

MAY 2021



## MAKE A PLAN. BUILD A KIT.

Hurricane season runs from June 1 through Nov. 30. This community and many around us have experienced firsthand a hurricane's brutal impact. Downed trees, power outages, blocked roads and more disrupt and threaten lives.

Forecasting services are currently predicting a slightly above-average hurricane season. It is important for Tallahasseeans to be prepared. As we've seen, it only takes one storm to devastate a community and change lives forever.

Having a hurricane plan for your home, family and business is essential. Visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) or [www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org) to develop your plan, get helpful information and ensure you're prepared. Leon County also offers resources for building a personal plan, as well as the local disaster survival guide, at [www.haveahurricaneplan.com](http://www.haveahurricaneplan.com).

Once you've created your plan, discuss it with your entire family to ensure everyone knows key details, like contact numbers and evacuation routes.

To help residents prepare for hurricane season, the City of Tallahassee offers its PREP workshops, which will be

held virtually again this year. Check [Talgov.com/PREP](http://Talgov.com/PREP) for additional details, and subscribe to the City's YouTube channel at [YouTube.com/CityofTLH](http://YouTube.com/CityofTLH) for additional hurricane preparedness content.

After you establish your plan, you should build a kit of supplies that you may need in the event of a disaster. Each person's and household's kit will be slightly different. If you have children, include activities and games that don't require electricity to help them stay busy and feel comforted. If a member of your household requires medication every day, ensure it is included in your kit and speak with your doctor and pharmacy about refills. Consider if your kit's container needs wheels to make it easier for you to move. These are some of the many ways your kit can be tailored to you based on your household and your plan.

See the PREP checklist, which is available online at [Talgov.com/Hurricane](http://Talgov.com/Hurricane), for general items every disaster preparedness kit should have.

Citizens can access additional information about local resources, like shelters, relief agencies and disaster training videos, at [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com) or [www.LeonCountyFL.gov/El](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/El).

## MEETINGS IN JUNE

Visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com) for the current list of Tallahassee City Commission, Community Redevelopment Agency, Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency and Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meetings and workshops.

Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information and view the current meeting agendas online at [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com). Follow @CityofTLH on Twitter for City news.



## GENERATOR SAFETY

The prevalence of emergency generators to use in the event of a power outage is growing. The City of Tallahassee's Electric Utility advises residents to use caution when operating these machines and follow the manufacturer's instructions to reduce your risk and any risk to crews working nearby.

The City offers financial help toward the purchase of a portable or whole-home generator through its loan program. A permit and inspection are required. Get more information at [Talgov.com/YOU](http://Talgov.com/YOU) or call 850-891-4968.



## SPECIAL NEEDS? REGISTER NOW.

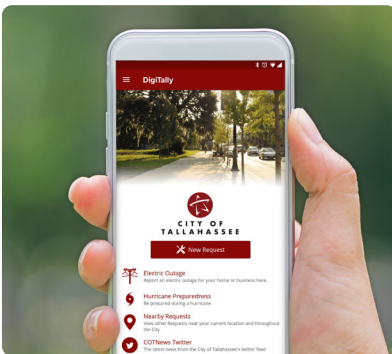
Citizens who will need assistance with evacuation and sheltering because of age, disability or other special needs should register now. All information you provide is

confidential and protected under Florida Statutes. Special needs shelters are intended to provide, to the extent possible under emergency conditions, an environment that can sustain an individual's level of health. If you or a loved one require a high level of medical care or depend on electricity for life-sustaining medical equipment, you should consider registering for the special needs shelter. Completing the Florida Special Needs Registry does not, however, automatically qualify the individual for a special needs shelter. Register online at [snr.floridadisaster.org](http://snr.floridadisaster.org). For further assistance with registration, call Leon County Division of Emergency Management at (850) 606-3700.



## PREPARE YOUR BUSINESS

With an economy still grappling with the impact of COVID-19, there is little room for margin going into hurricane season for many local businesses. From Fortune 500 companies to one-person start-ups, every business needs a resiliency plan. Have you gathered insurance forms, lease agreements and other important paperwork? Do employees know how to get information about the status of operations? Is there an alternate location where your operations could continue? These are a few of the many issues employers need to consider when creating a business resiliency plan. Get more details and helpful information at [ready.gov/business](http://ready.gov/business).



## REPORTING POWER OUTAGES

If you haven't already downloaded DigiTally, the City's free trouble reporting mobile app, there is no better time than right now. If the power goes out during

a storm, you can quickly and easily report it through the app via your smart phone or tablet. The app will ask for the address of the outage and your phone number. Once you submit the report, you'll receive a confirmation email. All reports submitted via DigiTally are sent directly to the Electric Utility and put into the system to be addressed.

If you don't have a mobile phone, there is a similar functionality for reporting outages on [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com). You can also call Customer Service at 850-891-4968. Call wait times will be longer during major events.

*Sustainability Tip*

Fans cool by speeding up moisture evaporation from your skin. Fans don't cool the air or the furniture, so turn them off as you leave the room.



## ENSURE YOU STAY INFORMED

The City will send email and text alerts to its utility customers during emergencies. Check your utility account contact information to ensure it is up-to-date. Log in to your utility account on [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com) or call Customer Service at 850-891-4968 to verify your contact information. You can also update it at [Talgov.com/Update](http://Talgov.com/Update).

In addition to direct customer contact, official City information will be posted online and on social media during emergencies. Bookmark [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com), follow @CityofTLH on Twitter and like City of Tallahassee, FL – Government on Facebook ([Facebook.com/CityofTLH](http://Facebook.com/CityofTLH)). Local information will also broadcast on 88.9 WFSU FM.

For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquires, please call 850-891-4968 or visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).

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