

## HAZARDS AND THREATS

### HURRICANES – BEFORE a HURRICANE

The following are some recommendations from the hurricane and emergency preparedness experts in regards to preparing Before a Hurricane strikes:

- ✓ Listen to the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio for critical emergency public information from the National Weather Service (NWS).
- ✓ Check your disaster supplies and restock as needed.
- ✓ Bring inside anything that can be picked up by the wind (bicycles, lawn furniture, etc.).
- ✓ Close windows, doors and hurricane shutters. If you do not have hurricane shutters, close and board up all windows and doors with plywood.
- ✓ Turn the refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting and keep them closed as much as possible so that food will last longer if the power goes out.
- ✓ Turn off propane tanks and unplug small appliances.
- ✓ Fill your car's gas tanks just in case of a call for immediate evacuation from the area.
- ✓ Talk with members from your family and create an evacuation plan. Planning and practicing your family's evacuation plan will minimize confusion and fear, especially during a hurricane event.
- ✓ Learn about your community's hurricane and emergency preparedness response plan. Plan routes to local shelters, register family members with special medical needs as required and make plans for your pets to be cared for.
- ✓ Evacuate if advised by authorities. Be careful to avoid flooded roads and washed out bridges.
- ✓ Because standard homeowners insurance does not cover flooding, it is important to have protection from the floods associated with hurricanes, tropical storms, heavy rains and other conditions that will impact the County.

- ✓ Baby items (diapers, bottles, formula, food, blankets, etc.).
- ✓ Pet items (water, food, sweater, collar, leash, ID, transportation carrier, food/water bowl, etc.).
- ✓ Extra set of car and house keys.
- ✓ Extra clothing items (long sleeve shirt, shoes, socks, jacket, hat, etc.).
- ✓ Cold and rainy weather attire.
- ✓ Insect repellent and sun screen lotions.
- ✓ Camera in order to photograph and document damages.

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