

The Common Sense CompanySM

Where the solution is a stone's throw away

When a Hurricane is Headed Your Way...

The storm season is upon us and since there is usually a public warning, anyone who may be in the path of a hurricane should be ready. Careful preparation and planning before a storm arrives will help minimize damage, loss and grief. The following is a short listing of what could be done to prepare yourself and your family during this season.

Pre-Planning:

- ✓ Obtain information on flood zones and evacuation shelters. In some areas, these can be found in your telephone book.
- ✓ Plan an evacuation route to the nearest shelter or "safe" area and keep a map handy. During emergencies, shelter locations may also be announced on the radio.
- ✓ Replenish emergency kits and supplies.
- ✓ Secure important documents from possible damage or move to a safe location.
- ✓ Develop a list of important phone numbers.
- ✓ Develop a plan to secure loose objects around the house; trim branches and trees.
- ✓ Ensure that your pets have collars and identification tags.

Prior to the Hurricane:

- ✓ Secure all loose objects outdoors.
- ✓ Secure all windows using plywood.
- ✓ Fill your vehicle with fuel.

- ✓ Charge all batteries (i.e., phone, lamps, flashlights, radios, etc.).
- ✓ Listen to the emergency broadcasts of the storm.
- ✓ Be prepared to evacuate with emergency supplies to a predetermined location.

During the Hurricane:

- ✓ Stay indoors and away from windows. Keep to the center of the building on the ground level.
- ✓ Listen to the emergency broadcast on the radio or television.
- ✓ Turn off all electrical devices and appliances that are not needed.
- ✓ Stay away from coastal waters, rivers, streams or other flooding areas.
- ✓ Do not try to cross flooded areas with your vehicle.
- ✓ Listen for instructions from emergency officials when the storm is over.

Emergency Supplies and Kits:

- First aid kit and personal medications
- Drinking water
- Ice chest
- Lighter, matches and candles
- Clothing, personal toiletries
- Sleeping bags and blankets
- Portable radio and flashlight
- Extra batteries
- Non-perishable foods
- Manual can opener
- Important documents
- Quiet games, books or toys for children

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