

PLAN AHEAD

- Have a designated evacuation plan in place in case you need to leave your RV or THOW due to a hurricane or other severe weather threat. <https://bit.ly/4daXOPR>
- Communicate your evacuation plan with neighbors, friends or family members who can provide support and assistance during emergencies.
- Prepare an emergency kit with essential supplies such as non-perishable food, water, medications, flashlights, batteries, first aid supplies and important documents. <https://www.ready.gov/kit>
- Take your pets with you and ensure they have identification tags and necessary supplies for the evacuation. <https://www.ready.gov/pets>
- Keep your mobile devices charged and have backup power sources such as portable generators or solar panels.
- Secure any outdoor furniture, awnings and other loose items that could become projectiles in high winds inside your RV, THOW or in a secure storage container.
- Seal windows, doors and roof vents with appropriate weather-stripping or caulking to prevent water infiltration.
- Know how to shut off utilities. Contact your utility provider for proper shut off procedures for gas, electric and water.



Recreational Vehicles Household Living Severe Storm Safety Guide

For questions or more information please contact:

Emergency Management
Division of Fire Rescue
1100 SE 27th Street
Gainesville, FL 32641
Phone: 352-264-6500
Website: <https://bit.ly/4b84AEa>
Email: acem@alachuacounty.us

Department of Growth Management
County Annex Building
10 SW 2nd Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32601
Phone: 352-374-5249
Website: <https://bit.ly/3Qirlxw>
Email: planning@alachuacounty.us



It's important to stay prepared for hurricanes and other powerful storms that can pose significant risks to Recreational Vehicles (RV) or Tiny House on Wheels (THOW) users. As a full-time RV or THOW dweller in Alachua County this guide provides essential tips and guidelines to help you navigate hurricane season and other severe storms.

REINFORCE YOUR RV or THOW

- Place the RV or THOW outside the zoning setbacks, avoid low-lying areas or near bodies of water that are prone to flooding during storms.
- Have your RV or THOW anchored securely to the ground using hurricane straps or tie-downs to prevent it from being lifted or shifted by strong winds.
- Inspect structural integrity and reinforce any existing leaks, cracks or damage that could worsen during a storm.



STAY INFORMED

- Monitor <https://alachuacountyready.com/> for all disaster related information in Alachua County.
- Sign up for AlertAlachua emergency notifications and evacuation orders on your smartphone. <https://bit.ly/3Jyl7FM>
- Text "ALACHUA" to 888777 to receive real-time county updates during a large-scale incident or emergency.
- Monitor weather forecasts regularly and consider using a portable weather radio. <https://www.weather.gov/nwr/>

EVACUATE EARLY

- Follow evacuation orders from local authorities and move to a safe location well in advance of the storm's arrival.
- Don't wait until the last minute to evacuate if a warning is issued for your area.
- Don't hesitate to seek assistance or evacuate if weather conditions warrant it.

AFTER THE STORM

- Stay informed about road conditions, utility outages, downed trees and other post-storm hazards and wait for local authorities to declare the area safe before returning to your RV or THOW.
- Inspect your home for any damage and make necessary repairs as soon as it's safe to do so.
- Follow local guidance regarding the disposal of storm debris and cleanup efforts.

Remember, your safety should always be your top priority when living in your RV or THOW, especially during hurricanes and other powerful storms. By taking proactive measures and staying prepared, you can minimize the risks and ensure your safety.

