

REACTING: Before-the-storm tips

FROM PAGE 10

36 Hours from Impact

Check your emergency supplies and review your evacuation plan. Stay tuned to your local news and national weather reports. Pay attention to watches and warnings issued for your area and get your cars ready to leave.

18 to 36 Hours from Impact

High winds are on the way. Bring in lightweight objects and start preparing your property with storm shutters or boarding windows. Your local home improvement store can help you choose the right materials if you don't have shutters. If you're prone to flooding, take proper precautions. Always listen to local officials and if they tell you to evacuate, leave.

6 to 8 Hours from Impact

If you're under an evacuation order, you should have left by now. If you're choosing to hunker down, preparations to protect life and prop-

erty should be completed. Make sure your phone has a full charge and don't expect emergency services to respond during the storm, so make sure you have a first-aid kit handy and that friends and family know where you are.

Less than 6 Hours from Impact

While you still have power and water, fill containers for well more than you think you need. Turn your refrigerator and freezer to the lowest settings and avoid opening them to keep your food cold. A well-insulated fridge will keep food cold for about 48 hours if you keep the door shut.



HURRICANE SEASON
JUNE 1 - Nov. 30, 2018



PROPERTY: Take action and prepare

FROM PAGE 9

- Install a water alarm and sump pumps with battery backup.
- Install "check valves" in sewer lines to prevent floodwater from backing up into your drains.
- Stockpile emergency protective materials such as plywood, plastic sheeting, and sandbags.
- Elevate the heating system (furnace), water heater, and electric panel if susceptible to flooding.
- Waterproof the basement.
- In areas with repetitive flooding, consider elevating the building.

FLOOD INSURANCE

Most property insurance policies do not cover flood losses, so you will need

to purchase separate flood insurance if your property is at risk for flooding. Talk to your insurance agent about buying flood insurance. Flood insurance is available for homeowners, renters, and business owners through the National Flood Insurance Program in participating communities. Keep in mind that a policy purchased today will take 30 days to go into effect, so act now!

Learn how to financially protect yourself from flood damage by visiting FloodSmart.gov

Find your flood risk at msc.fema.gov/portal.

For more resources about hurricane risk, visit ready.gov/prepare

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FELICIA WHETSTONE



Phone: 251-675-7575

Fax: 251-675-6710

Email: felicia@alinsagency.com

327 Saraland Blvd. N, Saraland AL, 36571

www.alinsagency.com

**CITRONELLE CITGO
FIRST STOP**

16762 HWY 45
Citronelle, AL 36522

251-866-0021

CITRONELLE SHELL

19265 N. 3RD St.
Citronelle, AL 36522

251-866-9004