

# 10 Tips for After the Storm



## 1. WAIT

If you were ordered to evacuate, wait until local officials have declared the area safe to return home.



## 2. DAMAGE

Before you enter your home, check for visible damage with extreme caution and protective clothing.



## 3. PREVENT LEAKS

Check your plumbing system. If there was a burst pipe, turn off your water right away.



## 4. TAP WATER

Do not drink or cook with tap water until it has been declared safe to do so.



## 5. OLD FOOD

Throw away perishable food - it may be contaminated!



## 6. LIVE WIRES

Look for live electrical wires before turning on any lights or appliances.



## 7. REPORT A CLAIM

Before you report a claim to your insurance agent, have the following information available:

- Name and address
- Phone number
- Policy number
- Date the loss happened
- Description of events that led to the loss



## 8. DON'T BE A VICTIM

Contractors frequently canvas storm-damaged neighborhoods shortly after an incident looking for work. To avoid becoming a victim of fraud, ask the contractor for proof of liability insurance, and never sign a document you don't fully understand!



## 9. TAKE PICTURES

Take pictures and videos of the damage on the outside and inside of the home for insurance purposes. If you have a written inventory and saved receipts for your possessions, it will make the claim process much easier!



## 10. TAKE INVENTORY

In preparation for the next storm, make sure to create a detailed Home Inventory Checklist. This will be helpful the next time you file an insurance claim.