

When preparing for a hurricane or other natural disaster, it is important to consider the following:
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- If you will require evacuation assistance and sheltering, it is advised that you register for the Emergency & Evacuation Assistance Program prior to an emergency in order to ensure that help will be provided to you when needed. It may also be used post-disaster to provide other assistance. Pre-registered residents will receive priority during an emergency. (Note: This does not apply to people in nursing or assisted living homes!) The form is available in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole. To apply, visit: <http://www.miamidade.gov/hurricane/evacuation-assistance.asp>. To request this material in alternate format such as Braille, Large Print, or electronically, please call (305) 468-5900.
- Do not wait until an evacuation order is given to request being added to the Registry.
- Locate emergency shelters. All Miami-Dade County Hurricane Evacuation Shelters exceed Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) criteria for emergency shelters, and include accessible entryways, service/activity areas and bathrooms.
- If you require the care of a personal attendant and choose to go to a shelter, bring the attendant with you because one will not be provided. If you use a personal care attendant from an agency, check to see if the agency has special provisions for emergencies (e.g., providing services at another location should an evacuation be ordered.)
- Service animals are permitted in all shelters. Please ensure that you have proper documentation and adequate food/water for your service animal should you choose to go to a shelter.
- Remember to bring an emergency kit that includes: bedding, medications, and personal supplies (food, water, and medical equipment.)
- Fill prescription medications ahead of time, (you can do so in the event of a declared state of emergency or a National Weather Service hurricane warning.)
- If you have a private insurance plan, check with your insurance carrier in advance to determine their policy regarding early refills during hurricane watches or warnings.
- Bring these things with you to the pharmacy if you need an emergency refill: a photo ID; the pill bottle from the last refill; the name, address and phone number of the prescribing physician; the original prescription, if possible; and an insurance card.
- Keep in mind that you'll need to have available refills on that prescription, and also note that controlled substances may have additional restrictions.
- If you have medication that requires refrigeration, make sure to have a cooler and ice packs ready.
- STS and Paratransit will not run during the hurricane.
- County transportation facilities and services shut down three hours before hurricane or tropical storm winds reach a sustained 39 miles per hour.
- Make sure to have at least a three-day supply of nonperishable food and a manual can opener. In addition, have a three-day supply of water (one gallon of water per person, per day.)
- To determine whether your home is located in a storm surge planning zone, visit <http://www.miamidade.gov/fire/evacuation-zones.asp>

- Consider getting a medical alert system such as Life Alert should you need medical attention in the event of a power outage.
- If you use an electric wheelchair or scooter, have a manual one as backup.
- Instruct those who may need to help you in the case of an emergency on how to properly handle your equipment.
- Arrange for at least two people to check up on you if you will be by yourself.
- If you are vision or hearing impaired, plan ahead to have someone to convey essential emergency information to you if you are unable to use the TV or radio.
- If you live in an apartment, ask the management to identify and mark accessible exits and access to all areas designated for emergency shelter or safe rooms. Ask about plans for alerting and evacuating those with sensory disabilities.