**County Health Department Storm Messaging for Twitter**

Below are sample Tweets for messaging before, during and after a storm. Please use these Tweets as you prepare for a storm to hit, during the storm and clean-up efforts. If possible, add the hashtag for the specific storm or hurricane name to leverage trending Tweets. For more, storm/safety tips, retweet from @FLSERT or your local Emergency Management partner. For more information and social media assistance, please contact Jennifer Case at jennifer.case@flhealth.gov.

**Start of Hurricane Season Messages**

#BePrepared! Create a plan, build a kit & help those with disabilities, functional & access needs: <http://goo.gl/FkgnsA> #Preparedness

Don't forget to pack supplies for your pets/services animals feeding and care in your #EmergencyKit. #PetPreparedness

Before a storm threatens, contact your vet or local humane society for info on preparing your pets for an emergency. #PetPreparedness

Are you prepared for a #Hurricane? Prepare #healthy #emergency food kits w/this checklist: <http://goo.gl/PsybA7> #Preparedness

Are you prepared for a #Hurricane? Prepare #healthy #diabetic #emergency food kits w/this checklist: <http://goo.gl/AuUPwV> #Preparedness

**Before Storm**

#BePrepared! Create a plan, build a kit & help those with disabilities, functional & access needs: <http://goo.gl/FkgnsA> #Preparedness

In your #EmergencyKit, stock extra over the counter & prescription medicine - remember pharmacies may not be operational post-storm.

When making your #EmergencyKit, make sure you have 1 gallon of water/person/day. You should add enough water for at least 3 days.

Do you live in an evacuation zone? If so, do you have an evacuation plan? #Preparedness [www.floridadisaster.org/publicmapping/](http://www.floridadisaster.org/publicmapping/)

Do not leave your dogs tied up or chained when evacuating. Floodwaters are dangerous for people & pets. #FloodSafety #Preparedness

Your pet should wear collar w/ rabies tag & identification at all times. Include extra leash, collar, & ID tag in pet disaster kit!

Before a storm threatens, contact your vet or local humane society for info on preparing your pets for an emergency.

It may be hard to find shelter for your pets during a disaster #Tip: Find pet friendly hotels/motels here <http://bit.ly/1rClp2L>

Don't forget to pack supplies for your pets/services animals feeding and care in your #EmergencyKit.

Visit <http://www.floridadisaster.org> or follow @FLSERT for up-to-date information regarding storm in your area.

Get updated traffic information regarding road closures, flooded roadways, etc. from @MyFDOT at <http://www.fl511.com/> or @FLHSMV.

If you are having to evacuate, remember to not drive through moving water, regardless the size of your vehicle. #TurnAroundDontDrown

Are you prepared for a #Hurricane? Prepare #healthy #emergency food kits w/this checklist: <http://goo.gl/PsybA7> #Preparedness

Are you prepared for a #Hurricane? Prepare #healthy #diabetic #emergency food kits w/this checklist: <http://goo.gl/AuUPwV> #Preparedness

Buy dry or block ice to keep the refrigerator as cold as possible if the power is going to be out for a prolonged time. #FoodSafety

Bring patio furniture, garden tools, garbage cans, and toys inside so they don't become flying objects during storm winds. #StormSafety

Turn your refrigerator or freezer to the coldest setting in anticipation of losing power - open only when necessary. #FoodSafety

Know what medical or assistive tech devices you'll need with you if there's an evacuation order from local officials.

**During Storm**

**Staying at A Shelter Messaging**

The best place to shelter for every Floridian is outside the evacuation area, in a safe & secure structure, w/ family & friends.

Staying at a shelter? #Tip - Bring your own bed linens/blankets, clothing, toiletries/hygiene items and personal medications

For updated information on currently open #shelters statewide, please click here <http://bit.ly/1hXMT8R>

**Sheltering-In-Place Messaging**

Sheltering at home? Plan to have enough supplies for at least 72 hours after hurricane passes in case you lose power.

If you're sheltering in-place, make sure your disaster kit is fully stocked and fresh batteries & supplies are included.

**Generator Safety**

Only operate generators outdoors in well-ventilated, dry area, away from air intakes to the home. Protect from direct exposure to rain. #Preparedness

If you’re operating generator & feel dizzy or weak, get fresh air immediately. If your symptoms worsen, seek medical attention. #Preparedness

**After Storm Messages (Safety)**

Wear shoes to avoid injury from debris left by storms. Watch for/avoid downed power lines. Beware of displaced wildlife. #StormSafety

After storms, be alert to wildlife—snakes, alligators, etc. may have been displaced as a result of strong winds or rain. #StormSafety

Take precautions to avoid consuming contaminated water. Listen to local announcements on safety of the water supply & boil water notices.

Electricity from street lights & power poles may be present in standing water, causing a deadly shock to anyone coming in contact with it. #FloodSafety

If your well is in a flooded area, your water may contain disease-causing bacteria and may not be safe to drink. # FloodSafety

When the power is out, refrigerators will keep foods cool for approximately 4 hours. Thawed food should be thrown out after 4 hours.

Don’t eat food contaminated by floodwater. Use only boiled/bottled water. Discard frigerated/frozen food after 4hr power outage #FloodSafety

Don’t allow children to play in floodwater, it may contain fecal matter & they can become sick or be bitten by snakes or floating insects.

If you're in an area affected by (#stormname) monitor boil water notices at @HealthyFla webpage here <http://bit.ly/2dBVQeN>

Be a good neighbor. Check in on elderly residents in your neighborhood and those who do not have air conditioning.

Don’t forget your pets during the hot days of clean-up. Make sure they have access to water, ventilation and shade.

If you have open cuts or sores exposed to floodwater, keep them as clean as possible by washing with soap and disinfected/boiled water

**After Storm Clean-Up Messages (General)**

During after storm clean-up, avoid heat exhaustion, dehydration by drinking plenty of fluids, especially water.

During clean-up after a storm, avoid heat stress when working outside or in non-air-conditioned buildings. For more #tips: <https://goo.gl/ZO4pMp>

People most prone to heat exhaustion include the elderly, those with high blood pressure and people working in a hot environment.

Be on guard for the warning signs of heat exhaustion: Heavy sweating, paleness, cramps, weakness, dizziness, nausea or vomiting & fainting.

If heat exhaustion symptoms become more severe or last longer than one hour, seek medical attention immediately.

During after storm clean-up, avoid dehydration by drinking plenty of fluids, especially water, even if you don’t feel thirsty.

Remember during clean-up efforts: Young children and babies may need more fluids than normal daily intake to stay hydrated.

People with infants and young children are urged to keep cool by spending time in air-conditioned environments as much as possible.

Dress for the heat. Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing. Light colors will reflect away some of the sun’s energy.

Stay indoors when possible. If air conditioning is not available, stay on the lowest floor out of the sunshine.

Drink water. Carry water or juice with you and drink continuously even if you do not feel thirsty. Avoid alcohol and caffeine, which dehydrate the body.

Avoid strenuous activity during the hottest part of the day during clean-up. Try to work during the morning hours between 4 and 7 a.m.

During storm cleanup, drain standing water to preventing mosquito-borne illness. Storms can lead to an increase in mosquitoes.

Be careful about mixing household cleaners. Combining certain products can produce toxic fumes & result in injury or death.

Consider using personal protective equipment when cleaning or removing mold – these can be found at your local hardware store!

It will be hard to throw away items w/ sentimental value. However, keeping certain items soaked by floodwaters may be unhealthy.

Protect yourself against health risks associated with #mold - remove standing water from your home or office.

If moldy material isn't easily cleanable (i.e. drywall, carpet padding & insulation) then removal & replacement may be necessary.

Individuals with known mold allergies or asthma should not clean or remove moldy materials during storm clean-up efforts.