

SAFETY AFTER THE STORM

Safety does not stop after the storm has passed. Everyone should be aware of the many dangers that might exist after bad weather has moved out of the area.



- If needed, locate your emergency supply kit. Promptly treat any injuries you or your family suffered during the event. Check neighbors for injuries. Call for medical assistance. Do not move seriously injured people, unless they are in immediate danger of further injury.
- Be cautious of downed or weakened trees and structural damage. Do not attempt to move structural supports or large pieces of debris.
- Be cautious of downed power lines or objects in contact with downed power lines. Report electrical hazards to the police and utility company.
- Wear sturdy shoes or boots, long sleeves, and gloves when inspecting your home or business for damage or when handling small debris. Be aware of exposed nails and broken glass.
- Do not use open flames or run generators indoors. If there is damage to your home or business, any of these actions could ignite fires. Use a flashlight or battery powered lantern. Do not connect generators to your home's electrical circuits.
- If there is frayed wiring or sparks, an odor of something burning, or wires were exposed to water, turn off the electrical system at the main circuit breaker.
- If you smell gas or suspect a leak, turn off the main gas valve, open all windows, and leave immediately. Do not do anything that could cause a spark, like using the phone or turning on the lights. Notify the gas company and the police. Do not return to the house until you are told it is safe to do so.
- If you suspect water or sewage lines are damaged, do not use your plumbing.
- Clean up or rope off dangerous areas.
- Remember to care for pets after a disaster has occurred.
- If you evacuated, wait for the all clear from local officials before returning to your home. Be prepared to show proof of residence.