

AFTER **NORMAL**

MOBILE HOME SEVERE WEATHER PACK

A calm, practical plan for tornado, hurricane, high wind, flood and winter weather if you live in a mobile or manufactured home

CHOOSE YOUR SHELTER ON A CALM DAY. LEAVE BEFORE THE STORM.

For: For people who live in mobile or manufactured homes, and for the family and neighbors who help them.



KEEP THIS PAGE**THE ONE-PAGE SUMMARY: WHAT TO DO, IN ORDER**

- 1 Two words to know. A Watch means storms are possible today. In a mobile home, treat it as the time to get ready and often to leave (see item 10). A Warning means a storm is happening or about to, so go now. Emergency: 911. FEMA after a storm: 1-800-621-3362.
- 2 Accept that your home is not your shelter, and decide where you will go instead.
- 3 Choose three shelters in different directions (primary, backup, far) and confirm each one is open at 3 a.m.
- 4 Drive the route by day and by night, time it door to door, and write the minutes on your Shelter Plan worksheet.
- 5 Set up three alert layers: your phone, a weather radio in alert mode with your county code programmed in, and local alerts. Test the radio monthly.
- 6 Set up your bedside: phone, shoes, glasses or hearing aids, flashlight and go bag within reach.
- 7 Pack a go bag you can carry and a bigger kit for the car. Pack medicines for at least a week if your clinician and pharmacist allow it. Make a plan for pets.
- 8 Ask your insurer what wind and flood cover you have and whether flood cover is available for your home. Flood policies usually have a waiting period, so ask well before storm season.
- 9 Ask a qualified installer to check your anchors and straps. Look from the ground each spring and fall and never try repairs yourself.
- 10 Write your tornado rule on a fridge card: leave at the Watch if your shelter is more than about 6 minutes away, it is night, anyone needs extra time or you have no car. Leave at the latest the moment a warning reaches you.
- 11 Know your evacuation zone, set your own leave-by hour after a Hurricane Watch, and go when told to, whether the order is voluntary or mandatory.
- 12 Fit battery-backup smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, test them monthly, and know two ways out of every room.
- 13 Plan for cold and power cuts. Keep the heat on and never below 55 F to protect pipes. That is not a safe living temperature for babies, people over 65 or anyone ill, so keep them in a warm room or move them somewhere warm. Never heat with an oven, and run a generator outdoors only, 20 feet (about 6 meters) from the home.
- 14 After a storm, return only after the all-clear and in daylight. Take photos before you clean, call your insurer first, then register with FEMA.
- 15 Review the whole plan twice a year, in spring and fall, and replace what you used.

PART 1**WHY YOUR HOME IS NOT YOUR SHELTER**

This section tells you the plain truth about mobile and manufactured homes in severe weather, and changes the question from 'How do I make my home safe?' to 'Where do I go?' The rest of the guide is a plan to leave early and calmly.

WARNING

Most mobile and manufactured homes cannot be made safe shelter in a tornado, hurricane-force wind or major flood. The National Weather Service (NWS), NOAA and FEMA all give the same advice: leave for a sturdier shelter before the storm arrives. Age, quality and anchoring do not change this advice.

THE HONEST ANSWER FIRST

This is hard to read if the home is yours, you have kept it up, and you have paid for it. It is still the most useful thing this guide can tell you. A home that looks solid on a calm day can be destroyed by wind.

So the question changes. Stop asking, 'How do I make my home safe?' Start asking, 'Where do I go, and when do I leave?'

That question has an answer, and you can settle it on a calm day. A plan made now, in calm weather, gives you your best chance of getting somewhere safe in time. People who know where they are going, and how long the trip takes, can leave early and without panic. The rest of this guide helps you build that plan.

FREE SAMPLE

THAT WAS A TASTE

You have just read the opening of **Mobile Home Severe Weather Pack**. The full guide has 9 parts, including:

- ☐ Why Your Home Is Not Your Shelter
- ☐ Choose Your Shelter and Know the Route
- ☐ Alerts That Wake You: Watches, Warnings and the Night Setup
- ☐ Tie-Downs, Anchors and Skirting
- ☐ Go Bag, Documents, Contacts and Pets
- ☐ Tornado Plan: When to Leave, Where to Go, How Long You Have
- ☐ Hurricane, High-Wind and Flood Plan: Leave Early
- ☐ Winter, Power Cuts, Heaters and Fire
- ☐ After the Storm: Re-entry, Utilities, Documentation, Insurance and FEMA Help

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