

# Emergency Preparedness

## Tips and Recommendations



**Sign up for Emergency Notifications** from your county's emergency management agency. Go to [dod.hawaii.gov/hiema/get-ready](https://dod.hawaii.gov/hiema/get-ready).



**Get a NOAA Weather Radio** (see [weather.gov/nwr](https://weather.gov/nwr) for more information) Receive immediate alerts. Contact Ethnic Education Hawai'i for non-English radio stations.

### Make a Plan

Create and/or maintain an emergency plan (i.e., who to call and what to do in an emergency). For templates see [ready.gov](https://ready.gov) and/or [ready.hawaii.gov](https://ready.hawaii.gov).



### Have an Emergency Kit

Create and/or maintain an emergency kit (see our emergency kit recommendations inside).

## Web Resources

**Pacific Disaster Center** provides near real-time and historic data on natural hazards around the globe.

▶ [pdc.org](https://pdc.org)

**National Weather Service - Honolulu Forecast Office** for latest advisories, watches, and warnings for Hawaii.

▶ [weather.gov/hfo](https://weather.gov/hfo)

**Central Pacific Hurricane Center** offers storm tracking via satellite and radar.

▶ [nhc.noaa.gov/?cpac](https://nhc.noaa.gov/?cpac)

**Pacific Tsunami Warning Center** shows the latest tsunami messages for all regions.

▶ [tsunami.gov](https://tsunami.gov)

**USGS Earthquake Hazards Program** provides tracking and historical information.

▶ [earthquake.usgs.gov](https://earthquake.usgs.gov)

**American Red Cross - Hawaii Chapter** has information on trainings and disaster preparedness.

▶ [redcross.org/hawaii](https://redcross.org/hawaii)

**Federal Emergency Management Agency** offers guides to preparedness.

▶ [ready.gov](https://ready.gov)

**Sesame Workshop** helps grown-ups talk to children about tough topics, including emergencies.

▶ [sesameworkshop.org/topics/emergencies](https://sesameworkshop.org/topics/emergencies)

**FEMA Independent Study Program** provides online training in a variety of subjects.

▶ [training.fema.gov/IS/crslis.asp](https://training.fema.gov/IS/crslis.asp)

## County Civil Defense/Emergency Management Agencies

**C&C Honolulu:** [honolulu.gov/dem](https://honolulu.gov/dem)

**Kauai County:** [kauai.gov/kema](https://kauai.gov/kema)

**Maui County:** [mauicounty.gov/70/Emergency-Management-Agency](https://mauicounty.gov/70/Emergency-Management-Agency)

**Hawaii County:** [hawaii-county-civil-defense-agency-hawaiicountygis.hub.arcgis.com](https://hawaii-county-civil-defense-agency-hawaiicountygis.hub.arcgis.com)



Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency

# Are You Ready?

A quick guide to disaster preparedness in Hawai'i



Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency

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Get news and updates on *Twitter* @Hawaii\_EMA

## Know Your Hazards

There are many kinds of disasters that can impact Hawai'i. Hurricanes, tsunamis, floods, earthquakes, volcanic activity, landslides, wildfires and pandemic outbreaks are all potential threats to the population of Hawai'i. But because of their level of devastation or frequency of occurrence, hurricanes, tsunamis and flooding are the three top hazards.

### Hurricanes

Hurricane season is from *June 1st to November 30th*. A hurricane is a tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds 74 mph or higher.

Though high winds and flying debris are extremely dangerous, it is storm surge that presents the greatest threat to life and property along the coast.



### Tsunamis

A tsunami is a series of ocean waves generated primarily by earthquakes, though underwater volcanic eruptions and landslides can also generate tsunamis. They are difficult to predict and can strike year-round, during any time of the day or night.



### Flash Flooding

During heavy rains, or man-made structure failures such as a dam break, flash flooding can occur quickly and without warning. Be prepared to evacuate and move immediately to higher ground. Do not wait for instructions to act.



## Make a Plan Now

- **Make an Emergency Kit:** Have at least 14 days of food and water and all necessary emergency items (see below)
- **Family communication:** Identify a family member that lives out-of-state that everyone can notify when they're safe
- **Meeting place:** Choose a physical location to meet if communication between family is down
- **Plan escape routes:** Map out two escape routes for each room of your home. Do drills with family members

For more information on making a disaster plan, visit "Prepare Your Family" under the Get Ready tab at [ready.hawaii.gov](http://ready.hawaii.gov).



Cover photo: The roof and upper floor of this home received major wind damage from Hurricane Iniki in September 1992 (Photo: FEMA) Below: Plywood spears a palm tree during hurricane Andrew in August 1992.

*We also recommend a small backpack for each family member containing a full change of clothes and sturdy shoes as well as a pack of cards or other entertainment items. DON'T FORGET food, water, and a crate or carrier for your pet!*

## Emergency Kit Suggestions

### 14 days of food, water and medications

- 1 gallon of water per person, per day
- Non-perishable food (canned soups and other nutritionally balanced shelf-stable meals are good)
- Manual can opener

### Battery or solar-powered radio, flashlight and extra batteries for both

### Important documents (in sealed plastic bag)

- Identification (passport, driver's license)
- Debit and credit card information
- Banking information (account numbers, billpay information). This can help avoid credit problems due to inability to make payments during a disaster
- All insurance information
- Healthcare directives
- Copy of property titles/deeds
- Copy of prescriptions and dosages
- Phone list of family and important numbers

### Plastic bags and ties for waste

### Whistle, matches, blankets and tarps

### Personal hygiene items

- Toothbrush, toothpaste
- Soap/Shampoo
- Antibacterial wipes/masks/sanitizer
- Toilet paper (remove the roll)
- Deodorant
- Eyecare (if needed)
- Moisturizing lotion

### Extra cash in small bills

### First aid kit

