

STORM PREPARATION

June marks the beginning of storm season in Maryland, and with it comes the need for increased awareness and preparedness. The Atlantic hurricane season is officially underway, and Marylanders should be prepared not only for hurricanes but also for flash flooding, severe thunderstorms, and tornadoes—hazards that can affect every part of our state.

Now is the time to take action. The Washington County Office of Emergency Management (DEMAC) offers vital resources to help residents understand their risks and plan accordingly. Visit DEMAC (<https://www.washco-md.net/emergency-management/>).

Stay informed by signing up for emergency alerts through WashcoMD Alerts (<https://www.washco-md.net/emergency-management/washcomdalerts/>) and ensure your emergency kits and communication plans are up to date. Preparation today can save lives tomorrow. Let's stay ready, stay safe, and support one another throughout Maryland's storm season.

DISASTER SUPPLY KIT





Don't wait until a storm is on the radar—early preparation can make all the difference. Here are key steps to help you stay safe and resilient:



Stay Informed with Multiple Alert Sources:

- NOAA Weather Radio
- Local TV, radio, and trusted news websites
- Government social media and websites (e.g., MDEM, MD Ready)
- Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) on your smartphone
- Washco MD Alerts



Pet and Access & Functional Needs Planning:

Contact your local emergency management office to learn about pet-friendly shelters or assistance for people with special needs.



Secure Your Home:

Bring in outdoor furniture and loose objects, trim trees, and secure windows and doors with shutters or plywood if necessary.



Prepare for Power Outages:

Charge phones and backup batteries, store ice or cold packs for food storage, and consider a backup power source for medical devices.



Prepare for Flooding:

Review your insurance policies and consider flood insurance - even areas outside of designated flood zones can experience flooding



Shelter-in-Place When Safe:

Prepare to safely ride out the storm at home



Keep Your Vehicle Ready:

Fill your gas tank ahead of time, check your vehicle's emergency kit, and know evacuation routes in advance.

Taking these steps now can help reduce the impact of tropical weather on your family, property, and peace of mind.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
SCAN THE QR CODE:**