

# Yuma County Home Mitigation

Prepare Your Home For When Disaster Strikes.

## Severe Weather

Homeowners can take several practical steps to protect their homes and families from severe weather, helping to minimize damage and stay safe. One of the simplest measures is installing storm shutters or plywood boards to protect windows from high winds and flying debris during storms. Reinforcing doors, especially garage doors, can prevent strong winds from causing significant damage. It's also a good idea to secure outdoor items like patio furniture and grills, which can become dangerous projectiles in high winds.



Preparing an emergency kit with essentials such as flashlights, batteries, non-perishable food, water, and first-aid supplies ensures you're ready if the power goes out. Staying informed through weather apps or signing up for local alert systems helps homeowners act quickly when severe weather threatens your home. Maintaining a few sandbags or temporary barriers can help keep floodwaters at bay around entrances. Trimming trees near the home reduces the risk of falling branches damaging roofs or windows. By taking these precautions, homeowners can protect their homes from the most common severe weather threats and ensure they're better prepared to handle unexpected events. Learn more by clicking [here](#) and [here](#).

## Wildfires

Homeowners in rural areas can reduce fire risks with a few key steps. Regularly removing flammable yard debris like dry leaves, pine needles, and branches can prevent fires from spreading to your home, maintaining a 30-foot clear zone around the home is recommended. If building a new structure, consider using fire-resistant materials such as flame-retardant wood and roofing. It's also crucial to have an evacuation plan with multiple exit routes and a designated meeting spot for family members. Consider purchasing hoses and sprinklers to keep around your house, and consider soaking your house and the area near your house if a wildfire nears your home ensure quick action during a fire threat. Learn more about fire home mitigation by clicking [here](#).



## Insurance

Have an insurance plan and make sure to check with your insurance agency annually. Make sure your property is accurately valued and that your policy matches what you need covered. If you were or are struggling with insurance reach out to the [Colorado Division of Insurance](#) at 1-800-930-3745; Option 3.

To Sign up Yuma County Emergency Alerting System Click [Here](#) [Code Red](#)



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### Flooding

Start by determining if your property is in a flood zone—contact Yuma County Land Use at 970-332-0930 to find out. Ensure your home's gutters and downspouts are clean and direct water at least six feet away from the foundation to prevent pooling. Adding a waterproof veneer to your foundation, exterior walls, windows, and doorways can prevent shallow flooding from seeping in, and sealing basement walls with waterproofing compounds offers extra protection. For those in flood-prone areas, elevating utilities like electrical panels and using water-resistant materials in basements can help prevent flood damage. Consider installing a sump pump in your basement if you're in a flood zone or near a stream.



Store valuable or sentimental items on the highest floor of your home or up high on shelving to reduce damage risk. Use flood-resistant materials like tiles instead of carpet, especially in areas below the Base Flood Elevation (BFE), and install flood-resistant insulation. Keep sandbags on hand to divert water and invest in doorway flood barriers for added defense. A clear evacuation plan that avoids low-lying areas is also essential. These steps can help minimize flood damage and keep your home and family safe. Learn more about flooding [click here](#).

### Land Slides

Check if your home is located on or below a steep slope, near a cliff, or in an area with frequent flash flooding, as these factors increase landslide risk. Consulting local experts can help assess your home's vulnerability. If your home is at risk, consider installing retaining walls or ground anchors to stabilize slopes, and implement proper drainage systems like french drains or culverts to direct water away and reduce soil saturation and erosion.



Planting deep-rooted vegetation can help stabilize the soil, and it's crucial to avoid adding unnecessary weight to slopes without professional advice. Any landscaping modifications should be done carefully to prevent destabilizing the area. These measures can help reduce landslide risks and create a safer environment for your home. To learn more about Land Slides [click here](#).

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