

Harford County Hurricane Preparedness



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Harford County
Health Department**

Hurricane WATCH Actions:

- 1) Get cash.
- 2) Fill vehicle gas tanks.
- 3) Place important papers and valuables in watertight containers.
- 4) Refill medications.
- 5) Fill sanitized containers and tubs with water.
(Even if evacuating you may need it upon your return.)
- 6) Protect and board up windows.
- 7) Help neighbors who need assistance with preparations.
- 8) Prepare a "Go Kit" to take to a shelter.
- 9) Anchor oil and gas tanks.
- 10) Bring in yard equipment, outdoor furniture, toys, bird baths/feeders and barbeque grills.
- 11) Remove pieces of skirting at base of mobile home so high water can move in and out from underneath.
- 12) Do not drain pool. Super chlorinate water and turn off all electricity to the pool.
- 13) Check your vehicle's tires, belts, hoses, filters, oil and A/C.
- 14) Create a vehicle "Go Kit" that includes jumper cables, road flares, reflectors, maps, nonflammable inflatable tire repair compound and a car charger or small power inverter (converts DC battery power to AC plug) for phone or laptop use.
- 15) Pack a First aid kit.
- 16) Review your evacuation route.

Hurricane WARNING Actions:

(Do not wait for the warning to take action. If you do, you only have 24 hours to prepare and evacuate. It may also result in your being caught out on the road during the storm.)

- 1) Listen to your battery-powered weather radio.
- 2) Close all interior doors if not evacuating.
- 3) Stay tuned to local news (WXCX-103.7FM, WHFC-91.1FM, WBAL-1090AM, Harford Cable Network, Comcast Channel 21 and Clearview Partners Channel 7) for updates.
- 4) Complete final preparations and leave if your plans do not include staying at a shelter.
- 5) Take your "Go Kit."

Evacuating:

- 1) Turn off all utilities (water, electric, gas) at the main switch.
- 2) Lock windows and doors.
- 3) Advise friends and relatives of where you are going.
- 4) Listen to your local news to find out where your local Reception Center is located. Go to the Reception Center within a few hours of the evacuation order.
- 5) Leave as quickly as possible to avoid traffic and poor driving conditions.
- 6) Take your pets to the Reception Center.

Residents with Disabilities or Special Needs:

(Have your own emergency plan)

- 1) Identify places for shelter or how to prepare for a power outage. Power dependent equipment may require a portable generator or battery backup.
- 2) Start a personal support network of people. Share your plan with your support network. (Friends or relatives in another area who would not be impacted by the emergency should be considered.)
- 3) Teach your friends/relatives how to use your equipment and administer your medication or treatments.
- 4) Create an emergency card that lists doctors' names, contact information, medicine, special medical equipment needs and name of pharmacy where you purchase your medicine. Indicate the best way to communicate with you, if you have a communication disability.
- 5) Discuss an emergency plan with your health care providers that provide routine care or treatments.
- 6) Create a "Go Kit" with a seven-day supply of essential medications.

GO KIT:

(Leaving Home)

- ___ Battery-powered radio with batteries
- ___ Flashlights/lanterns with batteries
- ___ Several gallons of drinking liquid
- ___ Nonperishable food
- ___ Cash
- ___ Important papers/ ID (waterproof container)
- ___ Medications for seven days
- ___ Bedding for a small space
- ___ Infant/Child necessities
- ___ Personal hygiene items (Feminine supplies)
- ___ Change of clothes
- ___ Eyeglasses
- ___ First aide kit
- ___ Pet necessities
- ___ Reading material, quiet games, toys
- ___ Toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant

SURVIVAL KIT:

(Staying Home)

- ___ Battery-powered radio with batteries
- ___ Flashlights/lanterns with batteries
- ___ Water to last three to seven days.
(One gallon per person per day.)
- ___ Cash
- ___ Important papers/ ID (waterproof container)
- ___ Medications for seven days
- ___ One week supply of nonperishable food
- ___ Infant/Child necessities
- ___ Manual can opener
- ___ Cooler for ice
- ___ Clean storage containers for water
- ___ First aide kit
- ___ Pet necessities
- ___ Portable toilet
(5 gallon bucket/heavy trash bag/bleach)
- ___ Home repair materials
(Lumber, tarps, buckets, plastic sheeting)
- ___ Bleach
(16 drops will disinfect one gallon of water)

Important Papers:

Driver's license, ID cards, phone numbers, emergency contacts, credit cards, medical records and blood type, prescription information (Medications, dose, prescription #), physician information (Dr.'s name, address and phone number), bank account numbers, list of savings and investments (CD's, stocks, bonds and mutual funds), insurance policies (name of company, type of policy, policy number), utility bill (will verify your address), birth/marriage/divorce/death/adoption certificates, passport, household inventory (paper copy, videotape, computer disk), family photos, wills/trusts/living wills and title for house/car/property.

Resources:

- 1) Stay informed: www.harfordpublicsafety.org
- 2) Obtain information on individual preparedness and business preparedness by clicking on:
www.harfordcountyhealth.com
Click on Emergency Preparedness
- 3) Harford County Information Hotline **(Open Only During Emergencies) 410-838-5800**
Information on evacuation procedures, shelters, school closings and road and bridge closures.

Recovery Actions:

(More people are killed during recovery than during hurricanes.)

Do not return to your home or neighborhood until you are told it is safe.

For disaster assistance and mental health needs please contact:

Disaster Assistance Coordination at 443-388-33503