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HURRICANE PREPARATION

Here are important tips to keep your home and family safe during a hurricane

How to prepare your home and property:

- Clear yards of all outdoor furniture, grills and all equipment
- Tie down boats, canoes or anything that could become flying objects
- Cover windows securely with plywood
- Do not use tape because it is easy to blow away by high winds.
- Fill up your car gas tank and gas grill and propane tank
- Fill up bath tubs for additional clean water supply

Prepare in advance by creating Emergency Plans:

- Evacuation Plan - Follow instructions from local officials and be familiar of alternative evacuation routes
- Family/Household Communication Plan - Develop to maintain contact and take best actions to re-unite if separated
- Pet Owner Plan - Secure lodging in advance and reach out to friends and family to care for your pets. If evacuating, pack water and pet food
- Shelter Plan - Be aware of shelter locations in your area and what you are able to take with you. Some shelters allow pets

During a Hurricane:

- Stay in doors no matter what including all pets. Hurricanes create high winds that cause debris to become deadly flying objects
- Stay away from windows and doors even if they are covered
- Remain on the first floor of your home and close all interior doors

After a Hurricane:

- Listen to local officials for updates and instructions
- Check-in with family and friends by texting or using social media (Phone lines might be down so texting and social media might be the best way to communicate)
- Return home only when authorities indicate it is safe

Assemble an Emergency Supply Kit that includes:

- One gallon of water per person per day for at least 14 days for drinking and sanitation
- At least a 14-day supply of non-perishable food and pet food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlights and extra batteries
- First aid kit and a Tool kit
- One week's supply of prescription medications, pain relievers
- Blankets, extra clothes, towels, soap, toilet paper
- Insect repellent, fire extinguisher, match, candles
- Disinfectant, cleaning products, plastic bags

Cooking Equipment:

After the storm, you may remain without utilities for several days.

Have on hand:

- BBQ grill with charcoal or a gas grill with extra gas
- Cooking pots and pans
- Disposable eating utensils, plates, cups and towels
- Pocket knife and can opener
- Waterproof matches
- Portable ice cooler

Your Boat:

- In the event of a hurricane, plan where you will store your boat
- If you plan to move your boat, make sure it is in good running condition, is fueled and the battery is fully charged
- Coordinate mooring plans with boat owners around you
- Find out what your marina's hurricane safety plans are so you can plan in advance

Important Hurricane Terms to Know:

- ***Hurricane*** - a violent, tropical storm, having wind speeds of or in excess of 73 mph
- ***Hurricane Watch*** - a threat of hurricane conditions within 24-36 hours
- ***Flash Flood Watch*** - a flash flood is possible, stay alert
- ***Flash Flood Warning*** - a flash flood is imminent, take immediate action and evacuate
- ***Hurricane Season*** - runs from June 1 to November 30 with the peak period from early August through the end of October



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