

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Prepare Now for Hurricane Conditions as TS Isaias Strengthens

JACKSON, Miss. — As Tropical Storm Isaias is expected to strengthen into a hurricane, now is the time to review your insurance coverage and make sure you are familiar with your policies. Flood insurance takes 30 days to go into effect after it's bought. While it may be too late to add coverage this time around, understanding existing coverage and having your policy information on hand will make the claims process easier.

Creating a home inventory also makes it easier to file a claim after a disaster. A free tool is the NAIC Home Inventory App. It can be downloaded from the [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#). You can also take photos and videos of your property and items inside your home to make filing a claim faster.

Pack a "Go Bag" that includes important documents like insurance cards and Social Security cards. Keep copies of these documents in a waterproof container or as a digital image saved online. Consider downloading your insurance company's app to have your policy information at hand. You should also have a printed or digital copy of your home inventory, cash, medications, a battery-powered radio, and one gallon of drinking water for every family member and pet.

Prepare your home and property for strong winds and heavy rain. Secure or bring inside outdoor furniture, grills, decorations, trash cans and anything else that could become a projectile. Trim dead or weak branches, clear gutters and drains, and make sure storm drains around your property are free of debris. Check your roof, windows and doors for damage, and consider installing storm shutters or using properly fitted plywood to protect windows. Move vehicles to a secure location, and make sure generators are used outdoors and away from windows and doors. Taking these steps before the storm arrives can help reduce damage and keep your family safer.

If you need assistance with an insurance question or claim, call 601-359-3569 or email consumer@mid.ms.gov

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