



Hurricane season prep for solar owners

Steps to take before, during, and after a storm.

Hurricane season brings stress, power outages, and uncertainty.

As a solar owner, you have the tools to prepare. Whether you have panels alone or battery backup, this checklist will help you stay safe and storm ready.

solarunitedneighbors.org/hurricane



Before the storm hits

1



Take photos of your solar system

Include panels, batteries, monitoring app, and control boxes. This helps with claims if there's damage after a storm.

2



Do laundry and high demand tasks

Use power hungry appliances (AC, electric stove, dryer) in advance when the grid is active and the sun is shining.

3



Save your installer's contact information

Have their phone number and email handy in case of emergency.

If you do have battery back up



Contact your installer early for instructions.

Learn how to use and test your system BEFORE hurricane season. Simulate a grid outage to ensure your battery works correctly. Review how to check your battery offline without power.



Battery charging and settings.

Set your battery to the recommended settings and save power by limiting use of high-draw appliances. Prioritize charging to full capacity.

If you don't have battery back up





Understand the automatic solar safety feature.


If the power goes out, remember your grid-tied solar will automatically shut off for safety.

During the storm





If you do have battery back up

-  **Use your monitoring app and manage energy use.**
Check the charge levels of batteries from your app. Minimize energy use by running only essential appliances during the storm.
-  **No internet, no problem!**
Expect monitoring apps to stop working without the internet. Your battery system should continue to operate automatically.

If you don't have battery back up

-  **Prevent voltage spike damage.**
Shut off the main breaker to the panels when the storm approaches to disconnect your system from the grid. This prevents equipment damage from power surges.

After the storm

-  **1 Visually inspect your system.**
Check for visible damage to panels, boxes, and batteries from the ground only. Do not climb on the roof or touch any cables or equipment.
-  **2 Document any damage to solar panels and roof.**
Take photos of any damage for insurance and report concerns to your installer.
-  **3 Call your installer if you notice anything strange.**
Don't try to repair anything yourself. They'll guide you.
-  **4 Beware of misleading solar practices.**
Verify that any contractor is properly licensed. Verify that any contractor is properly licensed. You can do so by searching for your state's contractor licensing office online. Our [Solar Help Desk](#) can help as well.



SUN Resources

We know storm season can be unpredictable, but your response doesn't have to be. As a solar owner, you're already one step ahead. By taking a few proactive steps before, during, and after a storm, you can protect your solar system, keep your family safe, and have peace of mind.

Visit: solarunitedneighbors.org/hurricane

to learn more about how both solar owners and future solar owners can stay prepared this storm season.

Solar United Neighbors is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

We're a community of people building a new energy system with rooftop solar at the cornerstone. We help people go solar, join together, and fight for their energy rights.