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1104 Main St., The Villages, FL 32159 - www.TheVHA.net

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

***Be prepared before a storm hits!***

**DON’T WAIT TO HAVE A PLAN:**

When it comes to preparing for a hurricane, you can’t wait. When the weather forecasters start talking about an impending storm, water, batteries, food, and other essential items start disappearing from the store shelves. Make plans now. Gather the items for your disaster supply kit today. Take some time and think about what you can’t live without. Don’t wait until it’s too late.

**HAVE A PLAN:**

Evacuate or stay in your home? You need to have a plan in place. If you are going to evacuate, know where you are heading. Lots of other people will be heading the same direction. If you are going to stay, do you have a “safe room” prepared in your home? How about a shelter? Register physically challenged or special needs individuals with The Villages Public Safety Department: 352-205-8280. The information will then be sent to the appropriate county Emergency Management office.

**PERSONAL CHECKLIST:**

* Put together disaster and first-aid supply kits.
* **Develop a plan for handling your pets!**
* Store loose outdoor patio items and furniture.
* Prune trees of dead or weak branches.
* Place vital documents in waterproof containers.
* Remove and secure valuables in a safe location.
* Register physically challenged persons or individuals with special needs by contacting The Villages Public Safety Department at 352-205-8280.
* Become familiar with the area’s disaster plan and evacuation routes.
* Prepare “safe room” in your house.
* Establish a family meeting point and contact phone numbers.
* Make an inventory of your home’s contents: photos or video tape. Collectables need special attention!
* Check your insurance coverage. Is it adequate?
* Storing gasoline is not recommended! Make sure that your car has a full tank of gas.
* Develop a communication plan with relatives and friends now!
* Cash – get small bills.
* For more information visit: www.floridadisaster.org

**DISASTER SUPPLIES KIT FOR AT LEAST 3 DAYS:**

* Prescription medications
* Basic first-aid kit
* Cell phone, charger and fully charged battery
* Non-perishable food items
* Manual can opener and other utensils
* Plastic plates, dinnerware and cups
* Drinking water and containers
* Hand sanitizer, toiletries, hygiene supplies, toilet paper and paper towels
* Flashlight and BATTERIES
* Portable radio and BATTERIES
* Tarps: Heavy duty plastic or canvas
* Basic tool kit
* Trash bags
* Duct tape
* Variety of containers and lids
* Clothing and rain gear
* Cash – small bills
* For pets: Food, meds, leash, carrier, etc.

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