



SHELTER IN PLACE SAFETY TIPS



SHELTER IN PLACE

Each year, hurricane season lasts from June 1 to November 30. Dangers from these storms include high winds, heavy rain, tornadoes, flooding, storm surges, rip currents and power outages.

Depending on a storm's severity, Jefferson Parish might issue a mandatory evacuation. **If the Parish President issues a mandatory evacuation, all residents and visitors must leave.** If an evacuation is not ordered, it is up to you to decide to evacuate or shelter in place. If you are in a manufactured or mobile home, do not shelter in place. Leave immediately and go to nearest shelter location.

This guide will provide you and your family with safety tips if you decide to shelter in place.



GATHER WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO SHELTER IN PLACE

- Non-perishable food and water for 4 days (first 96 hours)
- 4+ gallons of water per person
- Manual can opener
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Matches or lighter
- First aid kit
- Week's supply of prescription medications
- Radio (battery operated or hand crank)
- Books and games



CLEAN AND SECURE YOUR PROPERTY

- Remove debris from gutters and downspouts.
- Clear debris from catch basins.
- Prune trees and shrubs around your property.
- Bring outdoor furniture and decoration inside.
- Secure or bring garbage bins indoors.



JP AWARE

PREPARE FOR POWER AND WATER OUTAGES

- If you need power for medical equipment, create a Smart911 profile and indicate your needs in the medical section.
- Find out how long medication can be stored at higher temperatures and get specific guidance for any medications that are critical for life.
- Use a thermometer in the refrigerator and freezer so you can know the temperature when power is restored.
- Fill your bathtub with water to clean and flush toilets.
- Turn your fridge to its lowest temperature.
- Take an inventory of needed items that rely on electricity.
- Charge electronic devices.
- Preserve cell phone battery life.
- Stay away from low-hanging or downed power lines.



ARE YOU PREPARED FOR A POWER OUTAGE?

- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Spare batteries
- Battery/hand crank-powered radio
- Battery/solar-powered phone charger
- At least three days of food and water



FOOD AND WATER SAFETY TIPS

- If power is out, keep fridge/freezer doors closed.
- Get rid of food that:
 - Is in an open, damaged or bulging can
 - Has an abnormal smell, color or texture
 - Needs to be refrigerated but has risen over 40 degrees
- Clean off cans that came in contact with flood water (remove label, dip in bleach solution, relabel with permanent marker).
- Ask local officials or listen to news to find out about local water safety. If water is unsafe:
 - Bring water to a rolling boil for one minute before use
 - Add 1/8 teaspoon of new, unscented bleach to 1 gallon of water and let sit for 30 minutes before use
 - Use water purifying tablets (follow tablet directions)
- Even if partially thawed, you can cook/refreeze food as long as it hasn't risen above 40 degrees.



FOOD AND WATER SAFETY TIPS

- When in doubt, throw it out! Use the Coin Test to determine whether food in your freezer thawed and is no longer safe to eat:
 - Freeze a glass of water and put a coin on top. Use the coin to determine whether your freezer reached unsafe temperatures.
 - The coin is still at the top, ice remained frozen solid and the food is safe
 - The coin is in the middle, ice partially melted before re-freezing and may be safe to eat
 - The coin is at the bottom, ice completely melted and the food is not safe



AMOUNT OF WATER IN YOUR DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

- Your disaster supply kit should have 1 gallon of drinking water per person, per day (for at least four days)
- A family of four should have at least 12 gallons of water in their supply kit
- In the event of a complete water distribution, additional water may be needed to flush toilets and bathe.



GENERATOR SAFETY TIPS

Do:

- Always run a generator at least 20 feet from a home
- Always direct exhaust away from a home
- Before refueling, turn off a gas-powered generator and let it cool for 15-20 minutes
- Buy a generator with built-in CO safety technology
- Use a heavy-duty extension cord to connect appliances directly into the generator's outlet
- Store fuel for the generator in an approved safety can. Use the type of fuel recommended in the instructions or on the label of the generator.

Don't:

- Never use a generator indoors or in an attached garage
- Do not connect a generator directly to a home's wiring
- Do not plug a portable generator into an electrical outlet in a home or garage
- Adhere to the manufacturer's directions for safe operations
- Do not touch a generator with wet hands
- Make sure generators are properly grounded
- Do not refuel a hot generator
- Do not overload a generator
- Do not store gasoline indoors



SMOKE ALARM SAFETY TIPS

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom. They should also be on every level of the home.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall.
- Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet from the stove.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.



CARBON MONOXIDE SAFETY TIPS

- Carbon monoxide alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of a home.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height.
- Test carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.
- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department.



STAY OFF ROADWAYS

We ask the public to stay off the roadways during a storm. Depending on the severity of a storm, public safety agencies stop responding to calls once a storm makes landfall. Please do not do the following:

- Drive around barricades
- Drive on bridges over fast-moving water
- Drive under bridges that can hold water



TORNADOES

Hurricanes and tropical storms can produce tornadoes. These tornadoes most often occur in thunderstorms embedded in rain bands well away from the center of the hurricane; however, they can also occur near the eyewall.

The majority of tornadoes associated with tropical systems occur in the right front quadrant of the storm.



TORNADO SAFETY RULES

Tornado Watch: Issued when conditions are favorable for tornado development. People located in and around the watch area should keep an eye to the sky and listen to their NOAA weather radio all hazards or tune to local broadcast media for further weather information. The watch is intended to give you time to prepare and time to review your safety rules.

Tornado Warning: Issued when a developing tornado has been detected by National Weather Service doppler radar or a reliable report of a tornado has been reported. A tornado warning is usually issued for portions of one or two parishes, for an hour or less. The storm could also produce large hail and destructive straight line winds. If the tornado warning includes your neighborhood or work place, you should seek safe shelter immediately.



SHELTERING FROM A TORNADO

- Move to an interior room with no windows. If you do have a basement, quickly move to your basement and bring emergency supplies.
- No place outside is safe from a tornado, seek inside shelter immediately.
- Top floors of homes and buildings do not protect you from a tornado. Quickly move to the first floor of your home or building.
- Exterior rooms and rooms with windows do not protect you from tornadoes. Quickly move to an interior room with no windows.



STAY CONNECTED

1. Tune into your trusted local news source.
2. Access **Mobile.Weather.Gov** on your mobile phone and get wireless emergency alerts, or text **JPALERT** or **JPNOTICIAS** to **888-777**.
3. Receive forecasts information and news on your NOAA weather radio.
4. Stay in touch with friends and family and receive updates from **Jefferson Parish Social Media** (@JeffParishGov).
5. Access information from **Weather.Gov**, **Ready.Gov** and **Flash.org**.

REMEMBER: WE CAN'T ALERT YOU IF WE CAN'T REACH YOU.

