

AAA Spring Storm Preparation Checklist

- ☐ **Check your home's surroundings**
Determine whether trees need trimming—high winds can turn loose branches into dangerous projectiles and bring down powerlines. Also, if a storm approaches, secure outside furniture and move yard items indoors.
- ☐ **Clean up after last year**
Use spring as an opportunity to remove any debris from your gutters, drains, spouts and roof to help those April showers drain smoothly off your home.
- ☐ **Test your sump pump**
Call a plumber to verify your sump pump is clean and draining properly in preparation for spring's downpours and drizzles.
- ☐ **Test your smoke alarms**
Lightning and power outages raise the risk of fire. Check your fire alarms to make sure they're in good working order.
- ☐ **Protect your electronics**
To help protect expensive electrical devices from damage during thunderstorms, you should plug them into surge protectors. If you don't have any, unplug your devices.
- ☐ **Keep essential information**
Have important telephone numbers on hand, such as those of friends, family and utility companies. Keep insurance, property, and medical information in a secure place.
- ☐ **Prepare a first aid kit (or two)**
Better to be safe than sorry, so equip your home with a complete first aid kit. Check RedCross.org for a list of items to include.
- ☐ **Have a family plan**
For spring storms and other natural disasters, create a list that includes an evacuation route, shelter location, communication plan and a way to receive emergency alerts, like weather alerts from AAA.
- ☐ **Have a flashlight and weather radio**
Severe weather can strike any time of day, so keep a battery-operated flashlight and extra batteries within reach.
- ☐ **Stock up**
You may lose electric power or need to evacuate, so keep a three to five day supply of bottled water and nonperishable food, personal hygiene items, blankets, sleeping bags and medication.
- ☐ **Replace worn-out weatherstripping**
Recaulk or replace weatherstripping around doors and windows for a better seal against high winds and flooding.
- ☐ **Know your coverage**
Review your homeowners policy (it's free to do with AAA), and consider adding coverage extensions—like water backup or flood coverage.

