

Lasting Impressions.

Since 1946, Simonton has taken pride in handcrafted quality. Building our reputation one window and door at a time by offering the type of care and commitment we believe every home deserves. Imagine thousands of skilled artisans utilizing some of the most advanced technology in North America. Imagine a quality control system dedicated to perfection and a nationwide manufacturing process designed to translate maximum thermal dynamics into affordable price. The results would be extraordinary—and they are. Without question, every Simonton window and door represents the highest standards in the industry. When you choose Simonton, you choose a company that understands your needs, and is committed to exceeding your expectations. We make lasting impressions.®

On your home. On your life. On you.

www.simonton.com
1-800-SIMONTON



What you and your family should know about hurricane safety.



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Ready, set, know.

Hurricane experts with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Hurricane Center are warning that we are at the beginning of a weather cycle that will likely continue to increase in activity every year. In other words, the severe hurricane season of 2004 was probably just the tip of the iceberg. That's why it's important to know how to keep yourself, your family and your home safe during a severe storm. Simonton Windows® created this brochure to help you do just that. We've included helpful information on how to plan ahead, strategies for evacuating efficiently, checklists to assist you in preparing for a hurricane, and the best ways to keep your home as safe as possible. Of course, there is no substitute for listening to your local officials during an emergency situation and using common sense. But by doing a few simple things and planning ahead, you can help ensure a much safer hurricane season and greater peace of mind all year long.



Although today's technology provides more advanced warning than ever before, planning ahead is still crucial. Some items, such as bottled drinking water, batteries, duct tape, tarps, fasteners and other hardware are often difficult or impossible to find after a major storm has been forecast. So, the best time to prepare for the next hurricane is long before hurricane season. Plans should be in place so that when the time comes, you'll be ready to react. Decide now how you intend to secure your home. Should evacuating become necessary, have a route and an alternate mapped out. Also, have a plan for your pet—most hotels and shelters will not allow dogs or cats. Stock up on items you may need during a storm that don't have limited shelf lives. The following checklists will help you determine what you'll need to do to prepare and what items you'll need to have on hand. Use them as a general guide and keep them handy.

BEFORE HURRICANE SEASON BEGINS.

- Videotape or photograph your home's contents for insurance purposes and store the copy or photos outside of your home.
- Familiarize yourself with safe evacuation routes inland, and have alternate routes mapped out.
- Know if there are specific risks in your area. For example, determine if you live in a region that is prone to flooding.
- Find out where storm shelters in or near your area are located.
- Get your family involved in developing a hurricane action plan.
- Check to see that equipment you'll need in an emergency works properly and that you have batteries. Flashlights and radios are essentials.
- Have enough water and non-perishable food on hand to last several days.



Being prepared starts now.



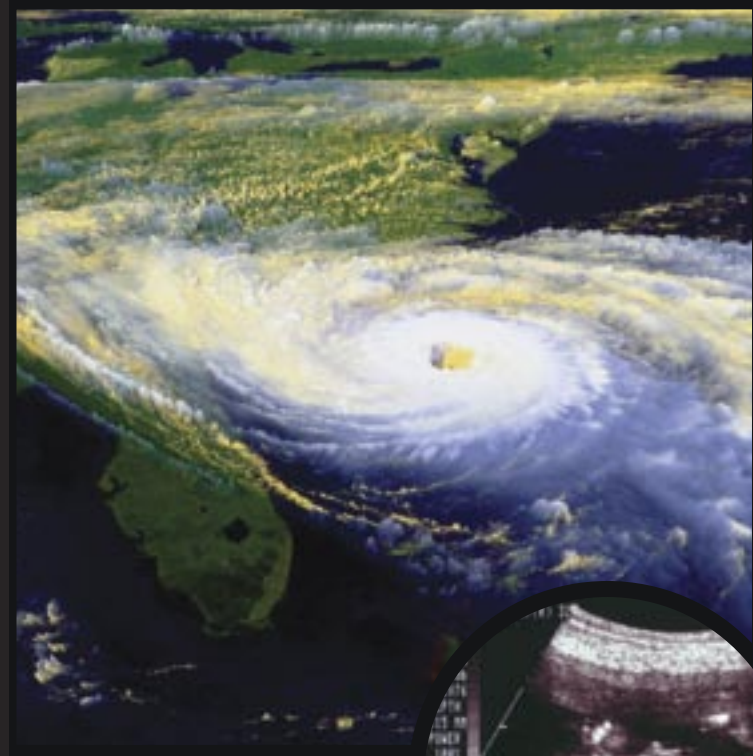
TIP

Keep a battery-operated radio on hand for up-to-the-minute information and instructions from local authorities.



For important information about hurricanes and other weather-related topics, visit www.weather.com.

What to do before, during and after the storm.



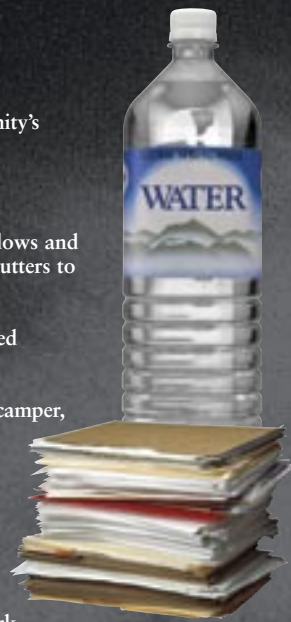
For more helpful information about hurricane preparedness, visit the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration at www.noaa.gov.



If you're expecting a storm while "expecting," plan now for any special medications you might need, have additional drinking water on hand and contact your doctor for instructions should you be close to your due date.

AROUND THE HOUSE.

- Familiarize yourself with your community's safety plan.
- Trim your trees and shrubbery.
- If you don't have impact-resistant windows and doors, purchase enough plywood or shutters to cover the openings in your home.
- Clean your gutters and clear any clogged downspouts.
- Know where you will relocate a boat, camper, golf cart or other recreational items.
- Examine your insurance policies for flood and wind insurance.



BEFORE.

- Pull any necessary insurance paperwork, including policy information, and keep it on your person.
- Listen to a local radio station or NOAA Weather Radio to monitor a storm and for instructions.
- Be sure your vehicles are filled with enough fuel for evacuation.
- Have cash on hand for incidental expenses.
- If you don't have impact-resistant windows, prepare to cover all windows and doors with shutters or whatever shielding material, such as plywood, you have decided on. It's important to remember to give yourself enough time to do this.
- Bring in any lightweight outdoor objects that could become dangerous flying debris, such as lawn furniture, toys, garbage cans and garden equipment.
- Make a final check on your emergency kits to be sure you have enough canned food, drinking water and any necessary medications.

DURING.

- Continue listening to a local radio station or NOAA Weather Radio for further information and instruction.
- Leave at once if instructed to do so.
- If evacuating, leave as early as possible in daylight, if you can.
- Communicate with friends or family outside of your warning area so that if you are planning to evacuate to their homes they will be expecting you.
- Don't wait until you are trapped by flood water—move to a safe area while you can.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Stay in a small interior room or closet; if possible, choose a room without windows.

AFTER.

- Continue listening to your radio for further instructions and road conditions. Don't enter an area until it has been declared safe.
- Don't attempt to cross roadways that are covered with water.
- If a road has been blocked or barricaded, do not drive on it, even if it looks safe.
- Avoid standing water, which could be electrically charged from fallen or underground power lines.
- Have utilities such as gas, water and electric checked by a professional for possible damage or disconnection.
- Use only a flashlight for indoor lighting—do not use candles, canned heat, a lantern or other open flames.
- Do not use tap water for drinking or food preparation until instructed to do so by local officials.

WHAT TO INCLUDE IN AN EMERGENCY KIT.

- A three day supply of water. A good rule of thumb is one gallon per person, per day.
- Non-perishable food.
- Any necessary prescription medication.
- One blanket or sleeping bag per person.
- A general first-aid kit.
- A battery-powered National Weather Radio and/or a portable radio.
- A flashlight and extra batteries.
- A disposable camera to photograph any damage for insurance purposes.
- Any special items and medications required for ill, elderly, disabled or infant family members.
- Heavyweight garbage bags.
- Insurance paperwork.
- Contact phone numbers.
- Copies or original sources of I.D.
- One or two tarps to help cover damages to roof.
- Pet food and water.
- Cash.



Remember to make plans for your pet in the event of an evacuation, including where you will take it, as well as food or medicines it will need.



For important information about severe storms, recovery and precautions, log onto the Federal Emergency Management Agency www.fema.gov.

BUILDING CODES

Many experts believe that more than 70% of the homes destroyed by Hurricane Andrew could have suffered minor damage if they had been properly safeguarded against wind damage. Federal, state and local governments now require compliance with building codes in many areas prone to hurricane damage. These codes are required for remodeling as well as new construction. Understanding these building codes and how they affect you is very important. Many coastal building codes require impact-resistant windows and doors, such as Simonton StormBreaker Plus™. Contact your state and local governments to learn more about building codes in your area.

AVOIDING WIND DAMAGE

The following checklist is a basic guide to protecting your home against wind damage. Some things are very easy and you can do them yourself. Others will require professional assistance.

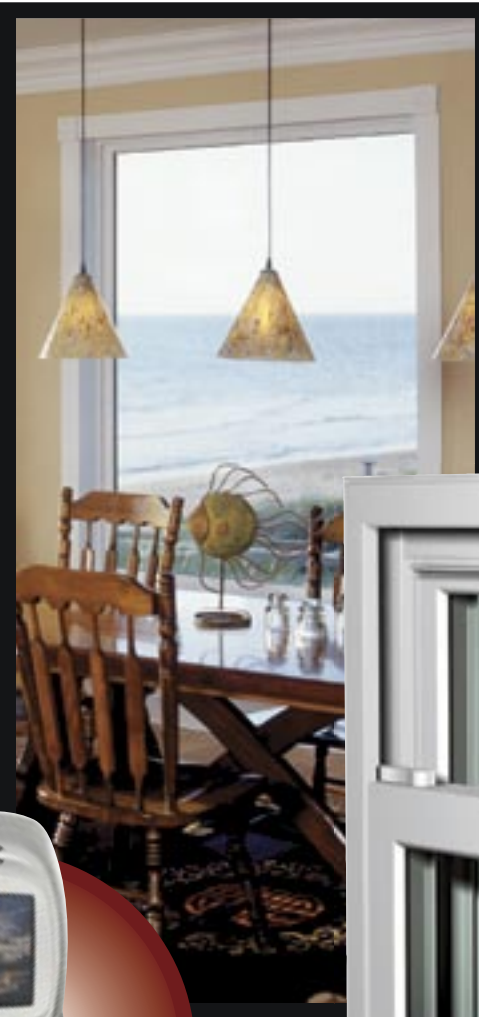
- Check to see that roof sheathing (the boards or plywood nailed to the roof rafters or trusses) is properly installed. From your attic, see if many of the nails have missed the rafters. If so, they may need re-nailed. Also, be sure your sheathing complies with current codes and practices.
- Is the roof fastened to the walls with hurricane straps? These keep the roof fastened to the walls in high winds. They can be difficult to install, often requiring the assistance of a contractor. Ask your building department if hurricane straps are recommended in your area.
- Double entry doors should be secured at the top of the door frame and the floor with sturdy sliding bolts. Some door manufacturers provide model-specific reinforcing bolt kits. Your local hardware or home store can help you select the proper bolts.
- Secure your garage doors. If your garage door fails during high winds, it's likely that the rest of your home will sustain substantial damage. See your local building department for specific information on securing garage doors in your area.
- Examine your windows. If you don't have hurricane-resistant windows, you'll need to apply shutters or plywood when a hurricane is forecast in your area.

TIP

Have an emergency plan in place in case your family becomes separated. Designate a meeting place for your family to reunite and determine a contact point to communicate with a relative in a safe area.



Keeping your home in the safety zone.



For a comprehensive guide on retrofitting your home and helping to avoid hurricane damage, visit the Institute for Business and Home Safety at www.ibhs.org.

Simonton StormBreaker Plus™ vinyl hurricane-resistant windows and doors can withstand winds of up to 146 miles per hour.



The importance of protecting your window and door openings from strong winds cannot be overstated. If just one of your windows is struck by flying debris and is compromised, winds can enter your home, creating internal wind pressure and uplift on your roof and walls. The result can be the loss of your roof or the destruction of your entire home.

Simonton StormBreaker Plus™ hurricane-resistant windows and doors are designed to prevent this type of damage. They contain durable vinyl frames reinforced with steel, and a strong invisible plastic interlayer, much like a car windshield. If high winds cause flying debris to strike the glass surface, it will remain adhered to this interlayer—even if it shatters. These remarkable windows and doors have even earned stringent Dade County, Florida certification.

Simonton StormBreaker Plus™ testing was performed by an independent testing firm in Pennsylvania using air cannons. In the tests, a two-by-four piece of lumber, nine-foot long and weighing nine pounds, was repeatedly shot at specific and varying parts of units at a rate of 50-feet per second. After the impacts, the units were then subjected to 9,000 cycles of combined positive and negative pressure. To pass the test, each unit subjected to these conditions needs to continue to function. The glass must remain intact in the sash, and Double Hung and Casement windows must be operable.

TIP

It's important that your garage door be secure during a hurricane. Visit your local home store for reinforcement kits or check with your manufacturer for information and specifications.



Hurricane protection that passes the test.



I am a survivor of Hurricane Ivan. My home was on Perdido Key, a barrier island community approximately 15 miles east of Gulf Shores Alabama. I had your windows installed in February of this year and your (my) windows were the only ones in my building...that did not break or blow out, saving my personal belongings from loss. I have pictures of my building with windows in tact if you would like to use them. A visual tribute if you will to the quality of your product. Needless to say, when I rebuild, Simonton windows will be a part of my construction plan.

*Thank you,
Kathryn Turner
Perdido Key, Florida*

To learn more about Simonton StormBreaker Plus™ hurricane-resistant windows and doors, visit www.simonton.com.