

Craters & Freighters Phoenix Haboob Preparedness Checklist for Businesses

Arizona businesses can use this checklist to ensure they are fully prepared before, during, & after a dust storm.

Before Haboob Season (Pre-Season Preparation)

 \Box Conduct a risk assessment to identify vulnerable assets and operations.

□ Schedule HVAC system maintenance and install high-efficiency air filters.

 \Box Ensure all doors, windows, and vents are properly sealed against dust intrusion.

- □ Implement a dust-resistant packaging strategy for stored inventory and sensitive equipment.
- □ Develop a business continuity plan, including alternative supply chain strategies.
- $\hfill\square$ Train employees on dust storm safety protocols and emergency procedures.
- □ Secure outdoor equipment, signage, and loose materials to prevent wind damage.
- □ Test backup power sources, including generators and UPS systems.
- □ Establish communication protocols for alerting staff and customers about storm impacts.

When a Haboob is Approaching

- □ Monitor local weather alerts and warnings for approaching dust storms.
- □ Secure all open warehouse doors, loading docks, and access points.
- □ Shut down and cover sensitive machinery and electronic systems.
- □ Activate air filtration and dust control systems.
- □ Relocate vehicles, equipment, and outdoor materials to protected areas.
- □ Alert employees to take shelter indoors and avoid unnecessary travel.
- \Box Ensure emergency kits and first aid supplies are readily available.
- □ Verify that all essential data and documents are backed up securely.

During the Haboob

□ Keep all employees indoors and avoid outdoor exposure.

- □ Minimize movement within the facility to reduce dust disturbance.
- □ Use N95 masks or respirators if necessary to maintain air quality indoors.
- □ Ensure backup power sources remain operational if electricity is lost.
- □ Monitor air quality and ventilation systems to prevent dust buildup.
- □ Stay updated with emergency broadcasts for any additional alerts.

After the Haboob

□ Conduct a thorough facility inspection for dust infiltration and damage.

- □ Clean HVAC filters, air vents, and indoor surfaces to remove accumulated dust.
- □ Assess and document any equipment, inventory, or infrastructure damage.
- □ Contact vendors and logistics providers to address any shipment disruptions.
- □ Review emergency response effectiveness and update preparedness plans accordingly.
- □ Communicate with employees and customers about operational status and recovery steps.
- □ Schedule necessary repairs or maintenance to prevent long-term issues.

By following this checklist, businesses can significantly reduce downtime, protect critical assets, and maintain operational resilience in the face of Arizona's powerful haboobs.

Need expert assistance in preparing for haboobs? Contact Craters & Freighters Phoenix today at 480-966-9929!