

## Preparing for Spring: Storm Preparation for Your Home

Spring weather is finally here, but with temperatures on the rise, the nice weather also brings the likelihood of severe storms. All it takes is a little preparation to ensure your home stays safe and protected. Here are some spring weather tips to help you prepare your home for spring storms.

### 1. Sign up for Local Weather Text Alerts

By downloading the FEMA app to your smartphone or device, you can get real-time national weather alerts. Through the FEMA app, you'll have access to important emergency safety tips for multiple types of disasters. Your local news network app is also available for download on your devices, where you can get relevant news, closings, delays and up-to-the minute weather information.



### 2. Clean Your Gutters

Getting your gutters cleaned or doing it yourself should be included in annual home maintenance. Having clean gutters keeps water run-off away from your home and helps prevent flooding. While cleaning your gutters, inspect for leaks or damage. If cleaning your gutters on your own, it is best to use ladder safety precautions and wear durable gloves to pull out debris.

### 3. Sump Pump Maintenance

With spring showers underway, the risk of flooding increases. If your home has a sump pump, it is wise to get annual sump pump maintenance or even do it yourself. It is also beneficial to add sump pump failure and water back up coverage to increase your protection and peace of mind when heavy rain is on the radar.



### 4. Refresh Your Storm Survival Kit

It is best to refresh your emergency disaster kits annually to ensure nothing has expired and because some of your necessities may have changed. Your kit should be customized to fit your family's needs. It's recommended that your kit be able to last three days.

### 5. Power Outages

Be sure to have back-up batteries and other alternative power sources to meet the needs of your household when the power goes out, like portable chargers or power banks. It is best to have a power outage emergency kit prepared and nonperishable food items in your home.