

Dear residents,

The University of Georgia is carefully monitoring Tropical Storm Helene, which is forecasted to strengthen to a hurricane when it makes landfall during the next 24 hours. Significant rainfall, damaging wind and potential flooding may impact the Athens area beginning Thursday and continuing through Friday, causing power outages and potential water intrusion in our housing facilities. As the wellbeing of our residents is our top priority, we are working closely with campus partners in preparation for the storm. Additionally, the UGA Office of Emergency Preparedness remains in close contact with local, state and federal agencies regarding potential impacts from the tropical storm to help ensure the safety of our campus.

We ask that you take the following precautions to prepare for the potential effects of this storm:

1. Power Outages

Charge Your Devices: Please fully charge your phones, laptops and other essential devices, as power outages are possible.

Flashlights: Keep a flashlight with fresh batteries nearby in case of a power outage, as candles are not permitted in the residence halls or on-campus apartments.

2. Flooding and Leaks

Move Belongings: In case of water intrusion or leaks due to significant rainfall, we encourage you to remove any valuables or belongings from the floors of your room to prevent possible water damage.

Secure Windows: Please close and lock windows to help prevent wind and water damage.

3. Severe Weather Procedures

Stay Informed: Any announcements regarding UGA's response, including schedule changes, class cancellations and campus closures, will be made through official UGA channels, including ArchNews, emergency.uga.edu and UGA's X (@universityofga). Ensure you're also signed up for UGAAlert to receive emergency notifications at ugaalert.uga.edu and monitor the local weather at weather.gov.

Stay Indoors: During severe weather, it is important to stay inside and away from windows. If the weather becomes extreme, follow instructions from University Housing, UGA Alert or emergency personnel.

5. Damage Reporting

Report Issues: If you experience any issues such as water intrusion or other facilities-related concerns, please report them immediately to the community desk or submit a <u>work request</u>.

UGA will provide updates, as needed. Please follow UGA's social media accounts, check your UGA email regularly and monitor <u>emergency.uga.edu</u> for updates.

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