

Hurricane Evacuation Car Kit Checklist

Pack for the drive, unexpected delays and the first night away.

How to use this checklist: Keep durable roadside equipment in the vehicle when safe. Store food, water, medications, documents and heat-sensitive equipment indoors, then load them when evacuation becomes possible.

1. Permanent Vehicle Emergency Kit

Inspect heat-sensitive gear and confirm you know how to use every tool.

- ☐ Reflective warning triangles
- ☐ Reflective safety vest
- ☐ Flashlight and headlamp
- ☐ Compatible spare batteries
- ☐ First-aid kit
- ☐ Jumper cables or charged jump starter
- ☐ Tire-pressure gauge and inflator
- ☐ Spare tire or factory repair system
- ☐ Jack, lug wrench and wheel-lock key
- ☐ Basic tools, duct tape and zip ties
- ☐ Work gloves and rain poncho
- ☐ Paper map and roadside-assistance details

2. Water and Travel Food

- ☐ Drinking water for every traveler and pet
- ☐ Extra water for traffic delays
- ☐ Shelf-stable snacks and simple meals
- ☐ Food for children and dietary needs
- ☐ Pet food and collapsible bowls
- ☐ Manual can opener, if needed
- ☐ Cups, paper towels and trash bags

5. Clothing, Hygiene and Weather

- ☐ Change of clothing, extra socks and closed-toe shoes
- ☐ Rain jacket or poncho
- ☐ Hat, sunscreen and insect repellent
- ☐ Cooling towel and lightweight blanket
- ☐ Toiletries, soap, toothbrush and toothpaste
- ☐ Menstrual, continence and personal-care supplies
- ☐ Toilet paper, moist wipes and hand sanitizer
- ☐ Towels, laundry bag and trash bags

3. Health and Medical Needs

Keep medications accessible and follow storage instructions from your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

- ☐ Prescription medications
- ☐ Necessary over-the-counter medications
- ☐ Medication and prescription list
- ☐ Doctor, pharmacy and insurance details
- ☐ Spare glasses or contact-lens supplies
- ☐ Hearing-aid batteries
- ☐ Mobility and accessibility supplies
- ☐ Required medical devices
- ☐ Safe cooling for refrigerated medication
- ☐ Appropriate backup power for medical equipment

4. Documents, Cash and Communication

- ☐ Driver's licenses and identification
- ☐ Vehicle registration and insurance
- ☐ Home, renters and health insurance records
- ☐ Emergency contacts and medical information
- ☐ Destination, hotel or shelter confirmation
- ☐ Pet vaccination and veterinary records
- ☐ Waterproof document pouch
- ☐ Cash in smaller denominations
- ☐ Phones and charging cables
- ☐ Vehicle chargers and charged power banks
- ☐ Weather radio and spare batteries
- ☐ Offline maps, paper map and written addresses

HOUSEHOLD EVACUATION NOTES

Destination	_____
Alternate destination	_____
Out-of-area contact	_____
Departure trigger	_____
Primary / alternate route	_____

HURRICANE BUG OUT

Load Safely and Keep Essentials Accessible

Organize the vehicle so critical supplies are reachable without unloading everything.

PASSENGER AREA	EMERGENCY-ACCESS AREA	CARGO AREA
☐ Identification and documents ☐ Medications ☐ Phones and charging cables ☐ Water and travel food ☐ Map and destination details ☐ Child supplies and pet leash ☐ Rain gear	☐ First-aid kit ☐ Flashlight or headlamp ☐ Reflective vest and triangles ☐ Rain poncho and work gloves ☐ Tire equipment ☐ Jump-start equipment ☐ Basic tools	☐ Luggage and clothing ☐ Extra food and water ☐ Grab-and-load containers ☐ Coolers and medical supplies ☐ Pet supplies ☐ Bedding and hygiene supplies ☐ Larger household equipment

Cargo safety: Place heavy items low, secure everything against movement, preserve driver visibility and stay within the vehicle's payload limit. Do not place loose heavy objects in the passenger area.

6. Children, Pets and Personal Needs

- ☐ Properly installed car seat or booster
- ☐ Diapers, wipes, formula and bottles
- ☐ Child-appropriate food and medication
- ☐ Comfort item and quiet activities
- ☐ Secure pet carrier, harness or restraint
- ☐ Pet medication, waste bags and litter supplies
- ☐ Service-animal equipment

7. Load Last - Do Not Forget

- ☐ Wallets, keys and identification
- ☐ Medications and refrigerated supplies
- ☐ Phones, power banks and sensitive electronics
- ☐ Medical equipment currently in use
- ☐ Final water containers and pet medication

8. Final Departure Check

- ☐ Every person and animal is present
- ☐ Destination and alternate destination confirmed
- ☐ Official evacuation information checked
- ☐ Primary and alternate routes reviewed
- ☐ Fuel tank full or adequate charge confirmed
- ☐ Tire pressure and vehicle condition checked
- ☐ Medications, documents and identification loaded
- ☐ Phones and power banks charged
- ☐ Children and animals properly secured
- ☐ Cargo secured and driver visibility clear
- ☐ Out-of-area contact knows your destination
- ☐ Home secured and departure made while conditions are safe

Remember: If officials order an evacuation, do not delay leaving to perfect the loadout. People come before possessions. Follow local emergency instructions and never drive through floodwater.

This checklist supports personal planning and does not replace official evacuation guidance, vehicle instructions or medical advice. Prepare early. Evacuate smart. Recover safely.