



*Embassy of the United States of America
Bridgetown, Barbados*

Hurricane Preparedness

Q: Hurricane season is upon us, what should I do to prepare in case a storm hits our island?

A: Even before a Hurricane watch or advisory is in effect, you should make sure to have a copy of all emergency numbers handy, including the U.S. Embassy numbers, and that you are paying attention to the news and other forms of public emergency networks. Consider preparing a go bag and having it ready in case you need to rush out of your house. A typical go bag could include any medication that you regularly take, a spare change of clothes, your passport and other identification, cash (including some U.S. currency), travel toiletries, phone charger, and any other items that you might need on short term notice.

We also strongly recommend that you enroll in the Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) at <http://travel.state.gov>. STEP will enable you to receive our latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. Embassy to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the Embassy or nearest consulate.

The Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy in Bridgetown, Barbados, can be reached during regular business hours (M-F, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) by telephone at (246) 227-4000; by fax at (246) 431-0179; and by e-mail at BridgetownACS@state.gov. After hours, in case of emergency, a duty officer can be reached by calling the Embassy switchboard at (246) 227-4000 and dialing ext. 2210 to speak to the Marine security guard on duty.

Finally, make sure that your family and emergency contacts have up to date contact information (phone and email) for you, and are current on your whereabouts.

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