
Blizzards & Polar Vortex

- **Stay inside:** Avoid driving or walking during active whiteout conditions. --**Keep warm:** Maintain indoor heat at minimum 55°F to prevent frozen pipes. --**Prepare backup:** Keep extra blankets and wood for fireplaces ready. --**Prevent carbon monoxide:** Never run generators or grills inside a garage. --**Stock supplies:** Keep 3 days of food, water, and medicine stored. [[1](#), [2](#)]
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Atmospheric Rivers & Mudslides

- **Move upward:** Evacuate uphill if your area has recently burned. --**Avoid low ground:** Move to high ground immediately if flooding begins. --**Turn around:** Never drive through flooded roads or moving water. --**Watch slopes:** Listen for unusual sounds like cracking trees or rocks. --**Clear drainage:** Clear rain gutters and storm drains before the storm. [[1](#)]
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Nor'easters & Ice Storms

- **Stay off roads:** Ice and high coastal winds make driving deadly. --**Trim trees:** Cut dead branches near your roof before winter. --**Charge electronics:** Power up devices before freezing rain pulls down lines. --**Drip faucets:** Let water trickle from faucets to stop freezing. --**Watch the coast:** Avoid boardwalks or piers due to massive waves.
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Tornadoes

- **Go underground:** Seek shelter in a basement or storm cellar. --**Find a core room:** Go to the lowest interior room without windows. --**Protect your head:** Cover yourself with a mattress, blankets, or helmet. --**Abandon mobile homes:** Evacuate to a sturdy permanent structure immediately. --**Avoid highway overpasses:** Never hide under bridges; they create wind tunnels. [[1](#), [2](#)]
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Snowmelt Flooding & Flash Floods

- **Monitor river gauges:** Watch local water levels during rapid spring thaws. --**Elevate valuables:** Move electronics and documents to top floors. --**Do not swim:** Avoid floodwater due to chemical and sewage contamination. --**Prepare a bug-out bag:** Keep critical documents and items ready to grab. --**Obey barricades:** Never drive around road-closure signs. [[1](#), [2](#)]
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Severe Hail & Thunderstorms

- **Seek solid shelter:** Go inside a sturdy building; tents are unsafe. --**Unplug electronics:** Disconnect appliances to protect them from lightning surges. --**Park under cover:** Move vehicles into garages or under carports. --**Stay away from glass:** Keep clear of windows during hail storms. --**Avoid plumbing:** Do not shower or wash dishes during active lightning. [[1](#), [2](#)]
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Derechos & Straight-line Winds

- **Treat like a tornado:** Move inside to a sturdy interior room. --**Secure outdoor items:** Bring patio furniture and trash cans inside early. --**Avoid large trees:** Stay away from rooms with overhanging branches. --**Pull over safely:** If driving, park away from trees and power lines. --**Stay clear of wires:** Treat all downed utility lines as live. [[1](#)]
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Extreme Heat Waves

- **Stay hydrated:** Drink plenty of water before you feel thirsty. --**Use air conditioning:** Go to public cooling centers if home AC fails. --**Avoid midday sun:** Limit outdoor activity to early morning or evening. --**Check on neighbors:** Monitor elderly family members and vulnerable neighbors. --**Never leave kids/pets:** Keep vehicles locked; interiors reach lethal temperatures fast. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#)]
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Southwest Monsoon

- **Check the sky:** Watch for sudden, dark storm clouds building up. --**Exit slot canyons:** Leave narrow valleys immediately if rain falls nearby. --**Avoid dry washes:** Never camp or park in dry riverbeds. --**Pull aside in dust:** Pull off the road during dust storms and turn off lights. --**Watch for lightning:** Go indoors at the first sound of thunder. [[1](#), [2](#)]
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Wildfires & Santa Ana Wind Fires

- **Evacuate early:** Leave immediately when ordered; do not wait. --**Clear defensible space:** Remove dry brush within 30 feet of your home. --**Close up tight:** Shut all windows, doors, and vents before leaving. --**Pack emergency supplies:** Keep N95 masks, medications, and IDs ready. --**Turn off gas:** Shut off the main gas valve if time permits. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#)]

Lake-Effect Snow

- **Pack a car kit:** Keep flares, blankets, and shovels in your trunk. --**Clear exhaust pipes:** Ensure vehicle tailpipes are clear of drifted snow. --**Shovel safely:** Take frequent breaks to avoid overexertion and heart attacks. --**Stay with your car:** If stranded, remain inside and wait for help. --**Track narrow bands:** Monitor radar; lake-effect bands shift rapidly. [[1](#)]

King Tides & Coastal Flooding

- **Check tide charts:** Know the exact hours of peak high tides. --**Move coastal vehicles:** Park cars on high ground away from docks. --**Expect road closures:** Avoid low-lying coastal paths and beach roads. --**Rinse your car:** Wash off salt water immediately to prevent rust. --**Watch for marine life:** Be careful of displaced animals in floodwaters.

Earthquakes

- **For Those Indoors:** --**Drop:** Get down on your hands and knees to avoid being toppled over. --**Cover:** Seek refuge under a solid piece of furniture, such as a table or desk. If no shelter is available, protect your head and neck with your arms while keeping away from windows and heavy objects that could fall. --**Hold On:** Maintain your grip on your shelter until the shaking has ceased, and be ready to adjust if it shifts during the quake.
- **For Those Outdoors:** --**Move to an open space** clear of buildings, trees, streetlights, and utility lines. Stay in this area until the shaking stops. --**For Those in a Vehicle:** --**Safely pull over** to the side of the road, stop your vehicle, and remain inside until the shaking concludes. Avoid stopping beneath overpasses or bridges or near structures that might collapse.
- **If You Are Trapped:** --**Try to stay as still as possible** and use clothing to cover your mouth. Tap on pipes or walls to signal rescuers; shout only when absolutely necessary to prevent inhaling dust.
- **Further Recommendations:** --**Remain Composed:** Staying calm can assist you in making sound decisions amid the chaos of an earthquake.--**Plan Ahead:** Acquaint yourself with your surroundings and develop an emergency plan that includes evacuation routes and essential supplies.

