

# PLANET FRIENDLY HURRICANE PREP



Use storage containers you already have or buy large capacity plastic jugs of water.



Buy nonperishable food you will actually eat, even after the storm season has passed.



For protective plastic coverings, consider using items you already have at home, such as shower curtains or plastic-lined tablecloths. If you need additional coverage, investing in a durable, reusable tarp is a smart choice that can be used year after year.



If you lose access to water and are unable to wash dishes, choose disposable dishware that is compostable.



Identify areas at risk of flooding and do your best to remove your personal possessions. Flood-damaged items often end up in a landfill.



If you are evacuating to a hotel, consider bringing your own toiletries to avoid using single-use plastic bottles provided in rooms. This simple step can help reduce waste while ensuring you have the products you prefer.



Consider using solar-powered devices to stay prepared during a power outage. Options like solar phone chargers, lanterns, and even portable generators can provide reliable energy when you need it most.



SOURCES

## ABOUT US

The CLEO Institute is a women-led nonprofit, nonpartisan organization exclusively dedicated to climate education, advocacy, and engagement. The devastating hurricanes, increased flooding, and rising temperatures underscore the importance of CLEO's work.

Building community resilience and adaptive capacity requires an informed, engaged, and prepared public. With a top-down, bottom-up approach, we work with government, business, academic, and community leaders to advocate for long-term resilient solutions for climate action.

## CONTACT US



[www.cleoinstitute.org](http://www.cleoinstitute.org)



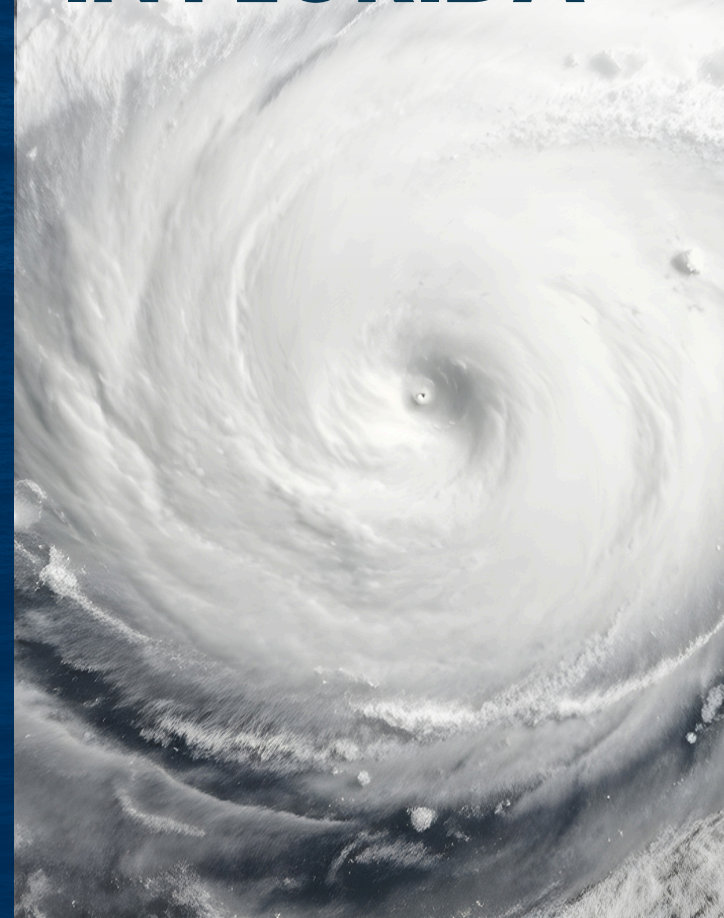
[info@cleoinstitute.org](mailto:info@cleoinstitute.org)



[cleoinstitute](https://www.instagram.com/cleoinstitute)



## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HURRICANES IN FLORIDA



## WHAT IS A HURRICANE?

A **hurricane** is a powerful tropical storm with winds over **74 miles per hour**. It forms over warm ocean water when moist air rises and creates a low-pressure center. As the system grows, it begins to rotate and gain strength.

- CATEGORY 1
- CATEGORY 2
- CATEGORY 3
- CATEGORY 4
- CATEGORY 5

Hurricanes are ranked by wind speed using the **Saffir-Simpson scale**

## HOW IS CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTING HURRICANES?

Warmer ocean water gives hurricanes more energy, making them stronger and wetter.

### Hurricanes today are more likely to:

- Rapidly intensify
- Drop more rain in a shorter amount of time
- Move more slowly, causing longer-lasting damage

Sea level rise makes storm surge more dangerous, and warmer air holds more moisture, increasing flood risks.

## WHY IS FLORIDA ESPECIALLY AT RISK?

Florida is one of the most hurricane-prone states in the country. Its long coastline, flat terrain, and warm surrounding waters increase the risk of severe impacts. Both coastal and inland areas can experience strong winds, storm surge, flooding, and even tornadoes. Hurricane season lasts from **June 1 to November 30**, but storms can form outside of this time frame.



Every coastal county in Florida has been under a hurricane watch or warning at some point in the last

**10 YEARS**

## HOW DO YOU PREPARE FOR HURRICANES

### AND WHAT CAN YOU DO TO REDUCE YOUR RISK?



Know your evacuation zone at [FloridaDisaster.org/Know](https://www.floridadisaster.org/Know)



Plan for pets, medications, and family members with special needs



Choose multiple evacuation routes and a safe place to go



## BUILD A DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

- Water (**1 gallon per person per day**)
- Non-perishable food
- Medications and first aid supplies
- Flashlights, batteries, phone chargers
- Important documents in a **waterproof container**
- Face masks, hand sanitizer, and baby supplies if needed

## WHAT ARE SOLUTIONS

### FOR ADDRESSING THE IMPACTS OF HURRICANES IN A CHANGING CLIMATE?

- Invest in stronger building codes and resilient infrastructure
- Support wetland and mangrove restoration to reduce storm surge impacts
- Improve emergency response systems and communication, especially for vulnerable communities
- Push for policies that reduce carbon pollution to slow climate change
- Make sure flood protection and storm planning are fair and include underserved areas



### IF A HURRICANE IS COMING

- Follow evacuation orders without delay
- Fill your gas tank and charge your phone
- Let family and neighbors know your plan
- Stay indoors and away from windows
- **Never walk or drive** through floodwaters



### AFTER THE STORM

- Wait for official updates before returning home
- Watch out for downed power lines and flooded roads
- Use generators outside, far from windows and doors
- Take photos of damage for insurance claims