

Protecting Yourself

Have a plan.

- Know where you will evacuate to, and the best way to get there.
- Have necessary supplies kit(s) ready to use.

If an evacuation order has been issued...

Unplug electrical equipment, such as radios and televisions, and small appliances, such as toasters and microwaves.

- Turn off gas, electricity, and water to the house.
- Know the difference between a **mandatory** and **voluntary evacuation**. If your city or municipality officials order a voluntary evacuation of the area it is up to an individual's discretion to evacuate.
- Mandatory evacuations are designed to keep residents safe and residents *must and should* leave their homes and the area at risk to seek shelter in a safer area.
- Follow these instructions to evacuate yourself and your family: <https://www.ready.gov/evacuating-yourself-and-your-family>.
- Plan ahead, know the evacuation routes in your area and have a plan in place that all members of the household are aware of.
- Keep family members, neighbors, and other local friends informed of your evacuation plans. Alert them when you chose to evacuate to your planned destination. Designate a contact outside of the affected area to know your plan and whereabouts should communication fail within the area of risk.
- When the possibility of evacuation nears make sure to keep a full tank of gas in your car and throughout your trip away try keep it at half full to avoid breakdowns on congested roads.
- Check other fluid levels in the car, the air pressure in tires, and ensure that the vehicle chosen for evacuation can handle a long trip.
- Click [here](#) for more information on Cape May County evacuation preparedness and routes
- Click [here](#) for Cape May County evacuation routes and road closure information.
- Click [here](#) for FEMA guidelines.
- For more information on evacuation in New Jersey:
 - New Jersey [Office of Emergency Management](#)
 - [New Jersey Prepares](#) - A Public Health Guide to Emergency Planning
 - Important [documents](#) to pack when evacuating

Assemble a supply kit for your home, work and car. Learn what to pack [here](#).

Home:

- Keep it in a designated place, make sure everyone in the family knows where it is.
- It should contain essential food, water, and supplies for at least three days.

Work:

- One container that is ready to grab and go in case you are evacuated from your workplace.
- Make sure you have food and water, and comfortable walking shoes

Car:

- Kit should contain food, water, first aid supplies, flares, jumper cables, and seasonal supplies

For special needs patients:

- Identify any special needs/disabilities an individual has and plan accordingly ahead of time. Helpful tips and suggestions can be found [here](#).

For Parents with babies and/or small children

Have an emergency supplies kit for baby including:

- diapers
- wipes
- medications
- bottles
- formula
- water (for cleaning, and mixing with powdered formula)
- battery operated fan
- jars of baby food for 3 days
- blanket