Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricanes can cause catastrophic damage to coastlines and several hundred miles inland. Hurricanes can create storm surges along the coast and cause extensive damage from heavy rainfall. Floods and flying debris from the excessive winds are often the deadly and destructive results of these weather events. Excessive rain can trigger mud slides and flash flooding. So it best to prepare and take the necessary precautions to protect your family and property.

Before the Storm

- Keep your vehicle gas tank above ½ full through the season.
- Test-run generators monthly with a load to insure proper working order.
- Have cash on hand in small denominations for year-round preparedness.
- Maintain portable battery powered radio.

Home Preparedness

Board up your windows or close storm shutters. Clear loose and clogged downspouts and rain gutters. Perform an inventory of home contents (electronics, jewelry, appliances, clothing, etc.) and store in safe place. Take detailed photos/videos of home property and contents (internal and external) and store in safe place. Secure or remove all items outside your home (grill, hanging plants, potted plants, etc.). Store all important documents (insurance papers, etc.) in a waterproof container and in a secure location. Prepare your evacuation kit using the pertinent items in the checklist. Turn off propane tanks. Fill the bathtub and other large containers with water for sanitary purposes (cleaning, flushing toilets, etc.)

Checklist

- 7-day supply of non-perishable food that doesn’t need cooking
- Hand-operated can opener, plastic plates, cups, utensils
- 1 gallon of drinking water per person per day enough for 5 – 7 days
- An approved first aid kit
- Backup prescriptions for essential medications
- Hand sanitizer or disinfectant wipes
- Toilet paper, paper towels, garbage bags
- Dental care and vision products
- Travel-size soaps and other beauty supplies
- Change of clothes, pair of shoes and blanket per person
- Plastic sheeting, duct tape
- Formula, bottles, powdered milk, diapers, baby wipes, diaper rash ointment
- Flashlights for each family member
- Fluorescent lanterns for each common area
- Waterproof matches or a utility lighter
- Portable, battery-powered AM/FM radio, NOAA All Hazards Alert Radio
- Extra batteries for flashlights, lanterns, radio, extra cell phone battery or car charger
- Whistle
- Fire extinguisher
- Non-scented bleach for sanitization
- Sunscreen and Insect repellant
- Shovel and basic tools
- 7-day supply of non-perishable pet food and water for your pet
- Cage or pet carrier and leash, Pet medications and pet first-aid kit

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