



HURRICANE PREPARATION & SAFETY

As our Nation enters the most active months of hurricane season, USPHS officers must prepare not only to deploy to a natural disaster response mission, we must also prepare ourselves and our families if we reside in vulnerable areas. Hurricanes are massive storm systems which cause widespread devastation to buildings and other vital infrastructure such as transportation, communication, water, and energy services. Be better prepared this hurricane season and [learn how to plan](#) for a natural disaster.

PACIFIC SEASON

May 15 – November 30

ATLANTIC SEASON

June 1 – November 30



MOST ACTIVE MONTHS

August, September, October

[Download the FEMA App](#)

PREPARE

- Sign up** for local [alerts and warnings](#). Monitor local news and weather reports.
- Prepare to evacuate:** test your [family emergency plan](#), learn evacuation routes, find a safe [location](#), and pack a “go bag.”
- Stock [emergency supplies](#).**
- Protect your property:** install sewer backflow valves, anchor fuel tanks, and catalog belongings.
- Collect, review, and safeguard** critical insurance, financial, medical, and legal [documents and records](#).
- Protect [pets and animals](#).**

SURVIVE

- Follow guidance** from local authorities.
- If advised to [evacuate](#),** grab your “go bag” and leave immediately.
- For protection from high winds,** stay away from windows and seek shelter on the lowest level in an interior room.
- Move to higher ground** if there is flooding or a flood warning.
- [Turn Around Don't Drown®](#).** Never walk or drive through flood waters.
- Call 9-1-1** if you are in life-threatening danger.

RECOVER

- Return to the area** only after authorities say it is safe.
- Do not enter** damaged buildings until inspected by qualified professionals.
- [Turn Around Don't Drown®](#)** Never walk or drive through flood waters.
- Look out** for downed or unstable trees, poles, and power lines.
- Do not drink tap [water](#)** until authorities announce it is safe for consumption.
- Maintain [food safety](#).**
- Do not remove heavy debris** by yourself.
- Protect** your hands with gloves and feet with sturdy, thick-soled shoes.