

# BUDGET-FRIENDLY HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

STAY SAFE WITHOUT BREAKING THE BANK

## NO-COST PREP TIPS:

- 1 GATHER SUPPLIES YOU HAVE ON HAND (SEE BELOW) AND PLACE IN YOUR EMERGENCY KIT
- 2 BOTTLE YOUR OWN DRINKING WATER USING EMPTY FOOD SAFE CONTAINERS (SEE WATER PLAN ON BACK)
- 3 PLACE SOME DRINKING WATER CONTAINERS IN THE FREEZER TO PRESERVE FOOD AND PROVIDE BACKUP WATER DURING A POWER OUTAGE
- 4 PRESERVE MEATS AND PERISHABLE FOODS BY COOKING AND FREEZING FOR FUTURE USE OR TO EAT IF POWER IS OUT
- 5 TAKE PHOTOS AND VIDEO OF ENTIRE HOME INCLUDING REFRIGERATOR AND FREEZER. IF DAMAGE OCCURS, TAKE PHOTOS OF THE HEIGHT OF THE WATER



### SANITATION

- Unscented bleach
- Medicine dropper (See water sanitization on back)
- Large & small trash bags
- Bleach wipes
- Hand sanitizer
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Gloves

### FOOD

- Non-perishable foods
- Peanut Butter (nut butter)
- Cereal
- Protein bars
- Tea bags, instant coffee or cocoa
- Nuts
- Your favorite sweet treat
- Canned meats, fish, stews, fruit & vegetables
- Pet food

### MISC.

- Phone charger with adapter for car
- Flashlight & batteries
- Matches & lighter
- Manual can opener
- First aid kit or Band-Aids, antiseptic, pain reliever
- Paper plates, bowls, cups, plastic utensils
- Headlamp
- Rain gear

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If unavailable at home, all items above can be inexpensively purchased at a discount or dollar store.

## COST-EFFECTIVE PREP TIPS:

- 1 AVOID LAST MINUTE EXPENSE - PICK UP A FEW ITEMS FOR YOUR KIT EACH WEEK - BOTH GROCERY AND OTHER
- 2 TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TAX HOLIDAYS AND GROCERY STORE BOGO'S OR DISCOUNTS. BUY ONE AND SAVE ONE FOR YOUR KIT
- 3 SAVE ON BATTERIES, USE SOLAR LIGHTS IN A GLASS CONTAINER TO LIGHT UP A SMALL ROOM
- 4 SAVE TRAVEL EXPENSE - IF NEED BE, EVACUATE 10'S OF MILES INSTEAD OF 100'S OF MILES. FIND SAFETY OUTSIDE OF THE EVACUATION ZONE
- 5 HAVE A GRILL OR CAMP STOVE TO BOIL WATER? KEEP IT FULLY FUELED AND BUY DRIED FOODS LIKE INSTANT SOUP, OATMEAL & NOODLE CUPS

## MISC. CONTINUED

- Wrench or pliers
- Solar lights and/or glow sticks
- Ziplock bags - multiple sizes
- Elastic rope (bungee cords)
- Sunscreen & bug spray
- Whistle
- Dry Shampoo

## MISC. - DEPARTMENT STORE

- Weather radio
- Mobile phone battery charger
- Tarp
- Battery powered lantern
- Battery powered fans
- N95 masks/dust mask
- Prescription medication & other
- Disposable cameras

If unavailable at home, all items above can be purchased at a department store

Special needs individuals: save travel expenses during an evacuation, register with Pinellas County's special needs program that provides complimentary transportation and shelter.

(Special needs: electric dependent or requiring medical assistance)

Register early and renew registration every year.

Call (352)754-4080 or online at <https://www.hernandocounty.us/departments/departments-a-e/emergency-management/special-needs-information>

## MORE PREP TIPS:

- Water sanitization: 8 drops of bleach per gallon of water makes it drinkable.
- Water plan (3 - 7 days): 1 gallon per person per day (PPPD) and 1 gallon (PPPD) for cooking and hygiene (see hygiene option below).
- Hygiene water option: fill bathtub and sinks with water for flushing and hygiene. Cover sinks with plastic wrap. (Unused water can be used for other purposes like watering plants and washing floors to avoid water waste)
- Ice packs: Fill Ziplock bags with water and freeze them ahead of time to be used as ice packs for coolers then for drinking when melted.
- Food safety: Ensure food in freezer is safe after a power outage by placing a cup of water in the freezer uncovered. When frozen, place a coin on top. When power is restored, check to see if the coin is still on top, if not, the food may not be safe to eat.
- Important Info notebook/binder: Before hurricane season, prepare a notebook with list of medications, phone numbers of doctors, family/friends, financial institutions and credit card companies. Gather important hard-to-replace documents, insurance policies, titles and medical records if necessary. Store in a water tight container.
- Save travel expense by securing shelter (hotel or friend/family) in a non-evacuation zone at first sign of potential threat possibly two weeks in advance. Cancel hotel according to cancellation policy to avoid paying penalties. Find a non-evacuation zone near you <https://www.floridadisaster.org/planprepare/know-your-zone-know-your-home/>
- If evacuating, buy a paper state map, navigation may be unavailable or spotty.
- Free apps: Utilize free apps like Ready Hernando <https://www.hernandocounty.us/departments/departments-a-e/emergency-management/make-your-plan-to-make-a-plan-and-alert-hernando> <https://member.everbridge.net/453003085614870/login> - to stay informed. Be ready to take action.
- Weather Radio: Configure weather radio for Hernando County alerts using SAME code 012053.

Disclaimer: Intended to provide cost saving options for hurricane preparation. Not intended to be a complete packing/preparation list for hurricane readiness. Sources: 2024 Pinellas County Hurricane Guide and Dennis Phillips, Meteorologist, ABC Action News WFTS Tampa Bay - Storm Prep List

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