



## ↘ What to do to Prepare for a Hurricane

Hurricanes are ranked on a scale of 1-5 (“5” is the most dangerous). These rankings are based on wind speed and the risk for flooding and property damage.

These are effective, proven steps you can take to protect yourself:

- Stay tuned to local radio and TV broadcasts. A hurricane watch will be issued 24-36 hours before the storm comes. (The National Weather Service announces this watch.)
- Get your emergency kit ready:
  - Several clean containers for water or bottled water
  - A 3-5 day supply of non-perishable food for you and your pets
  - A first-aid kit
  - A battery-powered radio, flashlights, and extra batteries
  - Sleeping bags or extra blankets
  - Prescription medicines and any special medical supplies
  - Baby food, diapers, and other baby supplies
  - Personal hygiene supplies
- Inform local authorities about people with special needs, such as the elderly and anyone with a disability or special medical needs.

- Find and safely store all important papers and documents, such as:
  - Social Security card
  - Driver's license/personal identification
  - Insurance policies
  - Wills/deeds, etc.
  - Proof of residence
  
- Bring items inside that are not securely anchored, like lawn furniture, trash cans, etc. These items can damage property or hurt people in heavy winds.

## ↘ For More Information

This information is provided by the local governments, businesses and nonprofits of the National Capital Region. Visit [www.makeaplan.org](http://www.makeaplan.org). More information is also available from the National Weather Service at [www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov).



For more information  
[www.makeaplan.org](http://www.makeaplan.org)

Brought to you by the communities of the National Capital Region