



Get a Plan!

Planning before a hurricane or other disaster is critical! You need an evacuation plan, a family disaster plan, and general disaster supplies. Fortunately, a great planning resource is available to help you. Develop a free, personalized disaster plan at FloridaDisaster.org. One of the easiest things to do is assemble a supply kit. You may have many of the items listed in your home already. Remember that a person with a disability may have additional planning to do and supplies to gather, so begin early!

GET A PLAN!
FloridaDisaster.org

- ### Disaster Supply Kit
- Water - at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 7 days
 - Food - at least enough per person for 3 to 7 days
 - non-perishable packaged or canned food / juices
 - any special food needed for dietary purposes
 - snack foods
 - non-electric can opener
 - cooking tools / fuel
 - paper plates / plastic utensils
 - Blankets / Pillows, etc.
 - Clothing - seasonal / rain gear/ sturdy shoes
 - First Aid kit / Medicines / Prescription Drugs
 - Toiletries / Hygiene items / Moisture wipes
 - Flashlight / Batteries
 - Radio - battery operated or solar powered
 - Telephones - fully charged cell phone with extra battery and a traditional (not cordless) telephone set
 - Cash (with some small bills) and Credit Cards
 - banks and ATMs may not be available for extended periods
 - Toys, Books and Games
 - Important documents - in a waterproof container or watertight resealable plastic bag
 - Insurance, medical records, Social Security card, etc.
 - Tools - keep a set with you during the storm

- ### Disability-Related Supplies and Special Equipment
- Vehicle fuel tanks filled
 - Service Animals/Pet care items
 - proper identification / immunization records / medications
 - ample supply of food and water
 - carrier or cage
 - muzzle and leash
 - Suction equipment
 - Wheelchair
 - Wheelchair repair kit
 - Motorized
 - Manual
 - Eating utensils
 - Dialysis equipment
 - Sanitary supplies
 - Grooming utensils
 - Urinary supplies
 - Dressing devices
 - Crutches
 - Writing devices
 - Ostomy supplies
 - Dentures
 - Hearing device(s)
 - Walker
 - Monitors
 - Other
 - Oxygen
 - Cane(s)

Dear Customer:

Hurricane season is approaching, once again. Are you prepared? Do you have a plan? Have you restocked your emergency kit? While Florida did not experience a major hurricane last year, Floridians have been impacted by tornadoes, tropical storms, flooding, and other emergencies.

The Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) encourages you to take advantage of a website link to help you, your family, and your business develop a disaster plan. This excellent planning tool is available for free at FloridaDisaster.org. In addition, this brochure helps identify some specific areas that individuals with disabilities may want to consider.

While most individuals with disabilities who are working or want to work are very independent, circumstances may change during an emergency. If you need additional assistance, have questions, or need help developing your plan, please contact one of the agencies listed inside this brochure.

VR is concerned about your health and safety, so please, "GET A PLAN" today!

Sincerely,



Aleisa C. McKinlay
VR Director

Vocational Rehabilitation
RehabWorks.org



Additional Information on Equipment and Supplies

If you use a wheelchair or scooter–

- Patch kit and can of seal-in-air product to repair flat tires, unless they are puncture-proof.
- Extra supply of inner tubes.
- A pair of heavy gloves to use while wheeling or making your way over glass and debris.

If you use a motorized wheelchair or scooter–

- Extra battery. A car battery also can be used with a wheelchair but will not last as long as a wheelchair's deep-cycle battery.
 - » Check with your vendor to know if you can charge your battery by either connecting jumper cables to a vehicle battery or connecting batteries to a converter that plugs into a vehicle's cigarette lighter.

Caution: Charge only one battery at a time.

- Store a lightweight manual wheelchair for backup, if available.

If you are blind or have a visual disability–

- A talking, braille, or large-view clock with extra batteries.
- At least one extra white cane.
- Mark your disaster supply items with fluorescent tape, large print, or braille.
- Mark your gas, water, and electric shutoff valves with fluorescent tape, large print, or braille.
- Extra magnifiers.
- Extra pair of glasses, if you wear them.

If you are Deaf or have a hearing loss–

- Have a whistle or other noisemaker, and pad and pencil available.
- Keep a card that indicates that you are Deaf in your disaster supply kit and with you at all times. Include any other appropriate communication information such as, "I do (or do not) know American Sign Language (ASL)," or, "My service animal may legally remain with me."
- Consider getting a small portable battery-operated television set. Emergency broadcasts may give information in American Sign Language (ASL) or open captioning.

If you have a speech-related or communication disability–

- Have pencil and paper with you as a backup communication resource.
 - » If you use an augmentative communication device (such as an electronic communicator or artificial larynx) that allows you to communicate by voice, be sure to keep it close to you at all times.
- Store copies of a word or letter board and preprinted key phrases you would use in case of an emergency in all of your disaster supply kits, your wallet, purse, etc.
 - » Consider buying a power converter if you use a laptop computer to communicate. A power converter allows most laptops (12 volts or less) to be operated from the cigarette lighter of a vehicle.

If you use self-administered medical treatments–

- Bring the equipment and fluids you will need with you.

If you have a cognitive disability–

- Keep a copy of any instructions or information you think you will need. You may want to break down the information into a step-by-step outline that is easy for you to understand. This format will help you remember what to do during the confusion of a disaster.
- Have a pencil and paper ready to keep track of any new instructions or information you may receive.

Important Points to Follow

- It is essential to pay attention to local emergency managers and if directed to, be prepared to evacuate. Register in advance with your local Office of Emergency Management, so they will be able to prepare for your needs and let you know their procedures. Visit www.floridadisaster.org/County_EM/ASP/county.asp, and click on your county to find your local contact information.
- Florida law requires that all utility companies offer a "priority reconnection service" for people with disabilities who use power-dependent equipment. Contact your utility company for more information and to get placed on their priority reconnection list.
- Advocate for yourself. Practice how to quickly explain to people the best way to guide or move you and your adaptive equipment, safely and rapidly.

Resources on Disaster Preparedness

Ability 1st (Tallahassee)

(850) 575-9621 Voice
(850) 576-5245 TDD
www.ability1st.info

CIL Disability Resource Center (Pensacola)

(850) 595-5566 Voice/TDD
(877) 245-2457 Toll Free
www.cil-drc.org

CIL Gulf Coast (Ft. Myers)

(239) 260-4575 Voice

CIL in Central Florida (Winter Park)

(407) 623-1070 Voice
(407) 623-1185 TDD
www.cilorlando.org

CIL of Broward (Ft. Lauderdale)

(954) 722-6400 Voice
(954) 735-0963 TTY
(888) 722-6400 Toll Free
www.cilbroward.org

CIL of North Central Florida (Gainesville)

(352) 378-7474 Voice
(352) 372-3443 TTY
(800) 265-5724 Toll free
www.cilncf.org

CIL of South Florida (Miami)

(305) 751-8025 Voice
(305) 751-8891 TTY
(866) 482-3727 Video phone
(800) 854-7551 Toll Free
www.soflacil.org

CIL of the Keys (Key Largo)

(305) 453-3491 Voice
(877) 335-0187 Toll Free

Coalition for Independent Living Options (West Palm Beach)

(561) 966-4288 Voice
(561) 641-6538 TTY
(800) 683-7337 Toll Free
www.cilo.org

Disability Achievement Center (Largo)

(727) 539-7550 Voice/TTY
(866) 539-7550 Toll Free
www.cascil.org/

Disability Resource Center (Panama City)

(850) 769-6890 Voice
(850) 387-1800 Video phone
(866) 954-5898 Toll Free
www.drcpc.org

disAbility Solutions for Independent Living (Daytona Beach)

(386) 255-1812 Voice
(386) 252-6222 TTY
(386) 255-1818 Video Phone
www.dsil.org

Independent Living Resource Center of Northeast Florida (Jacksonville)

(904) 399-8484 Voice/TTY
(888) 327-4313 Toll Free
www.cilj.com

Self-Reliance CIL (Tampa)

(813) 375-3965 Voice
(813) 375-3972 TTY
(813) 375-3966 Video phone
www.self-reliance.org

Space Coast CIL (Rockledge)

(321) 633-6011 Voice/TTY
www.spacecoastcil.org

SunCoast CIL (Sarasota)

(941) 351-9545 Voice
(800) 299-0297 TTY
(941) 351-9545 Video Phone
www.scil4u.org

