

The Weather-Ready Home Checklist

What to do before freeze, heavy rain, high wind, and snow reach your house.

Timing: use forecast lead time or a watch to prepare.
With a warning, take protective action and do only tasks that are still safe.

HARD FREEZE

- ☐ Disconnect, drain, and store garden hoses from every outdoor faucet
- ☐ Cover exposed hose bibs; if your home has indoor shutoffs, close them and drain outdoor faucets
- ☐ If you have an irrigation system, shut off and drain its lines or schedule winterization
- ☐ Check pipes in garages, crawl spaces, and cabinets on exterior walls
- ☐ Know your main water shutoff location before you need it
- ☐ In deep cold, open cabinet doors on exterior-wall plumbing

HIGH WIND

- ☐ Bring in or tie down patio furniture, cushions, umbrellas, and planters
- ☐ Secure trash and recycling bins so they can't blow into the street
- ☐ Park vehicles away from large trees where practical
- ☐ Remove dead or hanging branches near the house ahead of the season
- ☐ Charge phones and flashlights in case of a power outage
- ☐ Latch gates, sheds, and anything else that can swing or lift

HEAVY RAIN

- ☐ Clear gutters and downspouts; extend downspouts away from the foundation
- ☐ Test your sump pump and confirm the discharge path is clear
- ☐ Clear leaves and debris from your yard drains, if safe to do so
- ☐ Move valuables and electronics off the basement floor
- ☐ Check window wells and low spots where water pools against the house
- ☐ Close and latch windows, including basement and garage windows

SNOW & DEEP COLD

- ☐ Locate furnace and water-heater sidewall vents; keep them clear of snow
- ☐ Stock shovel, ice melt, and gloves before the first storm, not after
- ☐ Keep gutters clear going into winter to reduce ice-dam risk
- ☐ Mark driveway edges and outdoor vents before deep snow hides them
- ☐ Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- ☐ Keep the thermostat at a consistent temperature during deep cold

Want your local forecast turned into the right home checklist automatically?

HomeGuard Weather is a pre-launch iPhone app - software only, no sensors or hardware.

It reads your local forecast, flags the risk it creates for your home - hose bibs, sump pump, gutters, vents, loose outdoor items - and hands you the checklist in time.

Join the early-access waitlist at homeguardweather.com

Safety note: this checklist is for awareness and preparation, not emergency response. It does not replace National Weather Service alerts, local authorities, utilities, emergency services, or professional repair guidance. Do not perform unsafe tasks during dangerous conditions.