

# PREPARING FOR A HURRICANE / TROPICAL STORM

## ITEMS FOR YOUR HOME

- Three days' supply of canned, non-perishable, ready-to-eat **FOOD**
- Three days' supply of **WATER** (a total of **three gallons per family member**)
- **Battery-operated RADIO** and extra batteries
- **FLASHLIGHT** and extra batteries
- One week's **prescription MEDICATIONS**
- **FIRST AID KIT**
- Personal **TOILETRIES**
- Non-electric **CAN OPENER** and **UTENSILS**
- **SPECIAL NEEDS** items:
  - INFANT care items
  - Items for **ELDERLY** family members
  - Items for relatives with **DISABILITIES**
- **CASH** or **TRAVELERS CHECKS**
- Every family member must carry **CONTACT INFORMATION**:
  - All phone numbers at work, school, etc. for every family member
  - The name and number of a relative who lives out-of-state, to call in case your family gets separated.

## WHEN A HURRICANE OR TROPICAL STORM IS APPROACHING:

- Listen to a **battery-operated radio or television** for storm progress reports.
- Check the items in your **Emergency Kit** and review your **Emergency Action Plan**.
- **Fuel up your vehicle.**
- **Bring in outdoor objects** such as lawn furniture, toys, and garden tools. Anchor objects that cannot be brought inside.
- **Secure buildings** by closing and boarding up windows. Remove outside antennas.
- **Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest settings.** Open only when absolutely necessary and close quickly.
- **Store drinking water** in clean bathtubs, jugs, bottles, and cooking utensils.
- **Store valuables and personal papers** in a waterproof container on the highest level of your home.
- **If you own a boat**, tie it securely or move it to a designated safe place. Use rope or chain to secure boat to trailer. Use tie downs to anchor **trailer** to the ground or house.

## AS THE STORM CONTINUES TO APPROACH:

- **Begin Sheltering-in-Place** , even if you have not been told to do so. **Be ready to Evacuate, in case you are directed to do so.**
  - **DO NOT** evacuate until the residents in your area are directed to do so by **Public Safety Officials** .
  - If and when Public Safety Officials do order you to evacuate: **Take that order seriously and ACT IMMEDIATELY.**
- **Listen constantly to a battery-operated radio** or television for official instructions.
- **Stay inside**, away from windows, skylights, and glass doors.
- **Keep a supply of flashlights and extra batteries** handy. **Avoid open flames**, such as candles and kerosene lamps, as a source of light.
- **If power is lost**, turn off major appliances to reduce power surge when electricity is restored.