

HELPFUL HURRICANE HINTS

Hurricane season is here until November 30th. With most storms occurring during the months of August, September, and October, it is important to be prepared. Should a storm threaten this area, the Town will implement its Comprehensive Hurricane Plan. As residents, you should begin planning your own emergency preparedness now. The following are some tips for personal preparation in the event of an evacuation and/or a hurricane.

- Organize and evaluate your emergency supplies now. A Hurricane Checklist is included in this newsletter to serve as a guideline.
- Obtain a Hurricane Tracking Map to follow the course of the storm. A limited number are available at the front counter in Town Hall.
- Prepare an adequate supply of reserve drinking water. Plan on one gallon of water per person, per day. When a storm approaches, fill your bathtub, sinks, and extra pots and pans with tap water for washing and cooking.
- Obtain fuel such as Sterno canned heat or gas for your barbecue if you plan to cook. **NEVER USE A CHARCOAL GRILL INDOORS!**
- Trim trees and shrubbery of branches and limbs that could damage your house or utility lines now. Do not wait until a storm approaches.
- If you own a boat, make arrangements now for its safekeeping during a storm.
- Determine your evacuation level and zone. Decide where you will go if you must evacuate. Know an alternate shelter in case you cannot go to your first choice. Santaluces High School is the primary evacuation shelter for our Town.
- Make arrangements for pets. They are not allowed in most refuge centers.
- Keep your gas tank at least half full during hurricane season. Make sure that windshield wipers are in good working order and brakes are securely set.
- Have sufficient cash on hand. If electricity is lost, banks and ATM's will not operate and few stores will be able to accept credit cards.
- Mobile home residents are urged to get a copy of the special instructions bulletin issued by Civil Defense authorities.

A limited number of helpful brochures are available at Town Hall to assist you and your family with hurricane and disaster preparedness. They can be obtained in the lobby of Town Hall. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the American Red Cross at 561-833-7711.

HURRICANE CHECKLIST



Stores fill quickly with panicked shoppers when a storm approaches, so stockpile gradually, picking up one or two extra items each time you shop. Keep this checklist on your refrigerator, as a reminder. The following are important supplies to have on hand in the event of a hurricane. You may want to keep at least a three day supply of emergency items on hand throughout the season.

VITAL SUPPLIES

- Battery-operated radio with extra batteries
- Flashlights with extra batteries and bulbs
- Clock (wind-up/battery-operated)
- Paper cups, plates, and plastic utensils
- Cash or traveler's checks, change
- Non-electric can opener and utility knife
- Fire extinguisher: small canister, ABC type
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Shut-off wrench, to turn off household gas/ water
- Lumber/tape for windows
- Ice chests
- Repair kit of small tools
- Ordinary bleach
- Deodorizer/Disinfectant
- Supplies for infants and elderly adults

MEDICAL NEEDS

- First Aid kit
- Prescription medications
- Adhesive tape
- Cotton swabs
- Antiseptic solution
- Aspirin
- Sterile rolls, bandages
- Diarrhea medication
- Toilet paper and/or pre-moistened towelettes
- Soap, liquid detergent
- Thermometer
- Tweezers
- Feminine Supplies
- Plastic garbage bags
- Other personal hygiene items

GROCERY ITEMS

WATER!!! (store at least one gallon of water per person per day, keeping at least a three-day supply)

- Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits, and vegetables
- Canned juices, milk, and soups (if powdered, store extra water)
- Staples - sugar, salt, and pepper
- High energy foods - peanut butter, jelly, crackers, granola bars, trail mix
- Vitamins
- Foods for infants, elderly persons, or persons on special diets
- Comfort/stress foods - cookies, hard candy, sweetened cereals, lollipops, instant coffee, tea bags

SPECIAL ITEMS

- Entertainment items - cards, books, games
- Important Family Documents - keep in a waterproof, portable container
- Clothing and footwear for each family member
- Bedding - blankets, sleeping bags, pillows