



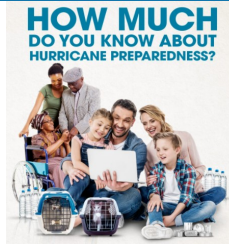
**BMSD Newsletter—April 2022**

**READY. SET. SAFE.**

The **Hurricane Preparedness Expo 2022** will be held Saturday, July 9, 2022, starting at 10 A.M.

- African American Research Library & Cultural Center  
2650 Sistrunk Boulevard  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

**EVENT INFORMATION**



**10 STEPS TO HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS**

1. Hold a family meeting
  - [Hurricanes and Kids](#)
2. Discuss shelter options
  - [Shelter Alternatives](#)
  - [Shelter Locations](#)
3. Ensure your assets are protected
4. Assess your home for vulnerable areas
5. Plan to protect your vehicles
6. Secure your home
7. Determine whether anyone in your home has special needs
  - [Emergency Preparedness for Residents at Risk](#)
8. Plan for your pet
  - [Pet Survival Kit](#)
9. Gather your supplies
  - [Hurricane Kit Shopping Guide](#)
10. Notify others of your plan



**[Hurricane 10 Steps to Preparedness \(Broward.org\)](#)**

For more tips on how to develop an emergency plan, create an emergency kit and be informed during a disaster. Visit [Ready South Florida](#).

**[Emergency Preparedness for Residents at Risk \(Broward.org\)](#)**

**ALERT! BROWARD**

Broward County's Emergency Notification System ALERT Sign-Up

[@ReadyBroward](#)



Create your **[FAMILY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PLAN](#)**

**Vulnerable Population Registry (VPR)**

The VPR is a tool that Municipalities can use to help evaluate resident needs and assist in planning a response to an emergency. Registering in the database is not a guarantee of service or being placed on a priority list for responders, however it will help responders be better prepared to meet your needs in recovery.

**[Vulnerable Population Registry](#)**

You should pre-register in the VPR if you are at risk due to a disability, frailty, or health issue, regardless of age, AND you elect to stay home in the event of a hurricane or other emergency. [Register online](#) or call the Broward County Call Center at 311 or 954-831-4000 (TTY: 954-831-3890). **All information provided is held in strict confidence as required by State law.**

**Remember**, if you live in an evacuation zone and an evacuation is ordered, please evacuate. Your first, best option is to shelter with family or friends nearby, but outside the evacuation zone. There are [General Population Shelters](#) located throughout the County as a refuge of last resort.

**[Click for additional information.](#)**

## Florida Special Needs Registry



The Florida Department of Health, in coordination with the County Health Department and the County's Emergency Management agency, coordinates a special needs registry to provide assistance during a disaster. The [statewide registry](#) provides first responders with valuable information in order to prepare for disasters or other emergencies.

**Why should you register?** You should register in order to receive important information from local emergency management officials about evacuation and sheltering options available to you.

## Special Needs Shelters

Special Needs Shelter may be appropriate for you if you have a medical condition that requires a greater level of care than that provided at a General Population Shelter but does not require hospitalization or a medical institution. These shelters offer basic medical assistance and monitoring, are staffed by qualified medical personnel, and have back-up electricity for limited lighting and essential medical equipment. Family members and caregivers are encouraged to accompany you.

**Special Needs Shelters are appropriate if you:**

- have minor health/medical condition(s) that require professional observation, assessment, and maintenance;
- require assistance with personal care and/or assistance with medications but do not require hospitalization or a medical institution; and
- need assistance with medication administration and/or vital sign readings and are unable to do so without professional assistance.

## FPL Medically Essential Service



If you or your family member have special electric-powered equipment at home, FPL can help. [Medically Essential Service](#) can help you with:

- Special notices before and after a hurricane;
- Special notices before electrical service are disconnected for non-payment; and
- Referrals to social-service agencies that provide financial assistance

### Your Responsibility

If you're eligible for this service, you may be provided extra time to secure funds or make other arrangements to help ensure your electricity-dependent medical needs are met. However, this does not guarantee uninterrupted service or provide an exemption from paying electric bills. You will still be responsible for backup equipment and power supply in the event of power outages.

### Who is Eligible?

Any FPL residential customer whose electric service is medically essential is eligible to join if that medical condition has been certified by a physician licensed to practice in Florida. Electric service is considered essential if you're dependent on electric-powered equipment as specified by a physician to avoid:

- Loss of life
- Serious medical complications requiring immediate hospitalization

### How to Apply

[Click here to apply.](#)

## STAY CONNECTED

Get information on community meetings, events, job opportunities, programs, and more by connecting with the BMSD on

