

Are You Ready for a Hurricane?

Here's what you can do to prepare for such an emergency.

Prepare a home evacuation plan

Where will you go?

Will you be using a local shelter?

Where is the shelter located?

What route will you drive to get there?

How long will it take to pick up everyone?

What will you need to bring with you? (Think about your needs for 72 hours)

How will you care for your pets?

What property security needs to be done?

Will you need to notify other family members where you will be?

If you are going to stay:

Do you have shutters for all windows and openings?

How long will it take to put up shutters or boards?

Is rising water an issue in your home?

How will you cope with any family members with special medical needs?

What special supplies and food will you need to have on hand?

Do you need to have any special equipment available for after the storm?

Do you have a safe place for important documents?

Should you notify any out-of-area relatives that you are staying?

Are you prepared to live without utilities and normal services for possibly up to two weeks after the storm?

What type supplies should I keep on hand for emergency situations?

The Alexander County Emergency Management Office recommends that citizens keep enough supplies at home to meet family needs for at least 72 hours, since it may take that long before outside assistance is available from the state or federal government. Home disaster supply kits should be made up from sturdy and easy to carry containers such as backpacks, duffel bags or large trash containers in the event that you may have to evacuate and take your emergency supplies with you. These emergency supply kits should contain a number of things including the following:

- Three-day supply of water (1 gallon per person per day).
- A three-day supply of non-perishable packaged or canned food.
- One change of clothing for each member of the family.
- Rains gear or coats depending on the time of year.
- Blankets or sleeping bags for each member of the family.
- A battery powered radio with extra batteries.
- Two flashlights with batteries.
- Emergency candles and matches.
- Sanitation supplies (toilet paper, handy wipes, etc.)
- A first aid kit and any prescription medications needed.
- Extra pair of prescription glasses.
- Special care items for infants, elderly or disabled family members.
- Small writing tablet with two or three pencils.
- Manual can and bottle opener.
- Pocketknife or multi-purpose type tool.
- Recommend \$50 to \$100 money in cash, since electronic teller machines may not be working due to power outages.
- Reading materials or games to help pass the time.