

## Basic Checklist for Preparations (Wind and Rain)

For specific disasters, consult the Nova Scotia Emergency Management Office's website for preparation steps. This list should be considered supplemental.

Done	Item	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify how long you have before the event.	For hurricanes or severe wind check the NOAA, Environment Canada or windy.com. Check weather network for alerts
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check emergency kit and make sure nothing has expired or gone off.	Pay particular attention to any food, water, or medications. See the Public Safety or Nova Scotia Emergency Management Office for kit contents.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Remove dead trees and branches.	Pay particular attention to branches that overhang the house or trees that are within 1.5 tree heights of the house.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check to ensure adequate water on hand for people	Consider about 3 litres of water per day for each person for drinking and an additional 2 litres for washing, etc. This gives about 5 litres per day per person. This means that the standard 24 x 500 mL case would be about 2.5 days per person.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check to ensure appropriate food stocks	These should be non-perishable foods (or at least very long shelf life) and take little preparation to open. Ensure that you also have a can opener, etc. to get into cans, etc. Note that the Pan American Health Organization look for about 2000 calories per day (a tuna salad sandwich is about 200 calories).
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medication	It would be best if you had not less than 2 weeks worth of medication on hand. These can be arrange in "organizers" allow you to assemble your medications for a full day. If you are storing medication, note any shelf life as well as have copies of the pharmacy-issued receipts available (these may be outside of the emergency kit)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fuel for Vehicle	Make sure that your car gas tank is full. Severe storms in Nova Scotia have knocked out power and have (in turn) led to situations where gas stations (lacking generators) cannot provide fuel until power is restored.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fuel for backup generator	A 20L tank using standard gasoline (87) on a generator will last about 8 hours (using the manufacturer details for a 6500 W starting Champion generator) running at 50% load
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Oil for backup generator	You should change the oil in the generator if it has run for close to 100 hours or has been idle for a couple of months. Most will use a SAE 5W30 (synthetic) oil. Oil should be checked to make sure the level is fine and oil does not appear dark or cloudy (sign that it needs changing)

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Tarping or repairs	If expecting roof damage, having 1-2 large tarps, 4-6 2 x 4 x10 boards and a supply of screws may help if emergency patching is required. Also consider heavier plastic for windows (such as a 6 mil greenhouse plastic)
<input type="checkbox"/>	If you own a trailer or RV, take some steps to prepare it for the storm.	This will involve positioning it near a windbreak (remember about reversing winds) and anchoring it. You will also want to make sure that all accessories are secured and windows fully closed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	For those with whole home generators, call for additional fuel	If the impact is likely to last more than 3 days, consider putting in a call to the fuel supplier for any whole home generator. Remember that the generator could consume up to 10% of a tank per day. Most companies that offer automatic refilling trigger at 30% of the tank and may take longer than 3 days to arrive.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check drainage around the house	This includes a quick check of gutters, any spouts attached to gutters, and ditches surrounding the house (include culverts)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tie down for items that cannot be stored	Tie down loose objects or store them indoors. This includes any items that are light or have a large surface area that the wind can catch.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure that all cellphones, flashlights, and radios are being charged	A phone can take up to 8 hours (slow charging) to charge completely. This should also include any "power banks" or similar things used to charge phones.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Boarding of Windows (if necessary)	This would be in extreme cases. Check to see what the DP rating is for your windows. D15 windows can withstand 77 mph winds or just over 120 kmh. DP 50 windows can withstand winds up to 173 mph or just under 280 kmh.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Last check of property	This is just a last check to look at the property to make sure loose things are secured or stored.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Preposition items that you may need	If you know you are going to need to use certain things, have them prepositioned. Remember that you want these to be secured against wind and the like. A bucket of ice melt is not likely to blow away (nor a generator) but tarps and smaller items may.

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Check with neighbours on preparations	While at the end, it is usually a good idea to check in with the neighbours, particularly if there is a possibility that they are on the vulnerable persons list. If you yourself fit the category for a vulnerable person, make sure you have registered.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stay back from the water and flooded areas.	This applies to both the coast line where waves and storm surge can be dangerous and to flooding where currents can be deceptive and severe.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Remember that in hurricanes, the wind may shift and reverse	As the eye of the hurricane passes, the wind direction will likely shift. You can see how this might shift using sites like windy.com. Also, if you have the eye pass over you, there will be a period of calm but then winds will pick up quickly but be from the opposite direction.

If you need links to any of the government sites or similar kinds of sites, check the resources page at <https://evolutionarysecurity.net/resources/>