



# Storm Ready

## PURPOSE

**The purpose of this program is to educate Girl Scouts on emergency preparedness for the natural disasters they may encounter in our area.**



## LEGACY

This “Council’s Own” patch 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 patch, Girl Scouts need to complete a Take Action Project along with the following requirements. They 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)

Please review the [Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge for All Girl Scouts](#).

## RESOURCES

Useful resources can be discovered online or by visiting your local county library. Some resources to get you started are below.

- [American Red Cross – Get Help](#)
- [American Red Cross – How to Prepare for Emergencies](#)
- [American Red Cross – Pet Disaster Preparedness](#)
- [National Weather Service – Hurricane Safety Tips and Resources](#)
- [Ready – Hurricanes](#)
- [Pet Friendly Emergency Shelters & Pet Evacuation](#)

## ACTIVITIES



## DISCOVER

- **ACTIVITY #1: What Are the Common Natural Hazards?**

Learn about the different types of storms:

- Hurricanes
- Tornados
- Floods
- Thunderstorms and Lightning

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. Then, review the Red Cross Survival Kit Supplies provided on their website [here](#). Finally, 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 webpages listed above to learn more about how to prepare your family and home before, during, and after a hurricane. How will you delegate jobs to ensure things are ready once a storm is on its way?

- **ACTIVITY #4: Pets \***

How will you take care of your pet(s) in case of severe weather?

- Where will your pet stay during the storm? (Remember – Never leave your pet(s) outside during a storm!) If you live in an evacuation zone, research shelters and hotels that will take pets along with the family during a storm. For reference, visit the suggested webpage listed above.
- 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(s) before and during the storm?
- Speak with a veterinarian, or consult other resources, to learn ways to identify your pet(s) if they are lost during the storm.

- **ACTIVITY #5: Food and Water**

There is a good chance that the electricity will go out during a storm. Sometimes the electricity will not be available for several days.



- How will you cook? Plan menus for three meals that don't require cooking. Make a list of all the ingredients that you will need. Learn how to store your food and what to do if refrigeration is not available.

There is also a possibility that the storm could affect public water systems and/or cause contaminants to get into the water supply.

- Find out why people fill their bathtub with water and how much fresh water you should have on hand for a storm.
- **ACTIVITY #6: Communication**  
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 by completing a Take Action Project. Some suggestions are listed below:

- 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 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.
- 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 you and your family occupied? Put a list of the ideas and associated supplies in your emergency box. You could also create activity bags for 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. Get your family and/or Girl Scout troop involved!
- Educate Others
  - Contact your local library or school and offer to design a bulletin board for emergency preparedness. What content will be most important to include? How should you visually present this information?
- Your Choice
  - Any other activity that you can create that would raise "storm readiness" in your community.