



Storm Preparedness Guide for Florida Residents

Living in Florida means enjoying sunshine, beaches, and warm weather—but it also means facing the reality of hurricane season and frequent severe storms. At Cross County Restoration, we know firsthand how devastating storm damage can be to both homes and businesses. That's why we've created this extended Storm Preparedness Guide: to help you take action before disaster strikes, minimize damage, and keep your loved ones safe. Preparation doesn't eliminate storms, but it can make recovery faster and easier.

1. Preparing Your Home and Property

- Inspect your roof regularly and replace missing or damaged shingles to reduce the risk of leaks.
- Trim trees and remove weak branches that could fall on your home, vehicles, or power lines.
- Secure outdoor furniture, grills, trash bins, and decorations that can become dangerous projectiles in high winds.
- Check and clear gutters and downspouts to ensure rainwater can drain properly, reducing the risk of flooding.
- Seal windows, doors, and other vulnerable entry points to help prevent water intrusion.
- Reinforce your garage door, as it is often one of the most vulnerable points during high winds.

2. Building an Emergency Supply Kit

- At least three days' supply of bottled water (one gallon per person per day).
- Non-perishable food items like canned goods, protein bars, and ready-to-eat meals.
- Manual can opener, disposable utensils, and paper products.
- Flashlights, lanterns, and extra batteries.
- First aid kit with essential medications, bandages, and antiseptics.
- Charged power banks and backup batteries for phones and electronics.
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio to stay updated on weather alerts.
- Cash in small bills, as ATMs may be down after a storm.

3. Protecting Your Family and Loved Ones

- Develop a family communication plan with emergency contacts and meeting points.
- Identify the safest room in your home—typically an interior room without windows.
- If evacuation orders are issued, follow them immediately and know your local evacuation routes.
- Make accommodations for pets by preparing carriers, food, and medical records.
- Store important documents (insurance policies, IDs, property deeds) in waterproof containers.

4. Insurance and Documentation

One of the most overlooked parts of storm preparedness is proper documentation. Insurance carriers will often require proof of damage and pre-loss condition before approving claims. Take the following steps before storm season to protect yourself:

- Take clear photos and videos of your property—inside and out—before a storm hits.
- Keep digital backups of insurance policies, ID cards, and important documents.
- Review your insurance coverage annually to ensure storm and flood damage are included.



- Save Cross County Restoration's 24/7 emergency number in your phone.

5. What to Do After the Storm

- Stay indoors until local authorities declare it safe to go outside.
- Avoid downed power lines and report them to your utility company immediately.
- Do not drive through flooded streets—it only takes a few inches of water to disable a vehicle.
- Take photos and videos of any damage before making temporary repairs.
- Contact Cross County Restoration immediately to begin water extraction, drying, and storm recovery services.

■ ■ *Storms are unpredictable, but preparation makes all the difference. Use this guide to protect your property, keep your family safe, and reduce the impact of severe weather. If your property experiences storm damage, Cross County Restoration is here to respond 24/7 with emergency services and full restoration support.*

