

Hurricane Prep Checklist for Vacant Homes

A homeowner guide from your home watch professional · Template by [HomeWatchTools.com](https://homewatchtools.com)

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An unoccupied home needs a storm plan that starts long before a named storm appears. Work through this checklist with your home watch professional — they can complete the watch/warning steps for you and send a documented photo report after the storm.

Before the Season (by June 1)

	Item	Notes
☐	Confirm wind/flood insurance is current; photograph every room for records	
☐	Test hurricane shutters or confirm panel hardware and fasteners are on hand	
☐	Trim trees and palms; remove dead limbs near the roof and power lines	
☐	Verify your home watch provider has keys, codes, and storm authorization on file	
☐	Confirm generator service (if any) and fuel plan	

Hurricane Watch (storm possible, ~72 hours)

	Item	Notes
☐	Authorize your home watch provider's storm-prep visit	
☐	Move patio furniture, grills, potted plants, and trash bins indoors or to the garage	
☐	Deploy shutters / install panels; brace the garage door if required	
☐	Move vehicles, golf carts, and boats per your storm plan	
☐	Photograph the prepared exterior for insurance records	

Hurricane Warning (storm expected, ~48 hours)

	Item	Notes
☐	Shut off water at the main; consider water heater breaker	
☐	Set A/C lower to pre-cool; set humidistat per provider guidance	
☐	Unplug electronics; elevate valuables off floors in flood-prone rooms	
☐	Confirm refrigerator/freezer plan (empty or 'quarter on a frozen cup' trick)	
☐	Confirm re-entry plan and post-storm inspection visit with your provider	

After the Storm

	Item	Notes
☐	Wait for the all-clear; your provider performs a documented exterior/interior check	
☐	Review the photo report; report claims to insurance promptly	
☐	Schedule debris cleanup and any vendor repairs (provider can coordinate)	
☐	Restore water/power; confirm A/C and appliances run normally	

Important: Home watch professionals: HomeWatchTools turns storm-prep visits into GPS-verified, photo-rich reports your clients can keep for insurance. www.HomeWatchTools.com