DETERMINE IF YOU LIVE IN AN EVACUATION ZONE

Use the Hurricane Evacuation Zone Finder at www.nyc.gov/hurricanezones, call 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115), or consult the map provided in this brochure to find out if your address is located in an evacuation zone.

Areas of the city subject to storm surge flooding are divided into three zones based on how storms of different strengths will affect them. Residents in these zones may need to evacuate depending on the strength of the approaching storm.

IF YOU LIVE IN AN EVACUATION ZONE

Prepare A Disaster Plan

Develop a plan with your household members that outlines what to do, how to find each other, and how to communicate if a hurricane strikes New York. If you rent your home, renter’s insurance will insure the items inside your apartment. If you are a homeowner, make sure your home is properly insured — flood and wind damage are not covered in a basic homeowner’s policy.

Know Where You Will Go

The City strongly recommends evacuees stay with friends or family who live outside evacuation zone boundaries. For those who have no other shelter, the City will open hurricane evacuees to report to an evacuation center. Once at the evacuation center, evacuees will either be assigned to a hurricane shelter in the same facility or transported to an associated hurricane shelter by bus.

To find the location of your evacuation center, use the Hurricane Evacuation Zone Finder at www.nyc.gov/hurricanezones, call 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115), or consult the map provided in this brochure.

Keep A Go Bag Ready

Every household member should have a small Go Bag — a collection of items you may need during an evacuation packed in an easy-to-carry container such as a backpack. A Go Bag should be easily accessible if you have to leave your home in a hurry. (See Go Bag list on the right)

Assemble an Emergency Supply Kit

All areas of the city could face hurricane-related hazards such as high winds, flooding, tornadoes, and loss of utilities. You may be instructed to shelter in place (stay at home) for several days until the hurricane passes. (See Supply list on the right)

IF YOU DO NOT LIVE IN AN EVACUATION ZONE

Assemble an Emergency Supply Kit

Residents of high rise apartment buildings may have special risks from hurricanes even if they live outside evacuation zone boundaries.

If you live in a high rise building located in an evacuation zone, be prepared to take shelter on or below the 10th floor.

IF YOU LIVE IN A HIGH-RISE APARTMENT BUILDING

Residents of high rise apartment buildings may face special risks from hurricanes even if they live outside evacuation zone boundaries.

If you live in a high rise building located in an evacuation zone, be prepared to take shelter on or below the 10th floor.

A GO BAG SHOULD INCLUDE

Copies of your important documents in a waterproof and portable container (insurance cards, photo IDs, proof of address, etc.)

Extra set of car and house keys

Copies of credit/ATM cards and $50-$100 cash in small denominations

Bottled water and nonperishable food such as energy or granola bars

Personal items. Keep a list of the medications each member of your household takes, why they take them, and their dosages.

First aid kit

Contact and meeting place information for your household and a small regional map

One gallon of drinking water per person per day

Can opener

First-aid kit

Battery-operated AM/FM radio and extra batteries

Whistle

Personal hygiene items: soap, feminine hygiene products, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.

Child care supplies or other special care items

ACCOUNT FOR YOUR SPECIAL NEEDS

Consider your capabilities and make sure your emergency plan addresses how your special needs affect your ability to evacuate.

Determine if you will need assistance and arrange help from friends, family, or neighbors.

Consider additional supplies and equipment that you may need to bring with you, such as medications, equipment, medical devices, and backup equipment. Bring food for your dietary needs.

Include additional time and evaluate your transportation options.

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If a tropical storm or hurricane watch is issued:

- Bring inside loose, lightweight objects, such as lawn furniture, garbage cans, garden tools, and toys.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Shutter windows securely and brace outside doors.
- Place valuables in waterproof containers or plastic bags.
- Help Others Prepare by helping friends or family members who may need assistance preparing and evacuation.
- If called to evacuate, do so immediately.
- Use public transportation if possible.
- Keep your Go Bag Ready, which should include:
  - Extra set of car and house keys
  - Bottled water and nonperishable food such as energy bars or snacks
  - A can opener
  - Whistle
  - Personal hygiene items: soap, feminine hygiene products, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.
  - A passport or other identification to prove your eligibility for government benefits
  - Extra clothing and shoes
  - A small first aid kit
  - A map of your community
  - A portable radio
  - A flashlight
  - A multi-tool
- Assemble an Emergency Supply Kit, which should include:
  - Copies of your important documents in a waterproof container
  - Extra set of car and house keys
  - Required medical supplies or equipment
  - A can opener
  - Whistle
  - Personal hygiene items: soap, feminine hygiene products, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.

Many people believe that hurricanes only affect areas south of New York, but coastal storms, including hurricanes, can and do impact the city. In fact, New York’s proximity to the tropics makes it vulnerable to coastal storms and hurricanes. Read on to learn more about how you can prepare.

COASTAL STORM TERMS

- Tropical Storm: A tropical cyclone with sustained winds of 39-73 mph
- Hurricane: A tropical cyclone with sustained winds of 74 mph or greater
- Gulf Stream: A coastal current that carries warm, salty water from the tropics to the northern Atlantic Ocean
- Atlantic Hurricane Season: June 1 to November 30
- Issued when hurricane conditions are expected in a specified coastal area in 24 hours or less. Hurricane conditions include winds of 74 mph or higher, and/or dangerous waves
- Issued when hurricane conditions are expected in a specified coastal area in 24-36 hours. Issued 24 hours a day.
- Issued when hurricane conditions are expected in a specified coastal area in 24-48 hours. Issued 24 hours a day.

HOW CAN I PREPARE MYSELF?

- Determine if you live in an evacuation zone and develop a plan ahead of time.
- Keep a Go Bag Ready with essential items for evacuation.
- Assemble an Emergency Supply Kit with important documents, medical supplies, and other necessary items.
- Know where you will go if you need to evacuate, and make sure you have a meeting place and contact information for your household members.
- Prepare a Disaster Plan that outlines what to do, how to find each other, and how to communicate if a hurricane strikes New York.
- If you own a home, make sure your home is properly insured — flood and wind damage are not covered in a basic homeowner’s policy.
- If you rent your home, make sure your renter’s insurance covers your personal property and personal liability.
- If you have pets, make sure they have a plan to be evacuated.
- If you have special needs, consider additional supplies and equipment that you may need to bring with you.
- If you live in a high-rise building, be prepared to take shelter on or below the 10th floor.
- If you live in a low-rise building, you may be instructed to shelter in place (stay at home) for several days until the hurricane passes.
- Be prepared to take shelter near a designated area as directed by your local emergency management agency.
- During a hurricane, stay away from trees, power lines, and other hazards.
- After a hurricane, avoid areas with downed power lines and damaged buildings.

RESOURCES

- NYC Office of Emergency Management: www.nyc.gov/ema
- NY State Emergency Management Office: www.oes.state.ny.us
- National Hurricane Center/Tropical Prediction Center: www.nhc.noaa.gov
- American Red Cross: www.redcross.org
- National Weather Service: www.weather.gov
- NOAA All Hazards Radio broadcasts: www.weather.gov/alerts

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