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## **Preparing for Hurricanes**

Today on Gardening in a Minute: preparing for hurricanes.

Hurricanes are part of life in Florida. But you can make your landscape more hurricane-resistant, so that you can worry less when a storm is about to hit.

The best way to protect your landscape from hurricane damage is by planning it carefully.

Select trees with strong root systems, trunks, and branches. Choose species that are more wind-resistant, and plant them away from utilities and structures.

Correct pruning will also help trees survive hurricanes. Prune them so they develop a sturdy, well-spaced framework of healthy branches around a central leader. The canopy edge can be thinned, allowing air to pass through freely.

If you think ahead and keep up with landscape maintenance, your plants are more likely to survive the hurricane season.

For more information about preparing for hurricanes, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida's Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.

*your solution for Florida-friendly gardening*