

Every Virginian should develop a family preparedness plan well in advance of a storm threat.

Tear off here and place on your refrigerator



FAMILY PREPAREDNESS TIPS FOR STAYING AT HOME DURING A HURRICANE

- Stay alert to storm advisories
WATCH and WARNING—Know the difference.
- Enact your family disaster plan
- Purchase a NOAA weather radio
- Keep a Disaster Supply Kit ready
- Have enough food and water for at least three days
- Protect valuable documents
- Make your home more disaster resistant
Prepare to board up windows and glass doors, anchor loose yard objects or bring them inside.
- Get cash
Following a hurricane, banks and ATMs may be temporarily closed.
- Fill your car with gasoline for use after the storm passes
- Have a pet plan
Before a storm threatens, contact your veterinarian or local humane society for information on preparing your pets for an emergency.
- Do not use candles or open flames as a light source
- Work with your neighbors
Check on elderly or those with special needs.
- As the storm hits, gather your family in a safe room (An interior room with no windows)
- Following the storm, watch out for downed power lines
- Listen to your local officials!

www.vdem.state.va.us

Which path should you take?
Do you live in a vulnerable area?
(Mobile home, an area that floods frequently or near the coast or bay)
Have you been advised to evacuate?

YES
EVACUATE

NO
STAY AT HOME

Assemble your disaster supply kit
(see other side)

Have a place to go
Home of a family member or friend, motel or shelter

Notify family or friends of your plans
When you are leaving, where you are going and how to reach you

Did you know...?
You need to store at least a three-day supply of water for each person in your household.
More information: www.redcross.org

Did you know...?
Public shelters do not allow pets.
If you evacuate to a shelter make arrangements for your pets.

Fill your car with gas
Power outages may cause gas stations to be closed

Secure your home
Board up windows and secure loose yard objects

Stock extra supplies
Batteries, water and canned food

Did you know...?
Making your home more disaster resistant can prevent the need to evacuate and can reduce damages.
For simple and affordable tips contact: www.vdem.state.va.us

Bring important family documents
in a waterproof container

Secure your home

Get extra cash
Power outages may cause banks and ATMs to be closed

Use your NOAA weather radio
Stay alert to weather advisories

Did you know...?
Cell phones, pagers and laptop computers may be useful tools to find out information about your community after a storm.

Did you know...?
Flood damage is NOT covered by standard homeowners insurance. Check your policy now!
For information: www.fema.gov/nfip 1-888-CALL-FLOOD ext.445

Bring toys, books and games
for entertainment

Bring pillows and blankets
Also bring rain gear and sturdy shoes

Check on your neighbors
Particularly the elderly or disabled

After the Storm
Listen to local officials for the all clear
Virginia Emergency Information Line
Toll Free 1-866-782-3470

Arrive safely at your destination

Map out your route
Be familiar with your area's evacuation routes
VDOT Hurricane Evacuation maps
www.vdot.state.va.us/traff/hurricane.html

Fill your car with gas

Bring extra cash
Power outages may cause banks and ATMs to be closed

Enact your pet plan

Bring toys, books and games
for entertainment

Bring pillows and blankets
Also bring rain gear and sturdy shoes

Map out your route
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FAMILY PREPAREDNESS TIPS FOR EVACUATING DURING A HURRICANE

- **Stay alert to storm advisories**
WATCH and WARNING—know the difference.
- **Enact your family disaster plan**
- **Map out your route**
Use travel routes specified by local authorities.
DO NOT get on the road without a place to go.
- **Fill your car with gasoline**
- **Evacuate if advised to do so**
DO NOT get stranded, EVACUATE EARLY.
- **Enact your pet plan**
Before a storm threatens, contact your veterinarian or local humane society for information on preparing your pets for an emergency.
- **Bring your disaster supply kit**
Include important documents.
- **Secure your home before leaving**
Board up windows and glass doors, anchor loose yard objects or bring them inside and lock your doors.
- **Get cash**
Following a hurricane, banks and ATMs may be temporarily closed.
- **Notify family and friends of your plans and how to contact you**
- **When evacuating:**
If possible, evacuate to the home of either friends or family in a non-vulnerable area.
Next, try a motel or hotel and, as a last resort, go to a shelter. Remember, shelters are not designed for comfort and do not accept pets.
People who require special assistance in evacuating should contact their local emergency management office for assistance in developing an evacuation plan.

www.vdem.state.va.us

Disaster Supply Kit

- WATER**—at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 days
- FOOD**—at least enough for 3 days
 - non-perishable packaged or canned food/juices
 - food for infants or the elderly
 - snack foods
 - non-electric can opener
 - cooking tools/fuel
 - paper plates/plastic utensils
- CLOTHING**—seasonal/ rain gear/ sturdy shoes
- BLANKETS/PILLOWS, etc.**
- FIRST AID KIT/ MEDICINES**
 - prescription and non-prescription medications
 - glasses, dentures, hearing aids, etc.
- SPECIAL ITEMS**—for babies and elderly
- TOILETRIES**—Hygiene items
- MOISTURE WIPES**
- FLASHLIGHT/ BATTERIES**
- RADIO**— Battery Operated and NOAA Weather Radio
- CASH**
- KEYS**—Extra set of home and car keys
- IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS** in a waterproof container
 - insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.
 - Document all valuables
- TOYS/BOOKS/ ENTERTAINMENT**
- TOOLS**—Keep a set with you during the storm
- VEHICLE FUEL TANKS FILLED**
- PET CARE ITEMS**
 - proper identification/immunization records
 - ample supply of food and water
 - a carrier or cage
 - medications
 - muzzle and leash

Watch and Warning...Know the Difference

A **HURRICANE WATCH** issued for your part of the coast or bay indicates the possibility that you could experience hurricane conditions within 36 hours. This watch should trigger your family's disaster plan, and protective measures should be initiated—especially those actions that require extra time such as securing a boat, leaving a barrier island, etc.

A **HURRICANE WARNING** issued for your part of the coast or bay indicates that sustained winds of at least 74 mph are expected within 24 hours. Once this warning has been issued, your family should be in the process of completing protective actions and deciding the safest location to be during the storm.

For More Information:

Virginia Department of Emergency Management
www.vdem.state.va.us
Virginia Emergency Information Toll Free Line
1-866-782-3470

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
www.fema.gov

Kids Page
www.fema.gov/kids

Hurricane Preparedness Guide
www.fema.gov/library/hurricaf.htm

National Flood Insurance Program
www.fema.gov/nfp

American Red Cross
www.redcross.org

Humane Society of the United States
Tips for preparing your animals for an emergency:
www.hsus.org/disaster/index.html

Local Contact Information:

(If this area is blank, check the Government Pages of your phone book for your locality's emergency management office phone number.)

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
10501 Trade Court
Richmond, VA 23236-3713
www.vdem.state.va.us
1-866-782-3470 (Toll Free)
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Hurricane: Evacuate or Stay?



There are two paths to take

Look Inside

