



Hurricane Florence is on track to hit the mid-Atlantic region with her furry. HWP Insurance wants to remind you of some things you can do now that will help keep you safe and minimize potential damage to your home or business. Should you experience a loss that is covered by your insurance, [click here](#) to be directed to our web site for a list of carrier claim reporting phone numbers.

AT HOME

Avoid Flooding

- Check your sump pump:
 - Is it functioning properly?
 - Is the drain clear?
 - Is the battery back-up working properly?
- Consider sandbagging areas around your home susceptible to flooding.
- Walk-out basements or window wells:
 - If either have drains, check that they are clear and free of debris.
 - Check drains regularly during rain.
- Clean gutters.
- Move cars away from flood prone areas.

Avoid Wind Damage

- Secure or move inside all outdoor furniture, play equipment, grills, potted plants, flags, etc.
- Move cars away from trees and utility poles.

Be Prepared

- Fill cars with gas.
- Get gas for generators/chainsaws, etc.
- Connect major appliances and electronics to surge protectors or should the power go out, unplug these items.
- Have a supply of water for drinking and hygiene (fill bathtubs, buckets or purchase).
- Check flashlights and have extra batteries.
- Charge cell phones.

AT YOUR BUSINESS

Many of the above practices should also be applied to businesses however there are a few important things to consider as well.

- Back up files and move off-site.
- Establish an alternate means of communication with your employees/customers.

ABOVE ALL BE SAFE

- Stay away from downed wires.
- Turn around don't drown – most cars can be swept away in 2' of water and as little as 6" of rushing water can sweep away a person.