JACKSONVILLE · NORTHEAST FLORIDA

# Hurricane Prep Guide.

**Track it. Seal it. Pack it. Leave early.**

HURRICANE SEASON
**JUNE 1 – NOV 30**

Hurricane Matthew off Florida, Oct. 7, 2016 · NOAA (public domain)

## TOP 5 BEST PRACTICES

### 1 Track it early

**NHC** (nhc.noaa.gov), **weather.com** and radar apps. Get **AlertJax** texts + the **JaxReady app**.

**WATCH** possible, ~48h

**WARNING** expected, ~36h

### 2 Know your zone & route

Zones A–F: look up your address at **JaxReady.com**. Ordered out? **Leave early.** Beach bridges close at sustained 40 mph winds. Need a ride? (904) 255-3110.

### 3 Seal the home

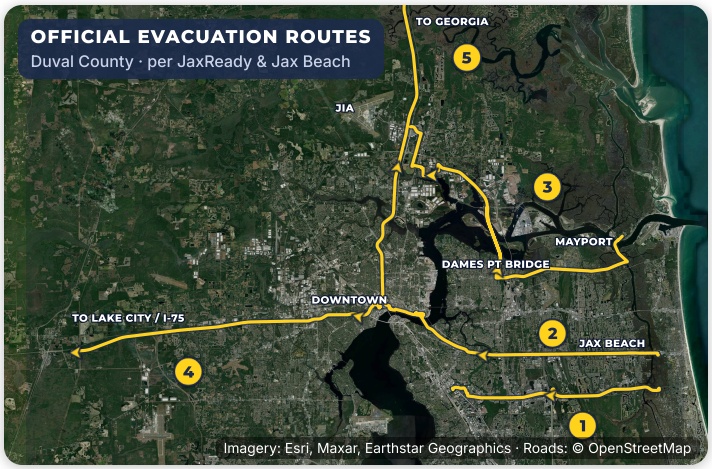
**Shutters, panels or plywood** up. Seal gaps at windows and doors. Bring in patio furniture and grills, brace the garage door, trim trees.

### 4 Insure & document

**Get flood insurance** before the season. Shoot a **photo/video inventory** of every room, and keep policies in the cloud.

### 5 Pack, stock & charge

A **go-bag** by the door, **water** and food for several days, a full tank, and a **charged power station**.




## YOUR WAY OUT

1. **J. Turner Butler Blvd → I-95**
   Beach Blvd to the St. Johns line: west on JTB, then I-95.
2. **Beach Blvd → Hart Bridge**
   Atlantic to Beach Blvd: west to the Hart Bridge Expwy, then I-95 / I-10.
3. **Atlantic / Wonderwood → I-295 N**
   North of Atlantic: over the Dames Point Bridge to I-95 North.
4. **I-10 West**
   Main route for most zones, through downtown toward Lake City and I-75.
5. **I-95 North**
   To Georgia. Visitors from the south: I-95 N → I-295 N → I-95 N.

**Leave early:** routes fill up as nearby counties evacuate too. Follow law enforcement detours.

## GRAB-AND-GO BAG

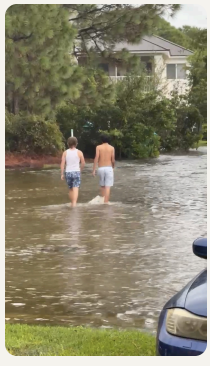
- **Walkie-talkies**
- **Compass**
- Flashlight + batteries
- Meds + glasses
- Cash, small bills
- Water + snacks
- **First-aid kit**
- **Paper map**
- NOAA weather radio
- IDs, policies, deeds
- Chargers + power bank
- Whistle, masks

## STAY-HOME STOCK

- **Water:** 1 gallon per person per day, for several days. Jugs filled early.
- **Food:** nonperishable + manual can opener. Pet food too.
- **Power station** ($800–$1,000 class, e.g., EcoFlow, Jackery, Anker): quiet backup for phones, lights, fans, Wi-Fi. **Never** run a gas generator indoors.

## CAR & PEOPLE

- **Full tank early.** Pumps need power, too.
- **Flat-ready:** check the spare and jack, pack a plug kit + 12V inflator, and practice a tire change once.
- **Check on family, friends, neighbors,** especially seniors. Set a buddy plan and an out-of-town contact.



### FROM MY DUPLEX

**The lot flooded. The building stayed dry.**

A recent storm flooded the parking lot at my South Florida duplex. Luckily, the water didn't get into the building. I carry **flood insurance**, and that matters: **standard homeowners policies typically don't cover flood**. I tracked the storm on **weather.com** and stayed in touch with my tenants and Airbnb guests the whole way.

## PROTECT YOUR WALLET

Every **$1** spent on mitigation saves:

| | |
|---|---|
| Cost | $1 |
| Home retrofits | $4 |
| Federal grants | $6 |
| Modern codes | $11 |

**68%** minimum wind-premium discount for homes built to the 2001 FL code or later

- ✓ **Get flood insurance.** NFIP policies usually take 30 days to start.
- ✓ **Wind-mitigation inspection** for insurance credits.
- ✓ **Photo/video inventory** of every room.
- ✓ **Know your hurricane deductible.**

*Sources: NOAA National Hurricane Center (watch/warning); JaxReady.com evacuation routes, zones, AlertJax & 2026 Duval Emergency Preparedness Guide; City of Jacksonville Beach Evacuation & Re-Entry; Ready.gov (kit, water); FEMA & FloodSmart.gov (most homeowners policies exclude flood; NFIP 30-day wait, with exceptions); National Institute of Building Sciences, Natural Hazard Mitigation Saves (2019); FL Dept. of Financial Services, Premium Discounts for Hurricane Loss Mitigation (discount is insurer-specific; applies to wind portion only). Routes are general; follow official orders.*

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