



Preparing Your Car for a Hurricane

Hurricanes and tropical storms can cause extensive damage to vehicles and other property, so it's important to be prepared. Here are some steps you can take to safeguard your vehicle and avoid further damage.

Car Maintenance Checklist

60 DAYS *Before Season*

- ☐ **Schedule Major Service**
Address any issues that could prevent you from evacuating safely.
- ☐ **Prepare Cooling System**
Ensure that your radiator, fan belt, thermostat, water pump, and coolant levels are working properly.
- ☐ **Get an Oil Change**
Consider getting your oil change earlier than scheduled.
- ☐ **Check for Recalls**
See if there are any pending recalls for your car model.

2 to 4 WEEKS *Before Season*

- ☐ **Check Battery Health**
A strong battery is essential when it's time to pack up and go.
- ☐ **Rotate and Replace Tires**
Your vehicle is useless for evacuation or recovery efforts if damaged tires prevent you from driving.
- ☐ **Keep Spare Tire in Trunk**
Having a spare tire and less storage space is better than being stranded.
- ☐ **Get New Wipers**
Clear visibility is crucial for safe driving in rain.

Planning Ahead



Evacuate Early

Leaving early can help avoid being caught in traffic.

Choose the Best Car

Evacuate using your most reliable vehicle.

Share Driving and Take Breaks

Take turns with family or friends. If you're alone, take breaks when you're out of the danger zone.

Make a Plan

Plan your stops ahead of time, especially if you're an EV driver. Be patient and expect delays.

Pay Attention to Gauges

Monitor fuel consumption and engine temperature.

Use the Air Conditioner

Staying comfortable will help you remain calm.

Before the Storm Hits

Fuel Up

Fill gas tank or charge EV battery.

Park Strategically

Find high ground, if possible.

Secure Garage and Loose Items

Place sandbags around doorways

Photograph Your Vehicle

Document car condition for insurance purposes



Car Storage

Garage



- Cover the garage windows
- Cover your car
- Pull car further inside
- Secure any loose items

Outdoors



- Cover your car
- Park strategically
- Secure loose lawn items
- Try to find high ground

Prepare an Emergency Kit

Tip: Keep an emergency kit in your car with essential supplies like snacks, water, and first aid supplies in case of an emergency evacuation.



- Basic tool kit
- Blankets
- Breaker bar
- Cleaning wipes
- Disinfectant spray
- Duct tape
- Emergency cash
- Fire extinguisher
- First aid kit
- Flashlight
- Flat tire repair kit
- Funnel
- Hand sanitizer
- Heavy-duty gloves
- Medications and supplements
- Microfiber cloths
- Non-perishable food and snacks
- Paper maps
- Phone charger
- Portable power bank
- Rain poncho
- Resealable plastic bags
- Skin salve
- Sleeping bag
- Toilet paper and personal hygiene items
- Vehicle registration and insurance information
- Water
- Whistle