

# MCLB ALBANY SAFETYGRAM

## SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH



AMERICA'S  
PrepareAthon!



Week # 2 (Preparing for a Hurricane)



History teaches that a lack of hurricane awareness and preparation are common threads among all major hurricane disasters. By knowing your vulnerability and what actions (before, during and after) you should take can reduce the effects of a hurricane disaster. Below are things to assist you with the preparation of a hurricane disaster.



### Before a Hurricane

- ❖ [Build an emergency kit](#) and [make a family communications plan](#).
- ❖ Know your surroundings and learn the elevation level of your property and whether the land is flood-prone.
- ❖ Determine whether levees and dams in your area pose a hazard.
- ❖ Learn community hurricane evacuation routes.
- ❖ Cover all of your home's windows.
- ❖ Install straps or additional clips to securely fasten your roof to the frame structure. This will reduce roof damage.
- ❖ Trim trees and shrubs around your home so they are more wind resistant.
- ❖ Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- ❖ Reinforce your garage doors to prevent wind from entering.
- ❖ Plan to bring in all outdoor furniture or items not tied down.
- ❖ Consider building a safe room.

### During a Hurricane

- ❖ Listen to the radio or TV for information.
- ❖ Secure your home, storm shutters and outdoor objects.
- ❖ Get out of mobile homes and seek immediate shelter.
- ❖ Close all interior doors and brace external doors.
- ❖ Stay indoors and away from windows and glass doors.
- ❖ Turn the refrigerator thermostat to its coldest setting and keep its doors closed.
- ❖ Avoid using the phone, except for serious emergencies.
- ❖ Ensure a [supply of water](#) for sanitary purpose. Fill the bathtub and other larger containers with water.
- ❖ Do not be fooled by a lull or eye of the storm. The wind will return.
- ❖ Follow the local authority instructions.



### After a Hurricane

- ❖ Continue listening to a NOAA Weather Radio or the local news for the latest updates.
- ❖ Use the telephone only for emergency calls.
- ❖ If you evacuated, return home only when officials say it is safe.
- ❖ Drive only if necessary and avoid flooded roads and bridges.
- ❖ Stay out of any building if you smell gas.
- ❖ Keep away from loose or dangling power lines.
- ❖ Use battery-powered flashlights in the dark. Do NOT use candles.
- ❖ Avoid using tap water until you are sure it's not contaminated.
- ❖ Stay alert for extended rainfall and subsequent flooding even after the hurricane or tropical storm has ended.

For additional informational on hurricane preparedness, please visit <http://www.ready.gov/hurricanes>.



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