

Hurricane Earl and Hurricane Season 2010

Hurricane season is here. With the approach of Hurricane Earl, we should all be reminded that now is a good time to review your personal and family emergency plans.

Specific storm track information may change greatly over the next few days, but your family emergency plans should remain consistent.

Be sure all family members are familiar with the plan and fully understand key details.

State employees can also find official information by calling 1-877-285-6407 or going to: <http://dhmh.maryland.gov/html/emerhotline.htm>.

The DHMH Office of Preparedness is providing the attached information to help everyone plan, prepare and respond appropriately to any emergency situation.

Plan ahead:

Home emergency supplies

- Water – one gallon per person per day
- Food supplies
- Non electric can opener
- Portable battery powered radio
- Additional batteries

Make a plan for your family

- Child Care
- Elder care
- Pet care – food, a crate to carry pet (if possible)

Make plans to check on the elderly and disabled in your neighborhood

If you need to evacuate – have a plan in place

- Have a full tank of gas in your truck or car
- Have road maps – you may be on unfamiliar roads
- If separated from your family, have a pre-arranged meeting place
- If possible, have a place to evacuate to, i.e. – relative or friends
- Pre plan several evacuation routes – the main route may be blocked or flooded

Have an emergency supply kit to take with you, to include:

- Medications
- Clothing
- Important papers and phone numbers
- Non perishable food
- Additional water

During a storm:

- Stay tuned to local radio and television stations for official weather information
- Follow instructions given by local and state emergency officials
- Turn your refrigerator to the maximum cold setting – this will help keep your food cold longer if there is a power failure
- Fill bathtub and other containers with additional water

Listed below are tips and resources that you can use to be prepared

Plan ahead:

- Have an emergency kit – <http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/index.html>
- Prepare your family – <http://www.ready.gov/america/beinformed/hurricanes.html>
- Have emergency supplies – http://www.ready.gov/america/_downloads/checklist.txt
- Deciding to stay or evacuate –
<http://www.ready.gov/america/makeaplan/stayingput.html>
<http://www.ready.gov/america/makeaplan/evacuating.html>

After the Hurricane:

- Recovery – <http://www.fema.gov/rebuild/recover/after.shtm>
- Health issues – <http://www.fema.gov/rebuild/recover/health.shtm>
- Tips on keeping food safe –
http://wwwfsis.usda.gov/fact_sheets/keeping_food_safe_during_an_emergency/index.asp

This internal service memo has been prepared and brought to you by the Office of Preparedness and Response at DHMH

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