiring. Generators are to be used outside in a well-ventilated area and shut down during re-fueling.

As you and the community continue to recover, watch for unlicensed contractor activity.

1. Do not sign a repair contract until you are able to verify the contractor is licensed.
2. Ask for a copy of their state license.
3. Is the quote reasonable? If they are putting a lot of pressure on you to sign the quote then this is reason to question.
4. Do not pay for any services in full up front.
5. Make sure the contractor has acquired any required permits before starting work.

For permit related questions for single-family homes contact the Community Development Department at 239-321-7900.

For permit related questions for commercial and multi-family residences contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 239-321-7350 or the Community Development Department.

Emergency Contact Information

Home Address _____

Home Phone Number _____

Home Emergency Guide numbers and information:

Local contact:

Name _____

Telephone: day _____ evening _____

Nearest relative:

Name _____

Telephone: day _____ evening _____

Family work numbers:

Father _____

Mother _____

Other _____

Family Doctors/Hospital:

Name _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Family Meeting Places:

1. Right outside your home _____

2. Away from home in neighborhood:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Name and ages of children _____

Medications/allergies _____

Other Information: