



Storm Ready

PURPOSE

Girls gain knowledge in emergency preparedness for the natural disasters they may encounter in our area by completing the activities included in this Council's Own badge.

LEGACY

This "Council's Own" badge program was developed by Jupiter Junior Troop 20488 to help Girl Scouts prepare for the natural disasters that our area encounters.

GIRL SCOUT LEVELS / REQUIREMENTS

To earn the Storm Ready badge, girls need to complete a Take Action Project along with the following requirements. Girls are encouraged to complete at least one activity from each section: Discover and Connect.

- Daisy Girl Scouts: any 2 activities (include at least 1 starred activity)
- Brownie Girl Scouts: any 3 activities (include at least 1 starred activity)
- Junior Girl Scouts: any 4 activities (include at least 2 starred activities)
- Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts: any 6 activities (include all 3 starred activities)

LEADER'S TOOL KIT

- Useful resources can be discovered online via the Internet or by visiting your local county library.
- For additional information, visit:
 - <http://www.redcross.org/get-help>
 - <http://www.redcross.org/get-help/prepare-for-emergencies/be-red-cross-ready>
 - <https://www.ready.gov/florida>
 - <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare/ready.php>
 - http://petfriendlytravel.com/pet_shelters
 - <http://www.redcross.org/prepare/location/home-family/pets>
 - <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare/wwa.php>

LEADER'S TOOL KIT {continued}

- For girls, consider review of the [Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge for All Girl Scouts](http://www.girlscouts.org/en/help/help/internet-safety-pledge.html) at <http://www.girlscouts.org/en/help/help/internet-safety-pledge.html>

ACTIVITIES

Discover

- ACTIVITY #1: WHAT ARE THE COMMON NATURAL HAZARDS?
 - Learn about the different types of storms:
 - Hurricanes
 - Tornados
 - Floods
 - Thunderstorms and Lightening
 - For each type of storm, discuss the best ways to stay safe.
- ACTIVITY #2: FIRST AID *
 - Discuss the possible types of First Aid that may be needed during and after a storm.
 - Review the Red Cross Emergency Preparedness Kit provided on the redcross.org web site.
 - Help to assemble a small, personal first aid kit with items such as band aids, gauze bandages, antibiotic cream, antiseptic wipes and first aid tape stored in a small water-proof container.
- ACTIVITY #3: PREPARE YOUR FAMILY *

There are many things that you can do to help your family be as safe as possible! Use the web links listed above to learn more about how to prepare your family and home before, during and after a hurricane.
- ACTIVITY #4: PETS *

How will you take care of your pet(s) in case of severe weather? Where will you pet stay during the storm? (Remember – Never leave your pet(s) outside during a storm!)

 - The noise of the storm, even early on, frightens most pets – they may act strangely. Many will try to run or even hide so that you can't find them if you must leave your home. With this in mind, how will you handle your pet before and during the storm?
 - Speak with a veterinarian, or consult other resources, to learn ways how to identify your pet if they are lost during the storm.
 - If you live in an evacuation zone, research hotels that will take pets along with the family during a storm. For reference, visit the suggested web pages listed above.
- ACTIVITY #5: FOOD AND WATER

There is a good chance that the electric will go out during a storm. Sometimes the electric will not be available for several days. How will you cook? How will you stay warm or stay cool? How will you use the bathroom? How will you take a shower?

 - Plan menus for three meals that don't require cooking. Make a list of all the ingredients that you will need.

ACTIVITIES {continued}

- Learn how to store your food and what to do if refrigeration is not available.
- Learn how to prepare a bathtub for flushing, water for washing and containers for drinking water.
- Whose job will it be to ready things once a storm is on its way?
- **ACTIVITY #6: COMMUNICATION**

How will you take care of your pet(s) in case of severe weather? Where will you pet stay during the storm? (Remember – Never leave your pet(s) outside during a storm!)

 - Identify resources that are available to notify the public the potential for a storm in your area.
 - Understand the difference between National Weather Service *watches* and *warnings*.
 - Learn how to plot a hurricane using either a set of coordinates from a previous hurricane or for an existing storm using the coordinates that are issued every three hours from the National Hurricane Center. Track the storm until it is no longer categorized as a hurricane.
 - When the electricity is not available, discover other methods that can be used to learn about the storm.

Connect

- **ACTIVITY #7: EVACUATION SHELTERS**
 - Learn possible reasons why you would need to leave your home before a storm. Are you in a mandatory evacuation zone?
 - Find out about the evacuation shelters located in your area.
 - Discover what items/services the shelter will offer you and your family. List items that you can or cannot take to the shelter?
- **ACTIVITY #8: BEFORE THE STORM**
 - Prepare a survey of your house and neighborhood before the season. Are there toys and/or lawn ornaments in your yard? What trees need to be trimmed? What playground equipment needs to be taken down? Are there any construction supplies loose around your house or in the neighborhood?
 - Are you in a flood zone? Learn how to prepare your home for possible flood water damage.
 - Talk with your family about how these things can be taken care of. Post your survey somewhere in your home in case of a storm for easy reference.

Take Action

Share what you've discovered while doing this program badge by completing a Take Action project. Some suggestions are listed below:

ACTIVITIES {continued}

- DEVELOP A STORM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN.
 - Find a safe place in your home to be during a storm. Put together a list of hurricane supplies that your family will need to survive before, during and after the storm. Discuss your storm preparedness plan with your family and what your specific job will be. Post the list somewhere in your house for easy reference for the next storm.
 - Answer the questions: What can I do to help?
 - Make a list of your jobs, think carefully about your plan to do them, and be ready to carry out your plan.
- DURING THE STORM.
 - What can you do to keep yourself busy during the storm? Remember you may have little space and not much light. What kinds of games, songs and puzzles can you put together to keep brothers and sisters as well as yourself occupied? Put a list of the ideas and associated supplies in your emergency box.
 - Create an activity bag for younger children and donate them to your local volunteer relief organization.
- BE AN ADVOCATE.
 - Contact your local government office to inquire to your community's storm preparedness and discover ways that you can help.
 - OR contact you local library or school to design a bulletin board for emergency preparedness.
- YOUR CHOICE.
 - Any other activity that you can construct that would raise 'Storm Ready' Awareness in your community.