IF YOU MUST EVACUATE

Have a plan in place for evacuation. Know the location of your nearest public evacuation shelter.

Special needs shelters are for those with disabilities or who require medical care that exceeds basic first aid. Know the location of the special needs shelter closest to you.

Bring change of clothing: rain gear, toiletries, sleeping bags, blankets, pillows, books and any special dietary needs.

Have a pet? Make sure your shelter accepts them. Have a leash and collar, two weeks of food and water, bowls, a crate and medications ready, along with veterinary records. For cats, kitty litter and an appropriate container.

Fill your car with gas as soon as possible. Power outages will prevent gas pumps from working.

Charge your cell phone and any other electronic devices you may need.

Have some cash and important papers, like insurance policies, in a waterproof folder or container.

PERSONAL HEALTH
An ANSI-compliant first aid kit that includes:

- Compresses
- Adhesive Bandages
- First Aid Tape
- Antiseptic Wipes
- Hand Sanitizer
- Gauze
- Pain Relievers (Aspirin, Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen)
- Latex Gloves
- A gas-powered generator
- Candles, safe holders, matches
- Battery-powered flashlights or lanterns
- A battery or hand crank weather radio
- Insect repellant

Have a 30-day supply of any prescription medications you or your family requires on a daily basis.

Prepare a list of your family’s doctors’ names and contact information. Also include a list of personal medical conditions for appropriate family members in case of emergency.

For pets that require specific medications, have a 30-day supply on hand.

HOME BASE PLANNING

Bottled water is a must for drinking, cooking, brushing teeth, etc. You need at least 1 gallon per person per day.

Supply of canned food* or ready-to-eat foods like peanut butter. Have a manual can opener on hand.

* Check expiration dates and rotate stock as needed.

Candles should be placed in safe holders away from curtains, paper and anything else that may catch fire.

A gas-powered generator must never be used indoors, in a garage, within 20 feet of windows or window air conditioner.

A battery-powered carbon monoxide (CO) alarm installed to prevent CO poisoning.

Other items you’ll need: Fire extinguisher, duct tape, plastic garbage bags, scissors and heavy duty gloves.

For infants, have a supply of ready-to-eat formula, sanitized bottles and nipples. Breast feeding should continue.

For pets, make sure to have enough food and water on hand, a leash, chew toys, bowls, etc.

A battery or hand crank radio keeps you informed about road closures, storm surge and mandatory evacuations.

Have a fully-charged cell phone and other electronic devices you may need.

Battery-powered flashlights or lanterns (one for each family member) plus extra batteries for each.

Cover your skin: Wear lightweight long pants and long-sleeved shirt and use insect repellent that contains DEET, picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus. Mosquito spray is not safe for children under 2 months old, use mosquito netting to protect them.

Check for and repair any torn or broken screens on windows, doors, porches and patios.

Empty plastic pools and turn over anything that may collect standing water.