# 1. ADVANCED HURRICANE PREPARATION

- 1. Purchase plywood for doors/windows; precut to fit with screws or bolts.
- 2. Purchase tarps or 6 mil roll plastic to cover possible exposed openings.
- 3. Determine location and phone numbers of housing to make reservations at. Plan evacuation route. Establish family communication contact, outside of area. Give cell phone # to others.
- 4. Establish supply of: candles, matches, oil lamps, oil, batteries, flashlights, portable radio, mosquito repellent.
- 5. Locate shut-offs for: electric service, water, propane.
- 6. Inventory personal property; document with pictures or video camera.
- 7. Locate important documents and valuables to take, if evacuating. (Computer back-up discs, wills, check books, bank documents, insurance policies (flood too), funds, U.S. and N.C. tax forms, birth certif., jewelry, ETC!!!!)
- 8. Remove dead trees/limbs near house.
- 9. Review insurance policies: home owners, flood, personal property, liability.
- 10. Establish a first aid kit. Locate fire extinguishers.
- 11. Organize clean-up equipment: chainsaw, bar-chain and gas oil, gas, axe, handsaw, rope, gloves. Bleach.
- 12. Chain down outside propane tank.
- 13. Maintain extra tank of propane for grill. Use heavy aluminum foil and pans for cooking.
- 14. Raise: freezer/refrig/generator/etc., if garage is prone to flooding.
- 15. Plan to eat off freezers in spring and summer to reduce contents; keep ice in them.
- 16. Cordless phones don't work when power is off; buy a "cheap" "old-style" phone, with wire hook-up.
- 17. Establish a non-perishable food and water supply (for a week).
- 18. Run generator every month; keep filled with stabilized gas.
  - A. BOTTLED WATER: 1 gallon per person per day (purchase in the spring.)
  - B. FOOD SUPPLY: (manual can-opener, knife, paper plates/cups, plastic utensils, paper towels)
    - -Canned/dried: fruits, veggies, tuna, chicken, stew, soups, hash, meats, garbage bags, etc.
    - -instant coffee tea, sugar, salt, pepper
    - -ice tea and lemonade mix
    - -irradiated or powered milk
    - -hard candy, energy bars, raisins, trail mix, granola
    - -breakfast cereals, canned lunch spread
    - -vitamins

# 2. HURRICANE WATCH

(Conditions pose a threat for a hurricane)

- 1. Monitor storm: possible track, category and time of arrival.
- 2. Gas up cars; fill spare gas cans (extra for generator.)

- 3. Withdraw cash from bank. If planning to evacuate, top mail and newspaper delivery.
- 4. If not done so, purchase bottled water (or fill saved gallon jugs), milk, bread, snacks!
- 5. Check supplies established, location of important papers, valuables.
- 6. Make reservations inland, if hurricane may be higher than category #2. MAKE RESERVATIONS EARLY! Write down confirmation # and person. Note: If cancel later, record cancel # and person!
- 7. Consider securing all loose objects around house, including propane tanks.
- 8. Consider securing boats: (double lines loosely, strip sails/dodger/bimini, deploy fenders.) Tie down boats/trailers. Use chafe gear, leave long end of lines on dock.
- 9. Have a supply of prescription drugs, dietary foods, vitamins.
- 10. Finish laundry/dishes. Charge cell phone and VHF radio. Turn up freezer and refrig. settings to colder.
- 11. Locate camera and film for damage documentation.
- 12. Pets: have on hand: food and water (possibly take to animal shelter.)

#### **TERMS TO KNOW**

Tropical disturbance: region of thunderstorms and rain, no strong winds.

Tropical depression: low pressure region of counterclockwise winds < 39 mph.

Tropical storm: same as depression but winds 39 to 74 mph

Hurricane: Intense counterclockwise low pressure region with winds > 74 mph

#### SAFFIR / SIMPSON HURRICANE SCALE

CATEGORY I	<b>WIND</b> 74-95 mph	STORM SURGE 4-5 ft.	PRESSURE >28.94 hg	<b>DAMAGE</b> minimal; branches, signs
II	96-110 mph	6-8 ft.	>28.50 hg	moderate; trees, power lines
III	111-130 mph	9-12 ft.	>27.91 hg	extensive; some building damage/trees/boats
IV	131-155 mph	13-18 ft.	>27.17 hg	extreme; most doors/windows many buildings/most boats/lives
V	>155 mph	>18 ft.	<27.17 hg	catastrophic; roofs/buildings/lives

# 3. HURRICANE WARNING

(Hurricane expected to strike coast within 24 hours)

#### CATEGORY I OR II (AND YOU ARE REMAINING WITH THE HOUSE)

- 1. Monitor news reports.
- 2. Secure premises of loose objects.
- 3. Install boards on house windows and doors.
- 4. Fill bath tubs (it takes 3-5 gallons to flush a head.)
- 5. Turn freezer and refrig. to max. cold [frozen foods will last 24-48 hrs. with no power (and no peeking!)]

- 6. Locate and place in secure room: portable radios, batteries, flashlight, oil lamps, oil, bottled water, food supply, medicine.
- 7. Secure cars in garage, or move to high ground. Secure boats, or remove from water.
- 8. Locate: rain gear/boots, chain saw/oil/gas/axe/gloves/rope.
- 9. Make accessible: boards, hammer, nails, tarps
- 10. If no generator, purchase block ice for food storage in ice chests, last up to 4 days.
- 11. Prepare thermos of coffee and/or soup.
- 12. Locate reading glasses and spares.
- 13. Unplug power and cable/phone connections to TV's/stereos/computers.
- 14. Locate Bible and Rosary beads!
- 15. Buy bags of ice, store in coolers, in house.
- 16. Turn air conditioner to 68/70 to cool house down before power goes off.
- 17. Store items from refridg. in coolers: milk, OJ, cold cuts, etc.

#### **DURING THE HURRICANE**

- -Close all interior doors
- -stay away from windows
- -stay in an inside room with no windows, or on the side of house away from wind.
- -watch out for snakes/insects moving to high ground.
- -monitor storm on: computer/TV/radio/VHF radio
- -do not go outside if eye is passing over you

4.

# CATEGORY III, OR GREATER! LEAVE BEFORE ROADS FLOOD AND ARE TRAFFIC JAMMED (Alert phone contact outside of storm area as to where you are going.)

#### TAKE WITH YOU:

- 1. All important documents, valuables, house inventory, extra car/house keys.
- 2. Rain gear, boots, chain saw,oil,gas,axe,rope,gloves.
- 3. Medicine, first aid kit.
- 4. Weapon, ammo.
- 5. Flashlights, batteries, cell phone, VHF radio, (with chargers).
- 6. Changes of clothes, toilet articles, sunscreen.
- 7. Cash, credit cards, check book, car registration, driver license, other I. D.
- 8. Eye/sun glasses, good book, personal and local phone books.
- 9. Thermos coffee/soup.
- 10. If going to a shelter: sleeping bags, space blankets, snacks, towels/wash cloth/soap, food, utensils, water, propane stove, pots, changes of clothes.
- 11. Guitar!!

#### LAST THINGS TO DO:

- 1. Store perishables (photos, etc.) higher in closets.
- 2. Turn off washing machine hoses.
- 3. Leave word with relatives/friends as to where to be contacted.
- 4. Take maps and phone number of where you are going.
- 5. Shut off electric service, water, propane tank.
- 6. Pull plugs on: appliances, stereos, computer, phones, TV.
- 7. Lock up house and garage, and any cars inside.
- 8. Post your name, location and phone number on inside wall in prominent location.
- 9. Raise the elevation of certain items that are located in the garage: freezer, generator, gas-operated power tools, gas cans, paint cans, fertilizer bags, <u>any</u> items that might open and contaminate the garage.

**5.** 

#### **EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS IN PAMLICO COUNTY**

Emergency management coordinator: 745-4131
 Sheriff's Office: 745-3101
 Evacuation Shelter: 249-1851
 Social Services: 745-4086
 Rescue Squad/fire: 911

6. Carolina Power and Light:

7. Tideland Electric Corp:

8. IRS Disaster Kit (Pub.#2194):

10. IRS Tax Ques. On losses:

11. Health Dept.:

12. Road Info:

800-419-6356

745-4127

800-829-3676

800-829-1040

745-5111

877-368-4968

12.

13.

14.

15.

### **WEB-SITES**

- 1. Road info: <a href="https://www.dot.state.nc.us/">www.dot.state.nc.us/</a>
- 2. Hurricane research center: http://www.aomi.noaa.gov/hrd/
- 3. Local/regional/radar weather: www.accuweather.com
- 4. Latest hurricane update: <u>www.nhc.noaa.gov</u>
- 5. Local Newport NCC forecast: <a href="www.nws.noaa.gov/er/mhx/nwswebt.htm">www.nws.noaa.gov/er/mhx/nwswebt.htm</a>

- 6. National weather service: <u>www.nws.noaa.gov</u>
- 7. Satellite photos: <a href="http://goeshp.wwb.noaa.gov">http://goeshp.wwb.noaa.gov</a>
- 8. National hurricane center: http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/index.html
- 9. Weather Channel: www.weather.com

10.

11.

12.

6.

# **CLEAN-UP AFTER THE STORM**

#### **GENERAL**

- 1. Check in with family and friends.
- 2. Stay away from downed power lines and report to authorities.
- 3. <u>DON'T</u> turn power on if house was flooded and/or you are in standing water.
- 4. Check for leaking gas and water.
- 5. Watch out for snakes, insects and wild-disoriented animals.
- 6. Do not over exert yourself; keep cool; drink fluids, wear sun screen and insect repellent.
- 7. Do not use tap water unless OK by authorities. Same for well water!
- 8. Document all damage by listing and pictures; contact insurance agency as soon as you able to!
- 9. Run generator in a well ventilated area.
- 10. Wash hands frequently; wear gloves, preferably rubber.
- 11. Check for tetanus shot if you are wounded.

#### WATER SUPPLY

#### TO DISINFECT:

- A) Boil; for 10 minutes, cool, add pinch salt, stir to oxygenate.
- B) Chlorinate: Add 6 to 8 drops unscented chlorine bleach per gallon of water. Let stand for 30 minutes and smell. You should smell chlorine, if not, add another 6 to 8 drops.

## **FOOD SUPPLY**

Note: Try "odor test'; do not refreeze thawed food!

- A) Frozen foods:
  - 1. Beef, veal, lamb, pork, poultry, casseroles, stews, pies:
    - -if partially frozen, see ice crystals; refreeze.
    - -if thawed and at room temp. for less than 2 hours, cook and serve or cook and refreeze.
    - -throw out any food thawed for more than two hours.
  - 2. Prepackaged vegetables, fruits and juices:
    - -if ice crystals are intact, refreeze.

- -if thawed less than two hours, cook and serve. Juices can be refrozen.
- -if thawed more than two hours, discard if mold or yeast smell exists.
- 3. Foods containing dairy products:
  - -if partially frozen, cook and serve or refreeze.
  - -if thawed, discard
- B) Refrigerated foods:(Food kept in an unopened refrigerator for 24 hours is still cold and safe.)
  - 1. Milk: discard if unrefrigerated for more than 2 hours.
  - 2. Hard-boiled eggs: discard if held at room temp. for more than 2 hours.
  - 3. Hard cheese, butter, margarine: safe unrefrigerated if well wrapped. Discard if mold or rancid odor develops. Toss out mayonnaise if at room temp. two hrs.

7.

- 4. Fruits and vegetables: safe as long as they look OK. Discard if smell or moldy.
- 5. Fresh meats, lunch meats, hot dogs: Discard after two hours at room temp.

#### **HOUSE CLEAN-UP**

- A) Before you start:
  - 1. Record details of damage with photos and written report; contact insurance agent!!
  - 2. Store valuable wet papers in a working freezer until you can work on them.
  - 3. Assemble cleaning supplies: gloves,masks,boots,pails,mops,squeegees,plastic garbage bags,chlorine bleach,dishwashing detergent(only non-ammonia type).
  - 4. Be prepared to make difficult decisions as to what needs to be discarded!!
  - 5. You <u>must</u> destroy any mold found in damp areas (allergy & respiratory hazard).
- B) First steps:
  - 1. Make a plan to: clean the house, dry recoverable items, discard destroyed items.
  - 2. Immediately add small amount of chlorine bleach to and standing water.
  - 3. Remove standing water with pumps, wet-dry shop vacuum, squeegees etc.
  - 4. Remove all soaked and dirty material: insulation,drywall,mud,furniture,rugs,carpets, clothing,bedding,appliances.
  - 5. Hose/wash and wipe down