



MAY 2020



## MAKE A PLAN. BUILD A KIT.

Hurricane season runs from June 1 through Nov. 30. This community and many around us have experienced firsthand a hurricane's brutal impact. Downed trees, power outages, blocked roads and more disrupt and threaten lives.

Forecasting services are currently predicting a slightly above-average hurricane season. It is important for Tallahasseeans to be prepared. As we've seen, it only takes one storm to devastate a community and change lives forever.

Having a hurricane plan for your home, family and business is essential. If you've previously developed a plan, review it thoroughly. With the 2020 hurricane season coinciding with the COVID-19 pandemic, adjustments will be needed. If you've never made a plan before or need more information, visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) or [www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org). Leon County also offers resources for building a personal plan, as well as the local disaster survival guide, at [www.haveahurricaneplan.com](http://www.haveahurricaneplan.com).

Once you've created your plan, discuss it with your entire family to ensure everyone knows key details, like contact numbers and evacuation routes.

To successfully execute a great plan, you'll also need to ensure you have adequate supplies. Everyone's situation is different, so your plan and kit will be, too. Some general items every kit should have include enough non-perishable food and water to last your family a minimum of three days, a flashlight, important paperwork including current photos of family members and pets, a first aid kit, your medications and large, plastic trash bags.

Preparing can take time. It's best to start now, well before a storm threatens our area.

Citizens can access additional information about local resources, like shelters, relief agencies and disaster training videos, at [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).

### MEETINGS IN JUNE

Visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com) for the current list of Tallahassee City Commission, Community Redevelopment Agency, Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency and Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meetings and workshops.

Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information, and view the current meeting agendas online at [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com). Follow @CityofTLH on Twitter for City news.



### PLAN FOR YOUR PET

When crafting your family's preparedness plan, be sure to include your pets. Pets will need food, water, medication and other items, too. If you live in an evacuation zone, identify shelters or nearby hotels/motels that take pets. Put a current photo of your pet in your kit for identification purposes. Get more pet preparedness tips at [ready.gov/animals](http://ready.gov/animals).



For more information on the City of Tallahassee's neighborhood preparedness workshops and materials:

**TALGOV.COM/PREP**



## SPECIAL NEEDS? REGISTER NOW.

Citizens who will need assistance with evacuation and sheltering because of age, disability or other special needs should register NOW. All information you provide is confidential and protected under Florida Statutes. Special needs shelters are intended to provide, to the extent possible under emergency conditions,

an environment that can sustain an individual's level of health. If you or a loved one require a high level of medical care or depend on electricity for life-sustaining medical equipment, you should consider registering for the special needs shelter. Completing the Florida Special Needs Registry does not, however, automatically qualify the individual for a special needs shelter. Register online at [snr.floridadisaster.org](http://snr.floridadisaster.org). For further assistance with registration, call Leon County Division of Emergency Management at (850) 606-3700. [resiliency plan](http://ready.gov/business). Get more details and helpful information at [ready.gov/business](http://ready.gov/business).

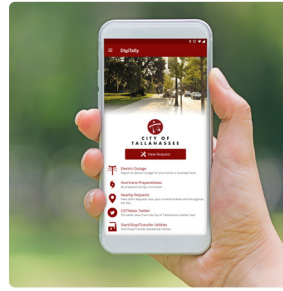


## PREPARE YOUR BUSINESS

With an economy shook by coronavirus, there is little room for margin going into hurricane season for many local businesses. From Fortune 500 companies to one-person start-ups, every business

needs a resiliency plan. Have you gathered insurance forms, lease agreements and other important paperwork? Do employees know how to get information about the status of operations? Is there an alternate location where your operations could continue? These are a few of the many things employers need to consider when creating a business resiliency plan. Get more details and helpful information at [ready.gov/business](http://ready.gov/business).

## REPORTING POWER OUTAGES



If you haven't already downloaded DigiTally, the City's free trouble reporting mobile app, there is no better time than right now. If the power goes out during a storm, you can quickly and easily report it through the app via your smart phone or tablet. The app will ask for the address of the outage and your

phone number. Once you submit the report, you'll receive a confirmation email. All reports submitted via DigiTally are sent directly to the Electric Utility and put into the system to be addressed.

If you don't have a mobile phone, there is a similar functionality for reporting outages on [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com). You can also call Customer Service at 850-891-4968. Call wait times will be longer during major events.

## Sustainability Tip

Fans cool by speeding up moisture evaporation from your skin. Fans don't cool the air or the furniture, so turn them off as you leave the room.



## ENSURE YOU STAY INFORMED

The City will send email and text alerts to its utility customers during emergencies. Check your utility account contact information to ensure it is up-to-date. Log in to your utility account on [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com) or call Customer Service at 850-891-4968 to verify your contact information. You can also update it at [Talgov.com/Update](http://Talgov.com/Update).

In addition to direct customer contact, official City information will be posted online and on social media during emergencies. Bookmark [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com), follow @CityofTLH on Twitter and like City of Tallahassee, FL – Government on Facebook ([Facebook.com/CityofTLH](https://www.facebook.com/CityofTLH)). Local information will also broadcast on 88.9 WFSU FM.

For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquires, please call 850-891-4968 or visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).

**TALGOV.com**     @CityofTLH

**INSIGHT** is published monthly to inform citizens about City services and related terms of interest. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the appropriate City department. For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Requests should be made at least seven hours in advance. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance request.