

# The Hurricane Preparedness Handbook for Families



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## **THE FAMILY DISASTER PLAN**

### **Create a Family Disaster Supplies Kit**

One of the first steps towards preparedness is to create a family disaster supplies kit. This kit should contain all the essential items needed during the period immediately following a disaster, such as water, food, tools, medical supplies, clothing, bedding, and other special items like important documents. It often becomes necessary after a disaster to seek refuge in a public shelter. These shelters may not have some of the basic necessities. A disaster supplies kit can make a stay in a public shelter more comfortable.

### **Your Family Disaster Supplies Kit**

After a disaster, local officials and relief workers will be on the scene, but they cannot reach everyone immediately. You could get help in hours, or it may take days. Once a disaster hits, you won't have time to shop or search for supplies.

## **SUPPLIES**

**WATER** - Store water in airtight plastic containers. Store one gallon per person per day for five to seven days (two quarts for drinking, two quarts for food preparation/sanitation)

**FOOD** - Store at least a five to seven day supply of non-perishable foods.

### **FIRST AID KIT**

**Assemble a First Aid Kit for your home and car.**

### **NON-PRESCRIPTION DRUGS**

### **SPECIAL ITEMS**

- Prescription drugs
- Medications

### **IMPORTANT FAMILY DOCUMENTS**

### **PREPARE FOR EVACUATION –**

- Advance planning will make evacuation procedures easier.
- Learn potential maximum storm surge by category of hurricane.
- Plan to relocate during a hurricane emergency when living near the seashore.
- Plan now where to go if forced to evacuate.
- Check insurance coverage prior to any emergency.
- Track hurricane information online at the following websites:  
[WWW.volusia.org/emergency](http://WWW.volusia.org/emergency) <http://WWW.weather.com> [WWW.daytonaredcross.org](http://WWW.daytonaredcross.org)  
[WWW.floridadisaster.org](http://WWW.floridadisaster.org)

## **WHEN A HURRICANE WATCH IS ISSUED**

Make plans early and inform family members of hurricane watch. Listen constantly to radio or TV broadcasts. Monitor storm reports and keep a log of hurricane positions. Remember that evacuation routes sometimes can be closed up to 20 hours before landfall by wind gusting or storm surge flooding. Some bridges may also be closed in heavy winds.

If considering moving to a shelter, refill needed prescriptions and make arrangements for Pets. Pets usually are not allowed in shelters.

If evacuation has not already been recommended, consider leaving the area early enough to avoid long hours on limited evacuation routes.

### **CHECK SUPPLIES**

### **FILL VEHICLES GAS TANKS**

## **WHEN A HURRICANE WARNING IS ISSUED**

- Prepare for high winds.
- Move items on balcony inside.
- Close and lock all outside doors

## **EVACUATION**

### **EVACUATION SAFETY RULES**

- Don't wait until the last minute to leave, hoping to save possessions.
- Know where to go before leaving.
- If traveling to a shelter, take blankets or sleeping bags, flashlights, special dietary foods, infant needs and lightweight folding chairs.
- If there is limited time for evacuation preparations, take only family medications, blankets, and a battery-powered radio.

### **If there is definitely time before leaving the house.**

- Notify manager if you are leaving and give an address and phone number where you can be contacted.

## **VOLUSIA COUNTY SHELTERS**

Shelters are noisy, crowded and have few comforts. If possible, plan to stay with friends or relatives out of the area rather than a shelter.

**\*--NOTE: These shelters will be updated during 2010 Hurricane Season.--\***

**If SPECIAL NEEDS exist (Require minor medical assistance and who are accompanied by a caregiver), pre-register with Volusia County Emergency Management, 49 Keyton Dr., Daytona Beach, FL 32124, Telephone: (386) 258-4088, or <http://volusia.org/emergency>.**

**You must bring your own medications, medical supplies, bedding, oxygen supplies and own food if on a special diet.**

**In the event of an evacuation, not all shelters will open at once. Residents should monitor local news media.**

1. Pine Trail Elementary, 300 Airport Road, Ormond Beach
2. Pathways Elementary, 2100 Airport Road, Ormond Beach
3. Hinson Middle, 1860 N. Clyde Morris Blvd., Daytona Beach – **Pet Friendly**
4. Palm Terrace Elementary, 1825 Dunn Ave., Daytona Beach – **Special Needs / Pet Friendly**
5. Campbell Middle, 625 S. Keech St., Daytona Beach
6. Mainland High, 1255 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach
7. Atlantic High, 1250 Reed Canal Road, Port Orange – **Special Needs / Pet Friendly**
8. Horizon Elementary, 4751 Hidden Lakes, Dr. Port Orange
9. Sweetwater Elementary, 5800 Victoria Gardens Blvd., Port Orange
10. Creekside Middle, 6801 Airport Road, Port Orange – **Special Needs / Pet Friendly**
11. Cypress Creek Elementary, 6100 S. Williamson Blvd., Port Orange
12. New Smyrna Beach High, 1015 10th St., New Smyrna Beach

PET SHELTERS – You can shelter your pet at one of Volusia County's pet shelters. Pet shelters require all animals to have current rabies shots (during the past 12 months), licensing and identification tags. Owners must provide food and water, leashes and any special medications. At “Pet Friendly” shelters pets and people are housed in separate locations at the shelter. Owners must provide bedding for themselves while staying with their pets. Currently the only “People and Pet Shelter” where owners and their pets housed in the same location is the **Volusia County Fairgrounds** – ¼ mile east of I-4 on S.R. 44 in DeLand

You may call Volusia County Animal Services at **386-248-1790** to get a list of kennels that can shelter your pet or hotels/motels that allow pets. A directory of motels that accept small household pets in Florida, Georgia and Mississippi is available on line at: <http://www.colliergov.net/Index.aspx?page=1139>. Additional information is available at local veterinarian’s offices and area Humane Societies.

## **VOLUSIA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INFORMATION**

<http://www.volusia.org/emergency>