

Here are some things you should think about when planning for storms:

1. Do we live in an evacuation zone? Which one?
2. Where will we go if we need to evacuate (hotel, shelter, friend's home)?
3. Which roads should we take? (Main roads and interstates will be congested. Plot your route using alternative roads if possible.)
4. Who are our emergency contacts? (You should notify at least two people - one locally and one out of state - of where you plan to evacuate.)
5. Do I need a special-needs shelter? If so, plan ahead (check to make sure they accept pets or special needs, if necessary) and get there early.
6. Have I notified my employer of my evacuation plans?
7. Have I secured my important documents, keepsakes and business data? (List insurance policies and other items you need to gather.)
8. Do I know the terms of my homeowners insurance policy? (List the company, policy number, and name and phone of number of the agent.)
9. Do I have a list of my prescription medications with doses, doctor names, pharmacy information and phone numbers? Do I have enough prescription medication? (You should have enough to last at least three days.)
10. Do I have enough nonperishable food and water and a first-aid kit?
11. Where will my pets go?
12. Do I have a plan for securing my house (shutters or plywood, garage door reinforcement, lawn items, etc.)?

What should I bring to a shelter?

Pillows and blankets

Extra clothes

Enough cash to survive if the storm knocks out power for a few days

A three-day supply of medication

A battery-powered radio

Important papers such as insurance policies and any medical records you keep at home

Books, puzzles, games

Source: Media General News Service