



Home Matters

Preparing for Hurricane Season

With hurricane season on the horizon, it's essential for those in areas at risk of these severe weather events to be prepared. Even if your home has not been previously impacted by hurricanes, new research suggests that over 13.4 million new properties may be exposed to increased hurricane-related risks in the next 30 years.

To ensure you are prepared for these storms, consider the following steps:

- **Understand terminology.** Familiarize yourself with the differences between [weather event definitions](#), such as hurricane watches versus warnings.

- **Pack an emergency kit.** Gather essential supplies, including food and water, medicine, important documents, flashlights, a radio and extra batteries.
- **Make a plan.** Establish plans for evacuation and ensure all members of your household are familiar with them.
- **Protect your property.** Clear your property of belongings that could be blown around, cover windows and doors and be ready to turn off your power if necessary.

Click [here](#) for additional hurricane preparedness guidance.

Home Grilling Safety Tips

According to the National Fire Protection Association, nearly 9,000 home fires involve grills every year.

Keep yourself and your home safe while grilling by following these precautions:

- Place grills at least 3 feet away from structures or other objects.
- Avoid using grills directly under your roof or other flammable materials, such as tree limbs.
- Keep pets and children away from grills.
- Check your grill's specifications and adhere to all instructions.
- Use long-handled utensils to avoid burns while grilling.
- Store baking soda near your grill to extinguishing grease fires.

Contact us today for additional home safety guidance.

