

- **Explore sheltering options for your pets.** Contact relatives, friends, hotels and motels, and other facilities to make a definite plan for sheltering your animals. Many communities are developing emergency animal shelters similar to shelters for people. Contact your local emergency management agency to find out about emergency animal shelters in your community, in the event that you have nowhere else to go and need to go to public shelter with your animals.
- **Include your pets in your evacuation and sheltering drills.** Practice evacuating your pets so they will get used to entering and traveling calmly in their carriers. If you have horses or other large animals, be sure that they are accustomed to entering a trailer. Practice bringing your pets indoors, into your safe room, so that if you are required to shelter in place, they will be comfortable.

What to Do During a Hurricane/Tropical Storm Watch

CORE ACTION MESSAGES

- Listen to and watch local news.
- Prepare your home.
- Evacuate if advised by authorities.
- Avoid floodwater.

You should:

- **Use a NOAA Weather Radio or listen continuously to a local station on a portable, battery-powered radio or television.** Hurricanes can change direction, intensity, and speed suddenly. What was a minor threat several hours ago can quickly escalate to a major threat.
- **Heed the advice of local officials, and evacuate if they advise it.** (See Appendix: What to Do if Evacuation is Necessary Because of a Storm.) Following their advice is your best protection. Avoid flooded roads and watch for washed-out bridges. Local officials may close certain roads, especially near the coast, when effects of the hurricane reach the coast.
- **Prepare your property for high winds.** Hurricane winds can lift large, heavy objects and send them crashing into homes. Anything not secured may become a deadly or damaging projectile.
 - Bring lawn furniture inside, as well as outdoor decorations or ornaments, trash cans, hanging plants, or anything else that can be picked up by the wind.
 - Secure your home by closing the windows and doors and then closing the hurricane shutters. If you do not have hurricane shutters, close and board up all windows and doors.
 - If possible and if it can be safely done, remove outside antennas.
 - Moor a boat securely or move it to a designated safe place. Use rope or chain to secure a boat to a trailer. Use tie-downs to anchor a trailer to the ground or to a building.
- **Fill your car's gas tank.** If advised to evacuate, you may have to travel a long distance or you may be stuck in traffic for a long time. Gas stations along the route may be closed.
- **Stock up on prescription medications.** Stores and pharmacies may be closed after the storm.