# SMART THINKING

**SPRING / SUMMER** 

## **Storm Safety Starts Today**

Warmer temperatures often mean hurricanes and severe thunderstorm activity. To help keep yourself, your family, and your property safe, know how to prepare before extreme weather hits.

#### Get ready now:

- Prepare an evacuation plan so you know how to get out of your area and where to go.
- Make sure all family members know the plan and what to do in the event of a storm.
- Assemble a disaster safety kit with the following items:
  - First aid kit
  - Bottled water
  - Canned and nonperishable food with can opener and utensils
  - Battery-powered radio and flashlight with additional batteries
  - Cell phone charger and backup power bank, if available
  - Blanket and change of clothes
  - Important documents
- Ready your yard by removing dead/dying trees and tree limbs overhanging structures.



### When a storm is heading your way:

- Keep an eye on your local weather forecast and the storm's track.
- Move outdoor furniture and trash cans inside, if possible, or tie down in a sheltered spot.
- Make sure you have adequate food, water, and medications on hand.
- Fuel your vehicle and park in a garage, if possible.
- Charge your cell phone and backup power bank.
- Check your safety kit to make sure everything is readv.
- Heed all instructions from authorities and evacuate if told to do so.



## Splish Splash

Check out this video for tips on safely enjoying life at the pool.

Use the QR code or click here.







## **Car Wash Precautions**

Everyone likes a clean, shiny vehicle, and drivethrough car washes are quick and convenient...but they aren't without hazards. Whether you own one or are utilizing one, keep in mind these tips to avoid unwanted issues.

#### **Customers:**

- Remove loose items or debris from truck beds or vehicle exteriors.
- Consider avoiding drive-through car washes if your vehicle has after-market add-ons like bug shields, light bars, luggage racks, toolboxes, antennas, spoilers, etc.
- Pay attention to all signs, instructions, and warnings.
- Know how to disable autonomous driving safety features, such as collision detection or auto hold braking, before entering a car wash.

#### **Owners:**

• Make sure to display proper signage, including "Use at Own Risk," clearance, special instructions, and reminders for customers to remove loose items/debris from vehicles.



- Consider prohibiting vehicles with luggage racks from using drive-through car wash, as these can come loose and cause damage.
- Install security cameras in strategic positions to record all areas of the property.
- Ensure all areas of your establishment are well lit to reduce chances of vandalism or personal injury.
- Emergency stop/shut-off should be clearly visible and readily accessible by attendants or patrons in the event of an emergency.
- Car wash attendants should wear personal protective equipment to protect eyes and skin, and slip resistant boots should be required to reduce risk of slip-and-fall injuries.
- All wash equipment, sensors, boilers, heaters, and other equipment should be serviced on a regular, annual basis to avoid malfunction or other breakdown hazards.

## **Before Firing Up Your Fire Pit**

## Before Firing Up Your Fire Pit...

- Check the forecast, wind conditions, and fire danger levels.
- Place pit on a non-flammable surface at least 15 feet away from trees and buildings.
- Have a water source handy to extinguish accidental fires.
- Inspect pit for wear and tear that might let fire burn through.
- Make sure gas fire pits are free of debris and burners are not clogged.
- Teach kids to stay at least 3 feet away from the fire pit. Secure pets away from pit as well.
- Burn hardwood and use a spark screen.
- Never leave a fire unattended.

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• Fully extinguish the fire when finished.











