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## FDOH-LAKE Encourages Floridians to Be Prepared Ahead of Tropical Storm Nicole's Landfall



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**Lake County, Fla.** — In response to Tropical Storm Nicole, the Florida Department of Health in Lake County (DOH-Lake) is working to support local and state response efforts to protect public health during severe weather conditions.

- DOH-Lake has a variety of [other resources](#) in English, Spanish, and Creole to help you and your family in storm preparedness activities, such as [boil water notices](#), [carbon monoxide / generator safety](#), [electrical safety](#), [flood water safety](#), and more.
- To ensure Floridians are prepared for Tropical Storm Nicole, DOH-Lake is reminding communities of the following:
  - Severe weather can impact your access to local utility services and potable water. Know when water is safe to consume your water by viewing [statewide boil water notices](#).
  - Gather any [supplies](#) you may need to keep your loved ones safe healthy before and after the storm. Have enough [prescriptions on-hand](#) in case pharmacies experience closures.
  - Listen to local authorities regarding [evacuations](#). Don't return home until local officials notify you it's safe to do so.
  - [Never wade or drive through flooded areas and standing water](#). Turn around, don't drown.
  - If you have any open wounds, regardless of exposure to floodwaters, clean all wounds with soap, disinfectant, or bottled water. If you sustain a wound or deep cut, seek medical attention as soon as possible. Ask your doctor if you need a tetanus booster.
  - Prevent [carbon monoxide poisoning](#). Place your generator and any gasoline-powered engine outside at least 20 feet from any window, door, or vent.

The time may arise when you may need to evacuate your home to go to a safe location. In certain situations, it may be safest for you to evacuate to a shelter. Additionally, if you or a loved one is in need of special care throughout the duration of the storm and its effects, please visit [FloridaDisaster.org](http://FloridaDisaster.org) to find a shelter near you.

- If you do evacuate to a shelter, [your kit](#) should include:
  - List of medications and dosage.
  - A [30-day supply of medications](#).
  - Vital medical equipment for those who may be electrically or oxygen dependent.
  - Backup energy sources for essential medical equipment.
  - Any special dietary needs or food.
  - Personal information including a photo ID, insurance card, emergency contacts, and your primary care provider's contact information.

DOH-Lake encourages Floridians to cooperate with local and state officials and to remember that adequate preparedness is the best way to help mitigate negative effects of a storm. [Visit your local county emergency management](#) for specific information.

## About the Florida Department of Health

The Department, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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