



Shot from space, this detailed, 3d illustration shows a hurricane approaching the southeastern Caribbean islands.

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Reacting to an incoming storm

The one advantage people have in the face of an approaching hurricane is there is usually plenty of time to prepare before the storm hits. Technology has advanced to the point where meteorologists can identify storms early over the warm tropical Atlantic, even before it becomes a tropical depression, then a tropical storm.

Once a cyclone's winds hit 74 mph, it's a hurricane.

should have emergency supplies such as food, water, batteries and flashlights ready as soon as hurricane season

starts. Below are a few tips from the Department of Homeland Security's Ready campaign about what to expect

when a hurricane is expected:

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