

THINGS TO DO WHEN A TROPICAL STORM OR HURRICANE WATCH OR WARNING IS ISSUED

A hurricane or tropical storm watch is typically issued by the [National Weather Service](#) 48 hours before tropical storm force winds are expected to impact the area. Warnings are issued 36 hours before the storm. Weather forecasts will be watching and reporting on tropical disturbances well in advance of the warnings being issued.

72 hours or three days prior to the expected storm

- Monitor local news and storm movement
- Review preparedness plan and gather supplies
- Check and charge batteries
- Refuel vehicles and equipment
- Begin securing loose items
- Put hurricane shutters in position

48 hours or two days prior to the expected storm

- Monitor local news and storm movement
- Consider evacuation needs and options
- Begin securing home and pets
- Ensure you have necessary food, medicine, water and supplies

24 hours or one day prior to the expected storm

- Monitor local news and storm movement and updates
- If you have not evacuated, secure a room(s) in your home to use as a “safe room.” An interior room or hallway, with little glass, often a closet or bathroom.
- If you have not secured all outdoor items, complete this task
- Fill bathtubs and sinks with water to ensure you have additional water
- Notify a key person on your Notification Plan on your plan to stay or evacuate
- Invite friends and family members to stay with you, bringing their own supplies, if they are in an evacuation zone and you are safe
- If you plan to evacuate, have your evacuation site planned. Make sure it is not in a zone specified for evacuation. Move at a steady pace. Do not panic. Turn off gas, water, and electricity; lock windows and doors