BUILD A KIT

Recommended Supplies to include in a Basic Emergency Kit:

- **Water**: at least a 3-day supply. One gallon per person per day, for drinking & sanitation
- **Food**: at least a 3-day supply of non-perishable (e.g. canned) food
- **Battery-powered radio** and **extra batteries**
- **Flashlight** and **extra batteries**
- **Whistle** to signal for help
- **Filter mask** or cotton t-shirt, to help filter the air
- **Moist towelettes** for sanitation
- **Wrench or pliers** to turn off utilities
- **Manual can opener** for food (if kit contains canned food)
- **Garbage bags and plastic ties** for personal sanitation
- **Unique family needs**, such as daily prescription medications, infant formula, diapers, and important family documents
- **First-aid kit**
- **Fire extinguisher**
- **List of important documents, phone numbers, and evacuation route**

### Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale Number</th>
<th>Sustained Winds (MPH)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>74-95</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>96-110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>111-129</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>131-156</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>&gt;156</td>
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### Enhanced Fujita Tornado

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EF Number</th>
<th>3 Second Gust (MPH)</th>
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<tr>
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<td>166-200</td>
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<td>&gt;200</td>
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“If you fail to prepare, then you are preparing to fail”

-Benjamin Franklin
Hurricane Charlie, Bobby Corker, Orlando Sentinel

- Severe weather, including tornados, can happen at any time of the year. The peak time for tornados throughout history are from late winter through mid summer. Hurricane Season lasts from June 1 through November 30 with the peak time for hurricane development during August and September.

- Use the emergency kit checklist on this brochure to ensure that you have enough supplies to last at least three days.

- After a severe storm, electricity may be unavailable for several weeks. No electricity means ATM machines will not be able to dispense cash, and gasoline pumps may not work. Be sure to fill your gas tank and have cash on hand prior to an approaching severe storm/tornado/tropical cyclone.

- Watch television or listen to the radio for official instructions as the severe weather approaches, during the storm, and after it has passed. Check the University’s website and your email for further important information. For more information on preparedness tips, visit emergency.uncc.edu.

- Create a family communications plan:
  Develop a family communications plan. After a storm you may be separated from your family. So have a plan to contact them before an emergency occurs. Consider a plan where each family member calls, or emails the same friend or relative in the event of an emergency.

- Create a plan to shelter in place:
  Have enough supplies on hand to last 3 days or more. Evaluate your supplies before the severe weather approaches. In the event of an approaching hurricane or tropical storm, preparedness activities become difficult once winds reach tropical storm force. Don’t wait until the last minute to secure your home. Tie down outside furniture or bring it inside; board up and secure windows; fill the bath tub with water for bathing and flushing toilets; turn down the refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting; freeze jugs of water and store them in the empty spaces of the refrigerator and freezer; charge all cell phones. If you have use of a portable generator, do not run the generator indoors or in the garage.

- Create a plan to get away:
  Decide where to go if you are ordered to evacuate. Make lists of important phone numbers and documents to pack in your kit. Know your evacuation routes, and consider alternate routes if the path is blocked. Review the campus evacuation plan at emergency.uncc.edu. Take your emergency supply kit with you when you leave.

- A watch lets you know that weather conditions are favorable for a hazard to occur. It literally means “be on guard!” During a weather watch, gather awareness of the specific threat and prepare for action - monitor the weather to find out if severe weather conditions have deteriorated and discuss your protective action plans with your family.

- A warning requires immediate action. This means a weather hazard is imminent - it is either occurring (a tornado has been spotted, for example) - or it is about to occur at any moment. During a weather warning, it is important to take action: grab the emergency kit you have prepared in advance and immediately head to a safe location.

- Severe Thunderstorm: A strong thunderstorm with wind gusts in excess of 58 mph and/or hail with a diameter of 3/4” or more. Severe thunderstorms can produce tornados.

- Tropical Storm: A tropical cyclone with sustained wind speeds between 38 and 74 mph. Tropical Storms can produce tornados.

- Hurricane: A severe tropical cyclone with sustained winds over 74 mph. Hurricanes can produce tornados.

- Inland Flooding: More than 50% of hurricane-related deaths come from inland flooding. Be aware of the rivers, creeks, and floodplains in your area. Do not drive through flooded streets or walk through flooded areas.