

# Final Checklist

## Hurricane in the Gulf

Monitor the latest forecast from trusted sources like the NWS and local media.

Make sure emergency kit is complete.

Make sure vehicles are fueled and serviced. Garage any vehicles not being used.

Shutter or board up windows if possible. Taping windows is NOT advised.

Store lawn furniture and other loose, light-weight items.

Get extra cash; make sure have adequate supply of medicines.

Listen for any evacuation orders from local officials.

## If Leaving/Evacuating

Turn off propane tanks. Unplug small appliances.

Turn refrigerator and freezer to lowest setting.

Notify family members of your evacuation plans. Identify a family member who all can check in with.

Lower water in swimming pool by at least one foot.

Lock home securely.

Take pets with you.

Bring your supply kit with you!

## If Staying

Close storm shutters if available.

Turn refrigerator and freezer to lowest setting and open only if necessary.

Beware of calm winds in the eye of the storm, do not venture outside. The strongest, most dangerous winds in the hurricane often occur just prior to and just after the passage of the eye.

Lower water in swimming pool by at least one foot.

Its best to follow evacuation recommendations of local officials. If you decide to stay and conditions deteriorate, first responders will not be able to help you. Don't endanger yourself or your family.



Hurricane Rita 2005. Photo Credit NASA.



Evacuation Hurricane Rita 2005.  
Photo Credit FEMA.