

10 Tips for *After the Storm*



1. WAIT

If you were ordered to evacuate, wait until local officials have declared the area safe to return home.



2. DAMAGE

Before you enter your home, check for visible damage with extreme caution and protective clothing.



10. TAKE INVENTORY

In preparation for the next storm, make sure to create a detailed Home Inventory Checklist. This will be helpful the next time you file an insurance claim.



9. TAKE PICTURES

Take pictures and videos of the damage on the outside and inside of the home for insurance purposes. If you have a written inventory and saved receipts for your possessions, it will make the claim process much easier!



8. DON'T BE A VICTIM

Contractors frequently canvas storm-damaged neighborhoods shortly after an incident looking for work. To avoid becoming a victim of fraud, ask the contractor for proof of liability insurance, and never sign a document you don't fully understand!



7. REPORT A CLAIM

Before you report a claim to your insurance agent, have the following information available:

- Name and address
- Phone number
- Policy number
- Date the loss happened
- Description of events that led to the loss



6. LIVE WIRES

Look for live electrical wires before turning on any lights or appliances.



3. PREVENT LEAKS

Check your plumbing system. If there was a burst pipe, turn off your water right away.



4. TAP WATER

Do not drink or cook with tap water until it has been declared safe to do so.



5. OLD FOOD

Throw away perishable food - it may be contaminated!

