Special Items

Remember family members with special requirements, such as infants and those who are elderly or have a disability.

FOR BABY
- Formula
- Diapers
- Bottles
- Powdered milk
- Medications

FOR ADULTS
- Heart and high blood pressure medication
- Insulin
- Prescription drugs
- Denture needs
- Contact lenses and supplies
- Extra eye glasses

ENTERTAINMENT
- Board games and other games that don’t require batteries or electricity, books for adult readers and for children.

FOR PETS
- In the interest of protecting pets, the Humane Society of the United States offers these tips for inclusion in your family disaster plan:
  - Do not leave your pets behind.
  - Securely fasten a current identification tag to your pet’s collar and carry a photography of your pet. It’s important to include the phone number of a friend or family member on the tag so anyone who may find your pet is able to reach someone who knows you.
  - Transport pets in secure pet carriers and keep pets on leashes or harnesses.
  - Call hotels in a safe/host location and ask if you can bring your pets. Ask the manager if a no-pet policy can be lifted during the disaster. Most emergency shelters do not admit pets.
  - Call friends, family members, veterinarians, or boarding kennels in a safe/host location to arrange foster care if you and your pets cannot stay together.
  - Pack a week’s supply of food, water, and other provisions, such as medication or cat litter.
  - Do not wait until the last minute to evacuate. Rescue officials may not allow you to take your pets if you need to be rescued.
  - Keep a list of emergency phone numbers (veterinarian, local animal control, animal shelters, Red Cross, etc.)
Make sure your flood insurance is up to date with proper coverage.

If your home isn’t located in a flood zone, that doesn’t mean you don’t need to have the proper precautions in place, including flood insurance — especially in Florida. Hurricanes are unpredictable and dangerous, and the water they produce is more deadly than the wind. It’s important to remember that water doesn’t stop at a line on a map.

Get bug spray for the entire family, including your pets.

In addition to the waves of both water and frustration a hurricane brings, there are tides of mosquitoes to content with. Those nasty ‘skeeters are annoying and could spread disease, so protect your family with an EPA-registered insect repellent. And don’t forget about your furry family members — the DEET often found in human repellents can harm your pets, so make sure they have their own animal-friendly product!

Chlorine bleach can be your best friend when it comes to keeping clean through a hurricane.

Bleach can be used to disinfect a wide variety of things, but the most important one is water. The FDA advises using $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon of bleach per 1 gallon of water – it’ll be safe to drink in just half an hour!

Laminate copies of important documents for extra protection.

Keeping essential documents in waterproof bags might do the trick – but if you want the ultimate peace of mind, make copies of your identification and important documents and then laminate them. Don’t forget to print out a contact information sheet so you’ll have the names and numbers you need in case your phone dies and you’re unable to connect to power.

Keep a list of what’s in your fridge!

With an inventory of your refrigerator’s contents, you’ll know exactly what’s inside – minimizing how many times you open the door out of boredom, wondering what there is to eat. Take it a step further by mapping out where each product is – you’ll be able to grab exactly what you need in a matter of seconds, preserving the precious cold air that’s keeping your food from spoiling.

Keep yourself cool with a battery-powered fan.

Once the A/C is out, the notorious Florida humidity will start creeping up in no time. Stay comfortable with a battery-powered fan, and don’t forget those extra batteries! If the power goes out during a colder time of the year, have some hand warmers ready to go.