



US Army Reserve Safety Awareness



Post Hurricane Safety Tips



Danger from a hurricane does not end when the storm passes. Preparedness is not only knowing what to do beforehand, but also knowing what to do after the storm. Having a plan and being aware of certain risks will minimize the threat of harm to you or your family.

Please, keep these tips in mind:

- Stay tuned to local news for important announcements, bulletins, and instructions concerning the storm area.
- Avoid any downed or sagging power lines. Don't attempt to move or repair them, and notify the electric company as soon as possible.
- Don't drive through standing water if power lines are in the water.
- If a line falls across your car, continue driving. Do not turn off the ignition if the car stalls and do not leave the car. Wait for emergency personnel and do not let anyone else approach your vehicle.
- Disasters can generate tons of debris, including building rubble, soil and sediments, green waste (e.g., trees and shrubs), personal property, ash, and charred wood. Burying or burning is no longer acceptable because of the side effects of smoke and fire from burning as well as potential water and soil contamination from burial.
- Debris must be collected in the proper containers for pickup. Contact your local government agency for information.
- DO NOT use matches in a storm ravaged area until all gas lines are checked for leaks.
- Consider having professionals/licensed contractors inspect your home for damage and help in repairs. These professionals could include general contractors, electricians, gas line inspectors, plumbers, and lawn care specialists for tree removal.
- The flooding rains that accompany a storm can create pest problems, such as mice, rats, insects or snakes that may have "come with the storm".
- Flooding brings with it the risk of waterborne bacterial contaminations.
- Assume the water is not safe and use properly stored water or boil your tap water.