

READY NEW YORK

HURRICANES AND NEW YORK CITY

2018 EDITION

NYC
Emergency
Management



NYC.gov/knowyourzone

HURRICANES CAN BRING
IMMENSE DAMAGE AND
DEVASTATION TO
NEW YORK CITY.

MAKE A PLAN BEFORE A
STORM ARRIVES TO HELP
KEEP YOUR FAMILY AND
HOME SAFE. READ ON TO
LEARN HOW YOU
CAN PREPARE.



HURRICANE BASICS

TERMS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Hurricane Season

June 1 to November 30
(Historically, the greatest potential for hurricanes in New York City occurs from August through October.)

Tropical Cyclone

An organized, rotating, low-pressure weather system of clouds and thunderstorms that develops in the tropics.

Tropical Storm

A tropical cyclone with sustained winds of 39-73 mph.

Hurricane

A tropical cyclone with sustained winds of 74 mph or greater.

Hurricane Watch

An announcement that hurricane conditions are possible within a specified area. Watches are issued 48 hours before tropical-storm-force winds are predicted to occur.

Hurricane Warning

An announcement that hurricane conditions are expected within a specified area. The warning is issued 36 hours before tropical-storm-force

winds are predicted to occur and can remain in effect when dangerously high water and waves continue.

KNOW THE HAZARDS

Storm Surge

Accounting for the largest number of hurricane fatalities, storm surge is a dome of ocean water that is pushed ashore by the oncoming hurricane's winds. A major hurricane could push more than 30 feet of storm surge (the height of a three-story building) into some parts of New York City, and storm surge can travel several miles inland. Storm surge and large battering waves can endanger lives, destroy buildings, erode beaches and dunes, and damage roads and bridges.

Wind

With sustained winds of 74 mph or greater, hurricanes may damage buildings, topple trees, and turn loose objects into deadly projectiles.

Rain

Heavy rain from hurricanes can cause flash flooding. Low-lying and poor drainage areas are especially vulnerable to flooding.

STORM CATEGORIES

Hurricanes are classified into five categories (1 through 5) according to the hurricane's sustained wind speed. As the wind speed and intensity of a storm increases, the category number increases.

RESOURCES

Unless otherwise noted, call 311 (212-639-9675 for Video Relay Service, or TTY: 212-504-4115) or use NYC.gov to contact City agencies.

NYC Emergency Management

NYC.gov/emergencymanagement

Know Your Zone

NYC.gov/knowyourzone

Notify NYC

Register for emergency notifications by getting the free mobile application, visiting NYC.gov/notifynyc, contacting 311, or following @NotifyNYC on Twitter

NYC Mayor's Office for People With Disabilities

NYC.gov/mopd

NYC Emergency Management on Facebook and Twitter

www.facebook.com/
NYCemergencymanagement
@nycemergencygmt

City of New York on Facebook and Twitter

www.facebook.com/nycgov
@nycgov

National Flood Insurance Program

www.floodsmart.gov
1-888-379-9531

National Hurricane Center/ Tropical Prediction Center

www.nhc.noaa.gov

National Weather Service

www.weather.gov

Con Edison

1-800-75-CONED, (800-752-6633),
(TTY: 800-642-2308)
www.coned.com

PSEG Long Island

1-800-490-0025,
(TTY: 631-755-6660)
www.psegliny.com

National Grid

718-643-4050, (TTY: 718-237-2857)
www.nationalgridus.com

BE PREPARED

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. Use the Ready New York: My Emergency Plan at NYC.gov/myemergencyplan, or use the Ready NYC mobile application, available for smartphones and tablets.

KNOW YOUR ZONE

Areas of the city subject to storm surge flooding are divided into six evacuation zones (1 through 6) based on risk of storm surge flooding. The City may order residents to evacuate depending on the hurricane's track and projected storm surge.

Use the Hurricane Evacuation Zone Finder at NYC.gov/knowyourzone, call 311 (212-639-9675 for Video Relay Service, or TTY: 212-504-4115), or consult this brochure's map to find out if your address is located in an evacuation zone. If you live in an evacuation zone, have a plan for where you will go if an evacuation order is issued for your area.

HAVE THE RIGHT INSURANCE

Whether you rent or own your home, flood and wind damage are not covered by basic policies. You will need to buy a separate policy to protect your home in the case of flooding. Visit www.floodsmart.gov for more about the National Flood Insurance Program.

FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

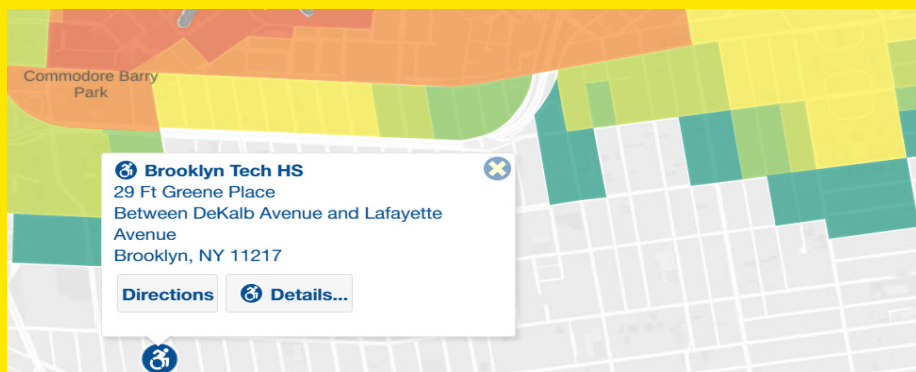
Make sure your plan addresses how your needs may affect your ability to evacuate, use elevators in your building, shelter in place, or communicate with emergency workers. Arrange help from family, friends, building staff, or service providers if you will need assistance. If you are unable to evacuate on your own ahead of a storm, contact 311 for assistance.

If you depend on power for life-sustaining equipment, plan to evacuate. You may lose power following a hurricane. Ask your utility company if your medical equipment qualifies you to be listed as a life-sustaining equipment customer.

Allow additional travel time and consider your transportation, dietary, and medical needs (oxygen, extra batteries/chargers, eyeglasses, prescriptions, etc.). Bring all medications with you, and have contact information for your health providers written down.

Sign up for Notify NYC to receive emergency notifications and updates via email, phone, SMS/text, or Twitter. Messages are also available in American Sign Language (ASL). Get the free mobile application, visit NYC.gov/notifynyc, call 311, or follow @NotifyNYC on Twitter. Be sure to consult NYC.gov/emergencymanagement for updated information.

KNOW YOUR ZONE



Visit the Hurricane Evacuation Zone Finder at NYC.gov/knowyourzone or call 311 (212-639-9675 for Video Relay Service, or TTY: 212-504-4115) to find out which hurricane evacuation zone you live in.

IF A STORM APPROACHES

Take the following steps to be prepared:

- Bring inside loose, lightweight objects, such as lawn furniture and garbage cans.
- Anchor objects that will be unsafe to bring inside, such as gas grills or propane tanks.
- Close windows and outside doors securely.
- Move valuable items from basements to upper floors. (Basements are vulnerable to flooding.)
- Charge cell phone batteries.
- Top off your vehicle and generator with fuel.
- Consider moving your vehicle to higher ground if you live in an evacuation zone.
- Turn your refrigerator and freezer to a colder setting. If you lose power, items that need refrigeration will stay cooler for longer.
- Fill your bathtub and other large containers with water – you may lose water service if the power goes out.
- Refill prescription medications.

Check on friends, relatives, and neighbors, especially older adults and people with disabilities, access and functional needs, or health conditions. Help them to prepare and evacuate if needed. For more information on how to protect your property, use the Ready New York: Reduce Your Risk guide at [NYC.gov/readyny](https://www.nyc.gov/readyny).



GATHER SUPPLIES

KEEP A GO BAG READY

Every household member should have a Go Bag – a collection of items you may need during an evacuation – packed in an easy-to-carry container such as a backpack.

Use the suggestions below to check off items as you include them in your Go Bag. Blank spaces have been provided for items you may want to add to the list, including medical devices and food for your dietary needs.

- Bottled water and nonperishable food, such as granola bars
- Copies of your important documents in a waterproof and portable container (e.g., insurance cards, Medicare/Medicaid cards, photo IDs, proof of address, marriage and birth certificates, copies of credit and ATM cards, etc.)
- Flashlight, hand-crank or battery-operated AM/FM radio, and extra batteries
- A list of medications you take, why you take them, and dosage
- Contact information for your household and members of your support network
- Cash, in small bills
- Notepad and pen
- Back-up medical equipment (e.g., glasses, batteries) and chargers
- Aerosol tire repair kits and/or inflator to repair flat wheelchair or scooter tires
- Doctors' names and phone numbers
- First-aid kit
- Toiletries
- Child care, pet care, and other special items
- Supplies for your service animal or pet (e.g., food, extra water, bowl, leash, cleaning items, vaccination records, and medications)
- Portable cell phone chargers
- Other personal items:

ASSEMBLE AN EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

You may need to shelter in place (stay at home) during and after a hurricane. Keep enough supplies in your home for up to seven days. Additionally, basic services, such as electricity, water, public transportation, and telephones may be disrupted for several days or longer. Make sure that you have enough additional supplies for potential service outages.

Use the suggestions below to check off items as you include them.

- One gallon of drinking water per person per day
- Nonperishable, ready-to-eat canned foods, and a manual can opener
- First-aid kit
- Medications, including a list of the medications you take, why you take them, and dosages
- Flashlight or battery-powered lantern, battery-operated AM/FM radio, and extra batteries, or wind-up batteries that do not require batteries
- Glow sticks
- Whistle or bell
- Back-up medical equipment, if possible (e.g., oxygen, medication, scooter battery, hearing aids, mobility aids, glasses, facemasks, gloves)
- Style and serial numbers of medical devices (such as pacemakers) and usage instructions
- Other items:

IF YOU MUST EVACUATE

IF THE CITY ISSUES AN EVACUATION ORDER FOR YOUR AREA, DO SO AS DIRECTED

The City will communicate specific instructions through local media about which areas of the city should evacuate. If a mandatory evacuation is issued, do so as directed. Use public transportation if possible, keeping in mind that public transportation may shut down hours before the storm. For additional information about how to evacuate, including accessible transportation options, please contact 311 (212-639-9675 for Video Relay Service, or TTY: 212-504-4115).

KNOW WHERE YOU WILL GO

The City strongly recommends evacuees stay with friends or family who live outside evacuation zones. For those who have no other shelter, the City will open evacuation centers throughout the five boroughs.

If you are going to an evacuation center, pack lightly, and bring:

- Your Go Bag
- Sleeping bag or bedding
- At least a week's supply of any medication (if possible), medical supplies, or medical equipment you use regularly
- Toiletries

Evacuation centers include accessible facilities and accommodations for people with disabilities, access and functional needs. For information about accessibility features of a particular facility, consult the Hurricane Evacuation Zone Finder at NYC.gov/knowyourzone or contact 311. All evacuees will be accepted, and

evacuees will not be asked about their immigration status at any New York City evacuation center.

IF YOU HAVE PETS OR SERVICE ANIMALS

Make sure your disaster plan addresses what you will do with your pet or service animal if a hurricane requires you to leave your home.

If you cannot shelter your pet or service animal at a kennel or with friends or relatives outside the evacuation area, pets and service animals are allowed at all City evacuation centers. Please bring supplies to care for your pet or service animal, including food, leashes, a carrier, and medication. Use the Ready New York: My Pet's Emergency Plan at NYC.gov/readyny to make a plan for your pet or service animal.

IF YOU LIVE IN A BASEMENT

Basement apartment residents may face additional risks from hurricanes even if they live outside evacuation zone boundaries. Many areas of the city can experience rainfall flooding. If you live in a basement apartment, be prepared to take shelter above ground.

IF YOU LIVE IN A HIGH-RISE BUILDING

If you live in a high-rise building, especially on the 10th floor or above, stay away from windows in case they break or shatter. You should move to a lower floor. Be aware of your building's evacuation plan.

Evacuate early if you rely on elevators to get out of your building. Elevators may be out of service and may not be available at all times.

IF YOU ARE NOT ORDERED TO EVACUATE

BE PREPARED TO LOSE POWER

Make sure you have all recommended items in your emergency supply kit in case you lose power or other basic services.

If you have concerns about how a loss of power, basic services, and public transportation may affect you, consider evacuating.

SHELTER IN PLACE

If you do not need to evacuate, shelter in place and make use of your emergency supply kit. Stay away from windows in case they break or shatter and stay indoors to avoid hurricane hazards.

This guide is also available in audio format and in the languages below.

ARABIC

للحصول على نسخة من هذا الدليل باللغة الانجليزية اتصل بـ 311 (معوقي السمع: 212-504-4115) أو قم بزيارة NYC.gov/readyny

BENGALI

এই সহায়িকার একটি বাংলা প্রতিলিপি পেতে হলে, 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115) নম্বরে ফোন করুন অথবা NYC.gov/readyny দেখুন।

CHINESE

如欲索取中文版的指南，請致電311 (TTY: 212-504-4115) 或訪問NYC.gov/readyny。

ENGLISH

Call 311 or visit NYC.gov/readyny for copies of this guide in English.

FRENCH

Pour obtenir une copie en français de ce guide, appelez le 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115) ou visitez le site NYC.gov/readyny.

HAITIAN CREOLE

Pou jwenn yon kopi gid sa a nan lang Kreyòl Ayisyen, rele 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115) oswa ale nan sitwèb NYC.gov/readyny.

ITALIAN

Per ottenere una copia di questa guida in italiano, telefonare al numero 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115) o visitare il sito NYC.gov/readyny.

KOREAN

본 안내서의 한국어 사본을 받으시려면, 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115)로 전화하시거나 NYC.gov/readyny를 방문하십시오.

POLISH

W celu otrzymania polskiej kopii niniejszego przewodnika, należy zadzwonić pod nr 311 (nr dla osób z upośledzeniem słuchu: 212-504-4115) lub zajrzeć na stronę internetową NYC.gov/readyny.

RUSSIAN

Для того чтобы получить данную брошюру на русском языке, позвоните по телефону 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115) или посетите веб-сайт NYC.gov/readyny.

SPANISH

Llame al 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115) o visite NYC.gov/readyny para obtener acceso a este folleto en español.

URDU

اس ہدایت نامے کی انگریزی کاپی حاصل کریں، 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115) پر کال کریں یا NYC.gov/readyny دیکھیں۔

YIDDISH

צו ערהאלטן א אידישע קאפיע פון דעם וועגווייזער, רופט 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115) אדער באזוכט NYC.gov/readyny.

