

COLLEGE STUDENT'S INCOMING HURRICANE CHECKLIST


Do these things as soon as you hear of an incoming hurricane and **do not procrastinate**.
Gas stations and stores will sell out within hours of the news announcing an expected hurricane landfall.

- Gas up your car immediately. Keep it full by limiting your driving
- Refill Prescriptions First (if needed)
- Grocery shop for the items on this list (if needed) and other necessities you are running low on
Important: Anticipate the stores being sold out for at least 4 days after today and shop accordingly.
- Get Cash Back in small bills at the grocery store or from the ATM - at least \$20.
- Purchase Pet Food (if needed)
- Gas up again after running errands if needed
- Park your car in a sheltered area if possible, away from flying branches, trash cans and debris
- Do all of your laundry, including sheets. Keep the laundry going
- Charge your phone, laptop and electronics
- Clean your room and vacuum in anticipation of power outs. Keep walkways clear.
- Bring bicycles and patio items inside so they do not blow around, become ruined or break windows
- Stay inside, do not waste gas driving and avoid the other panicked drivers on the road causing wrecks
- Shower, wash your hair and prepare to be without power for hair dryers and hot water heaters
- Complete and submit early any assignments due the day the hurricane is expected to make landfall
- Contact your family to let them know you are prepared and safe. Remind them cell service may go down

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN THE POWER GOES OUT:

- If the power goes out during the hurricane, it will be out for at least 12 hours or until the wind stops. Power outs lasting 24 to 72 hours are very common. Be prepared!
- You will not be able to use microwaves, ovens, desktop computers, chargers, wifi, TV, video games, refrigerators, air conditioners, fans, hair dryers, vacuums or anything that plugs in.
- You will not be able to cook except for on a patio grill. Buy foods that do not require cooking or refrigeration to eat for your meals. Comfort foods are nice to have!
- Nearby cell towers may be damaged and cell service may go down. Family and loved ones may not be able to get in touch with you. (Remind them this does not mean you are injured)
- Natural gas will automatically switch off for safety after the power goes out. The hot water heater will not work. Showers will be cold. A gas stove/oven will not work.
- Stores & Fast Food will sell out before the storm and then close. They will stay closed until power comes on (to process credit cards) and the shelves are re-stocked. This takes days.
- You can hand wash clothes in the bathroom sink with a bit of laundry detergent. Put the item on a hanger and hang it on the shower curtain rod to air dry.

OWN THESE ITEMS BEFORE A HURRICANE:

- Headlamp or flashlight (that takes common AA or AAA batteries)
- Refillable water bottle Can opener
- Waterproof shoes, hiking boots or mud boots/wellies 
- Pair of work/gardening gloves (for debris clean up after a storm)
- Rain jacket Band Aids + Ointment

SHOPPING LIST:

- Prescriptions
- Bottled water
- Batteries for flashlight
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Body soap Deodorant
- Hand soap Toothpaste
- Hand Sanitizer
- Tampons/Pads
- Personal health items
- Baby/Wet Wipes Kleenex
- Dish soap Toilet paper
- Paper Bowls Paper Plates
- Plastic Utensils Paper Towels
- Pet Food + Litter (if needed)
- Get Cash Back Book or Magazine
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

- SNACKS:
 - Chips
 - Granola Bars
 - Nuts
 - PopTarts
 - BreakFast Bars
 - Beef Jerky
 - Dried Fruit
 - Fresh fruit
 - Cookies
 - Crackers
 - Chocolate or Candy

★Reminder: You will not be able to cook during a power out. Buy snacks!