

Preparing for extreme weather is a burden for anyone in the path of a storm or fire. People with Parkinson's disease (PD) and their caregivers should take these tips into consideration to ensure that all PD-related needs are accounted for when preparing for a hurricane or any other natural disaster:

## **Emergency Preparedness Checklist**

- 1. **Check <u>all</u> your medications.** Take inventory of all medications and reorder any that are running low.
- 2. Write your medication list down. Write down or print a list of all your medications (not just PD medications). Print our <u>customizeable medication</u> <u>form</u>.
- 3. **Make a list of your doctors.** Include their contact information and take the list with you if you need to evacuate your home.
- 4. **Download** <u>hospital safety materials</u>. In the event you need to educate an emergency responder or health care professional about your PD needs, have your hospital safety guide ready to go. <u>Download and</u> <u>print</u> contents today.
- 5. **Gather water and food.** Medications may require that they be taken with a meal or water. Buy enough water and food to last three to five days in the event of a weather emergency.
- 6. Have your Medical Alert Card handy. Print yours here.
- 7. **Practice anxiety reduction techniques.** Stress can worsen PD symptoms. Download a meditation app or distract yourself with books or activities.
- 8. Know your nearest shelter. Visit the <u>Red Cross website</u> to find yours.
- 9. Prepare for power loss and evacuation. Read our full article.