

Storm Safety Tips

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To keep food from spoiling during a power outage make sure that you keep the doors to your refrigerator and freezer closed in order to conserve the necessary temperatures .

Use surge protectors on appliances and electronics that could be damaged by a power surge when electric service is re-energized to your home.

Safety For Your Family

Keeping your family safe in a storm can be as simple as making a plan and ensuring that all family members know what to do in the event of severe weather or a storm. Knowledge is the best defense against severe weather.

Make sure that all family members know how to react appropriately to the different types of storm and where to meet if they become separated from the rest of the family. Also make sure that each family member knows the different safety locations dependent on the type of home you live in. For example the safest place in a single family home during a tornado is the basement, but in a mobile home there is not a basement and you would need to develop an alternate safety plan.

Every family member needs to know the location of the emergency kit in your home. Additionally each person should be able to operate all of the emergency supplies in your emergency kit. A flashlight that is too large for a small child would not be useful to that child if they were trapped alone.

Safety For Your Home

Our homes are often our largest investment and in a storm it is beneficial to have a well-maintained, well-prepared home. Here are a few tips to keep your home safe during a storm.

- If you have mature trees in your yard that are near your house make sure that they are trimmed and kept a safe distance from windows and your roof. High winds can break tree limbs or cause trees to fall possibly resulting in damage to your home.
- Keeping your home's roof maintained is also helpful in a storm. Loose or detached shingles may blow off your home leaving you unprotected in a storm and with potentially expensive repairs in the future. Use adhesive or roofing nails to secure loose shingles regularly to keep your roof in good repair.



TORNADO SAFETY

In a house:

1. Stay away from windows.
2. Go to the lowest floor to hide.
3. Hide in a closet or bathroom that is in the middle of the home.

In a car:

1. If you cannot easily drive away from the tornado, then lie down flat in a ditch and cover your head.
2. Think about your safety first, not your car's.

In a mobile home:

1. Leave your mobile home and go to a storm shelter.

Finally, the best way to keep your family safe is to stay informed about the weather in your area. Keeping up with the weather conditions and taking necessary precautions will ensure that your family is not caught unaware or unprepared during a storm.

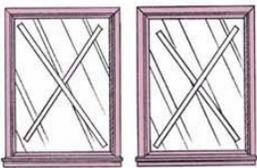
Tools in a Storm



Often times we have time to prepare for a storm because we have enough of a warning, but there are certain things that are helpful to keep around the house in the event of a storm or severe weather.

- ⇒ Flashlight with new batteries as well as candles and matches.
 - ⇒ If there is a power-outage it is always good to keep emergency lighting in an easily accessible place.
- ⇒ A portable or battery-operated radio
 - ⇒ Many of us rely on internet, television or cell phones for our weather notifications, but it is a good idea to keep a radio on hand in order to make sure that you are receiving updated weather information. Be cautioned that cell phones may not work if electricity is lost at the carrier cell tower locations.

Putting an “x” of scotch tape over windows in high winds and high pressure can give the windows a little extra strength and may prevent them from breaking.



Family Emergency Kits



An Emergency Kit should be stocked with items specific to a family’s needs, but there are a few things that should be included in all Emergency Kits.

First, all Emergency Kits should include a First-Aid Kit that includes bandages, ointments, ice-packs, and gauze as well as any additional items that may be necessary. This is useful if someone gets hurt during the storm.

Second, you should have an emergency water supply for all individuals as well as pets in the home. Sometimes a power outage can effect the water supply to a home and it is necessary to keep a supply on hand in case the water service is interrupted for an extended period of time.

Lastly, every Emergency Kit should include an emergency light and fresh batteries. In a storm, often times the electricity is interrupted and having an emergency light in that situation is helpful.

Remember, these are just a few things that should be included in an Emergency Kit. Your family may require additional items and each kit should be custom to meet each family’s needs.