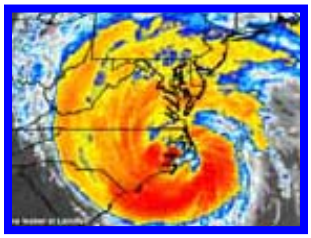
2DMARDIV POST

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

WHAT TO DO BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER THE STORM

THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS SHOULD TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO A HURRICANE:

- Ensure that your vehicle has had proper maintenance, and that it has full tank of gas.
- Check your supply of special medicine and prescription drugs.
- Plan for care of pets if you are departing the area or going to a shelter. Pets are not permitted in shelters.
- Fill containers or bathtubs with water for drinking, washing, and cooking. It is recommended you store 3 gallons of water per person, per day.
- Stock up on food. The most useful food items are those that don't require refrigeration or lots of preparation, such as canned foods.
- Ensure you have proper insurance coverage, either renters or homeowners.



THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS SHOULD TAKE PLACE DURING A HURRICANE:

- Keep calm and remain alert.
- Stay indoors and away from windows.
- Stay informed through local media.
- Ensure you have a portable radio close by with extra batteries.

THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN PLACE AFTER A HURRICANE:

- Watch out for down power lines.
- Watch out for dangerous poisonous and dangerous animals driven through high ground.
- Notify agencies for the reestablishment of essential services.
- Do not be rushed into signing a repair contract.
- Deal with reputable contractors. Pay only after a service has been completed.
- Check utility lines and appliances for damages.
- If electrical power is shorting out, turn off power and call for assistance.
- Tune to Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune TV station for more information.

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HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

HOW TO BOARD THE WINDOWS OF YOUR HOME

A hurricane is a tropical storm that contains tempestuous rains, violent, crashing waves, and howling winds that can reach beyond one hundred and fifty miles per hour. A hurricane can also produce tornadoes. If you lived in North Carolina or along the eastern coast line of the United States, you may have already seen a raging hurricane and the damage to homes and vehicles that's it capable of generating.

You also know that you need to properly prepare your home for a hurricane so you and your family can be protected as much as possible. One of the most important things you can do is to board up the windows of your home. Having hurricane shutters are the absolute best protection for your windows. However, even though you can save money by installing them yourself, shutters can still be rather expensive.

The next best option, then, in preparation for a hurricane, is to board up the windows in your house with wood. The wood not only helps to protect your windows from flying debris, but it also helps your windows to resist breaking from the force of the howling winds.

Using wood works much better than using tape. Some people apply duct tape or another type of durable tape across the glass in the windows of their homes. The purpose of the tape is to keep the glass from shattering and flying into a room if the window breaks. However, tape is not very resistant to the raging force of a hurricane.

The first step to board up your windows is to measure all of the windows in your house. Mark the measurements down, and take them to your local lumber yard or home improvement store. By using your measurements, the sales associate can help you determine how much wood you'll need. You'll also need to refer to these measurements later.

You'll need to purchase several sheets of marine plywood that are at least five eighths of an inch thick. This thickness should provide sufficient protection for your window glass.

The next step is to use a measuring tape and a marker to measure and mark the pieces of plywood that you'll need. But, in order for the wood to fit properly into the window frames, you'll need to make the wood pieces a bit smaller. That is, you'll need to deduct about an eighth of an inch off the width and height of each window.

As you use an electric saw to cut out each piece of wood, be sure that you use the marker to identify each piece. For example, you should mark them as "South Living Room Window", “Bathroom Window", "North Master Bedroom Window", et cetera.

Once all of the pieces of plywood are cut out, you'll need to have an assistant hold them in place, one by one, on their corresponding windows. Then, the next step is to use an electric drill to bore holes through the wood and into each window frame. The holes should be approximately twelve inches apart around the complete diameter of each window.

Finally, you'll need several metal or wood screws that measure approximately an inch long, to secure the pieces of wood to your windows. Place the cut pieces of plywood and the screws together in a safe place.

Then, when the next hurricane storm warning sounds, you'll be ready to board up the windows in your home. For a little added protection, you should close all curtains, drapes, and blinds that are hanging in your windows too.

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HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

LOCAL DESTRUCTIVE WEATHER CLASSIFICATIONS

A hurricane's destructive power is determined by the interaction of storm surge, wind, tide level, and precipitation. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has developed the Saffir/Simpson Hurricane Damage Potential Scale. Storms can strengthen and weaken and be assigned to different categories at different times in their evolution. The scale categories are defined as:

CATEGORY 1

Sustained winds of 64-82 knots (74-95 mph) or storm surge of 4-5 feet above normal sea state. No real damage to building structures. Damage primarily to unanchored mobile homes, shrubbery and trees. Some coastal flooding and minor pier damage.

CATEGORY 2

Sustained winds of 83-95 knots (96-110 mph) or storm surge of 6-8 feet above normal sea state. Some roofing material, door and window damage to buildings. Considerable damage to vegetation, mobile homes and piers. Coastal and low-lying escape routes flood 2-4 hours before the arrival of the eye of the storm. Small craft in unprotected anchorages will likely break moorings.

CATEGORY 3

Sustained winds of 96-113 knots (111-130 mph) or storm surge 9-12 feet above the normal sea state. Some structural damage to small residences and utility buildings. Mobile homes are destroyed. Flooding near the coast destroys smaller structures damaged by floating debris. Terrain continuously lower than 5 feet Above Sea Level (ASL) may be flooded inland as far as six miles.

CATEGORY 4

Sustained winds 114-135 knots (131-155 mph) or storm surge 13-18 feet above normal sea state. More extensive damage with some complete roof structure failure on small residences. Major erosion of beach areas. Major damage to lower floors of structures near the shore. Terrain continuously lower than 10 feet ASL may be flooded requiring evacuation of residential areas inland as far as six miles.

CATEGORY 5

Sustained winds greater then 135 knots (155 mph) or storm surge greater than 18 feet above the normal sea state. Complete roof failure on many residences and industrial buildings. Some complete building failures with small utility buildings blown over or away. Major damage to lower floors of all structures. Evacuation of residential areas on low ground within 5-10 miles of the shoreline may be required.

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HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS
FOOD, WATER & FINANCIAL RESERVE

FINANCIAL RESERVE

Establish a financial reserve by saving a little money each week and gradually increasing it to a reasonable amount. Use it for emergencies only. If you save a little money regularly, you will be surprised how much accumulates over time.

Avoid Debt! Spending less money than you make is essential to your financial security. Avoid debt, with the exception of buying a modest home or paying for education or other vital needs. If you are in debt, work to pay it off as soon as possible.

Use a budget and keep a record of your expenditures. Record and review monthly income and expenses. Determine how to reduce what you spend for nonessentials.

STORAGE CONDITIONS

Storage life can be significantly impacted by the following conditions:

Temperature: Store products at a temperature of 75°F/24°C or lower whenever possible. If storage temperatures are higher, rotate products as needed to maintain quality.

Moisture: Keep storage areas dry. It is best to keep containers off of the floor to allow for air circulation.

Light: Protect cooking oil and products stored in PETE bottles from light.

Insects and rodents: Protect products stored in foil pouches and PETE bottles from rodent and insect damage.

DRINKING WATER

Store drinking water for circumstances in which the water supply may be polluted or disrupted.

If water comes directly from a good, pretreated source, then no additional purification is needed; otherwise, pre-treat water before use. Store water in sturdy, leak-proof, breakage-resistant containers. Consider using plastic bottles commonly used for juices and soft drinks.

Ensure you keep your water containers away from heat sources and direct sunlight.

THREE-WEEK FOOD SUPPLY

Build a small supply of food that is part of your normal, daily diet. One way to do this is to purchase a few extra items each week to build a one-week supply of food. Then you can gradually increase your supply until it is sufficient for three weeks. These items should be rotated regularly to avoid spoilage.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION :

FEMA - www.fema.gov/plan/prepare/water

Red Cross - www.redcross.org/services/prepare

WATER STORAGE GUIDELINES

Commercially bottled water in PETE (or PET) plastic containers may be purchased. Follow the container's "best if used by" dates as a rotation guideline. Avoid plastic containers that are not PETE plastic.

If you choose to package water yourself, consider the following guidelines:

- Use only food-grade containers. Smaller containers made of PETE plastic or heavier plastic buckets or drums work well.
- Do not use plastic milk jugs, because they do not seal well and tend to become brittle over time.
- Do not use containers previously used to store non-food products.
- Protect stored water from light and heat. Ensure these containers are emptied and refilled regularly.