



1400 N. MONROE ST. • TALLAHASSEE, FL 32303 • (850) 891-4000 • TallahasseeSeniorFoundation.org

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

Hurricane season starts on June 1 and runs through November 30. Depending on the situation, you may or may not decide to evacuate. It is important to have a plan both for sheltering in place and evacuating. In the event of even a minor storm, homes may be without electricity and water for days. If you rely on in-home services or suffer from health issues that may be affected by lack of power, staying in your home may not be realistic. Also, evacuation should be done well in advance, and emergency shelters should be a last resort. Have a plan in place and make sure friends, family and/or caregivers are aware of your plan. **Prepare two emergency supply kits: a shelter in place kit with two weeks of supplies, and an evacuation kit with three days of supplies. Be sure to include face coverings, hand sanitizer and anything else you may need to protect against COVID-19 in the event you need to evacuate to a hotel or shelter.** For more information on hurricane preparation and to download the [PREP \(Plan for Readiness and Emergency Preparedness\)](#) visit www.tal.gov.com/neighborhoodservices/na_safety.aspx.

Essential supplies: batteries, flashlight, non-perishable foods, water, medications, portable phone charger, first aid kit and important documents (insurance policies, advanced healthcare directives, legal documents, social security cards, birth and marriage certificates, passports, etc.) placed in a waterproof envelope. For more information on having a plan, building a disaster preparedness bucket, and preparing your home, review the **Leon County Disaster Survival Guide** found online at leoncountyfl.gov/haveahurricaneplan/assets/2021-leon-county-dsg-tab.pdf

If you have a loved one in long-term care, talk to the facility about their participant care plan. If you or a loved one have special needs, **Special Needs Shelters** are designed for persons who require more medical care than what can be provided at other shelters. To sign up for the **Florida Special Needs Registry**, call (850) 606-3700 or visit: snr.flhealthresponse.com/.

If you are a pet owner, make sure you plan for your pet’s needs too. Service animals will be accepted into any Red Cross shelter; Red Cross disaster shelters can be found at redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services/find-an-open-shelter.html. Check Leon County and City of Tallahassee websites for updates on shelters that welcome pets. Talk to your vet about boarding options. Prepare essential pet supplies (food, water, medication, vaccination/shot records, etc.). For additional information on pet safety during emergencies, including a list of pet friendly hotels, visit cdc.gov/healthypets/emergencies/index.html.

City and County Resources

City of Tallahassee Tal.gov.com **850-891-4968**
Residents can find important information before, during and after a major weather event on the city’s website, and the city’s customer service call center is staffed 24 hours a day during emergencies.

[@COTNews](#) on Twitter and Facebook

Follow @COTNews on social media to view up-to-date information about response and recovery efforts.

DigiTally app

The City’s official app is free for download, and is the fastest, easiest way to report service issues, such as downed trees and electrical outages. The app sends reports directly to response teams. Available on Apple and Android devices.

Leoncountyfl.gov/ei/

This emergency information portal details the status of any verified emergency in the area.

[@LeonCounty](#) on Twitter and Facebook

Information about Leon County offices, as well as emergency updates, will be posted to these accounts during an emergency activation.

Leon County Citizens Connect app

This app details emergency information verified by public safety agencies and emergency management personnel. Available on Apple and Android devices.

[@NWS Tallahassee](#) National Weather Service Tallahassee on Twitter

The official Twitter account for the National Weather Service in Tallahassee, providing up to date information on severe weather events.

Community Resources

Red Cross of North Florida RedCross.org/NorthFlorida **850-878-6080**
If your home is in an evacuation zone, shelters may open; call for locations and special conditions.

Advantage Aging Solutions advantageaging.org/ **850-488-0055**
Formerly the Area Agency on Aging for N. FL, Advantage Aging Solutions is the local aging and disability resource center.

211 Big Bend 211BigBend.org **211 or 850-617-6333**
Serves as the gateway to community information, services and support in times of emergencies. Trained hotline counselors also provide emotional support, crisis assistance, information and referrals.

Salvation Army of Tallahassee SalvationArmyFlorida.org/Tallahassee **850-222-0304**
The Salvation Army of Tallahassee serves disaster survivors and relief workers with food, emotional support and other critical services. The Salvation Army's disaster team conducts wellness checks, provides spiritual care and assists in distributing food, water, clothing and clean-up kits.

Kearney Center kearneycenter.org/ **850-792-9000**
Provides 24-hour comprehensive emergency services to individuals experiencing or on-the-verge of experiencing homelessness.

Statewide Resources

Florida Division of Emergency Management FloridaDisaster.org **850-815-4110**
Plans for and responds to disasters and maintains the statewide special needs registry.

Florida Department of Elder Affairs elderaffairs.org **800-963-5337**
Provides disaster assistance to seniors during emergencies.

Florida Department of Financial Services, Division of Consumer Services MyFloridaCFO.com/Division/Consumers **877-693-5236**
Offers a toll-free consumer helpline to assist insurance consumers with inquiries and filing complaints.