

It's NOT A MATTER OF IF, BUT WHEN DISASTER STRIKES! ARE YOU READY?

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Our Vision

A county that is aware, prepared, and resilient to potential disasters!

Our Mission

To provide Nassau County residents the education and support necessary to reduce risks and protect lives and property from natural and man-made hazards, through coordination of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery activities using a whole-community approach.

9-1-1 is for Emergencies Only

Nassau County Sheriff's Office

904-225-5174 or 904-548-4009

Fernandina Beach Police Department

904-277-7342

Nassau County Fire Rescue

904-530-6600

Fernandina Beach Fire Rescue

904-277-7331

Florida Dept. of Health - Nassau County

904-875-6100

American Red Cross

904-358-8091

Baptist Medical Center Nassau

904-321-3500

Nassau County Animal Services

904-530-6150

Nassau County Board of Commissioners

904-530-6010

Nassau County Humane Society

904-321-1647

City of Fernandina Beach

904-310-3100

Town of Callahan

904-879-3801

Town of Hilliard

904-845-3555

www.FloridaDisaster.org

www.fema.gov

Nassau County Emergency Management Emergency Operations Center

77150 Citizens Circle

Yulee, FL 32097

904-548-0900

www.NassauFL-EM.com

NASSAU COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE- EMERGENCY MANAGMENT

CITIZEN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDE



PURPOSE OF OUR NASSAU COUNTY GUIDE

ARE YOU READY?

You could be anywhere when a catastrophe hits – at work, in the car, at home, or at school. The situation could confine you to where you are, or force you to evacuate to a safer place. You could be left without basic services like electricity, clean water, or telephones. Emergency responders and relief workers will come, but they won't be able to help everyone right away. You need to be ready to be as self-reliant as possible. Knowing what to do before, during, and after a disaster is everyone's responsibility.

This guide is designed to help you plan for the inevitable, from local emergencies to major disasters. Taking these simple steps to prepare now means fewer losses and less recovery time later:

- Know what can happen, how you will be informed, and what you should do to stay safe and reduce losses.
- Decide how you will communicate with others and what you will do to keep yourself, family, and pets safe and healthy.
- Put the all of the things you need to stay safe and healthy in one place so you can get them quickly.
- Let others know what you plan to do, practice your plan, and make improvements.
- Check the items in your kit; add missing supplies and replace expired items.

Use the information in this guide to take steps to prepare yourself as well as your family, pets, property, and business to survive and stay safe in any disaster.



GET A PLAN!

FLGetAPlan.com
Florida Division of Emergency Management

CERT/CITIZEN CORPS

Volunteer Today!

HISTORY OF CITIZEN CORPS

Following the tragic events that occurred on September 11, 2001, state and local government officials have increased opportunities for citizens to become an integral part of protecting the homeland and supporting the local first responders. Officials agree that the formula for ensuring a more secure and safer homeland consists of preparedness, training, and citizen involvement in supporting first responders. In January 2002, the President of the United States launched Citizen Corps, to capture the spirit of service that emerged throughout our communities following the terrorist attacks.

Citizen Corps was created to help coordinate volunteer activities that will make our communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to any emergency situation. It provides opportunities for people to participate in a range of measures to make their families, their homes, and their communities safer from the threats of crime, terrorism, and disasters of all kinds.

Citizen Corps programs build on the successful efforts that are in place in many communities around the country to prevent crime and respond to emergencies. Programs that started through local innovation are the foundation for Citizen Corps and this national approach to citizen participation in community safety.

Citizen Corps is coordinated nationally by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency. In this capacity, FEMA works closely with other federal entities, state and local governments, first responders and emergency managers, the volunteer community, and the Corporation for National & Community Service.

MISSION

The mission of Citizen Corps is to harness the power of every individual through disaster awareness and preparedness education, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training, and volunteer service to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to the threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds.

CALL TO ACTION



The Citizen Corps mission is accomplished through a national network of state, local, and tribal Citizen Corps Councils. These Councils build on community strengths to implement the Citizen Corps preparedness programs and carry out a local strategy to involve government, community leaders, and citizens in all-hazards preparedness and resilience.

Citizen Corps asks you to embrace the personal responsibility to be prepared; to get training in first aid and emergency skills; and to volunteer to support local emergency responders, disaster relief, and community safety. Sign up for our CERT training – it's FREE!! Call 904-548-0900 for more information.

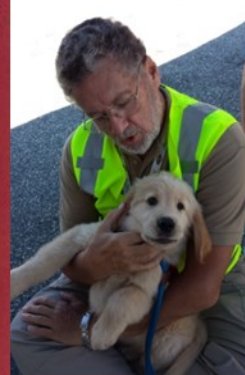
CONTACT OUR CERT COORDINATOR TODAY!

CITIZEN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

CITIZEN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE

Amateur
Radio
Emergency
Service

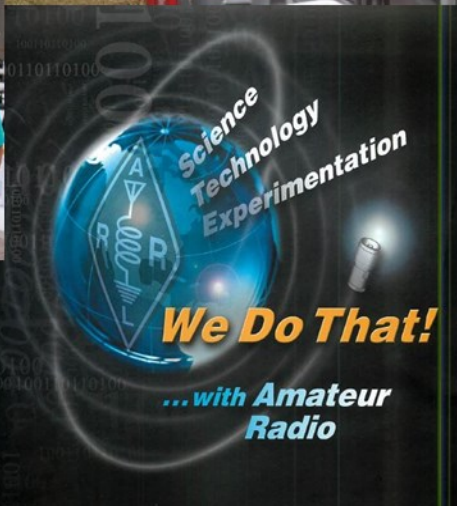


Nassau County ARES supports
Emergency Management and
various local activities with radio
communications



Interested in joining?
Contact
bud@ka3ogg.com

Contact Nassau County EOC by radio at:
147.000 (Tone: -127.3)



CITIZEN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

EXTREME TEMPERATURES

IS IT HOT, OR WHAT?!

Nassau County can experience a wide range of temperatures, from dangerously hot to dangerously cold. It is important for everyone to know how to stay safe during these periods of temperature extremes.

When hot weather and high heat index values are in the forecast, just remember to **DRINK WATER**:

Dress appropriately

Remain inside if possible

Intake - drink plenty of water

Never leave anyone in a parked car

Keep outdoor activities to cooler parts of the day

Wear a hat and sunglasses

Always keep an eye on children and elderly

Take frequent breaks

Eliminate strenuous outdoor activities

Remember to check on pets

NOAA's National Weather Service

Heat Index

Temperature (°F)

Relative Humidity (%)	80	82	84	86	88	90	92	94	96	98	100	102	104	106	108	110
40	80	81	83	85	88	91	94	97	101	105	109	114	119	124	130	136
45	80	82	84	87	89	93	96	100	104	109	114	119	124	130	137	
50	81	83	85	88	91	95	99	103	108	113	118	124	131	137		
55	81	84	86	89	93	97	101	106	112	117	124	130	137			
60	82	84	88	91	95	100	105	110	116	123	129	137				
65	82	85	89	93	98	103	108	114	121	126	130					
70	83	86	90	95	100	105	112	119	126	134						
75	84	88	92	97	103	109	116	124	132							
80	84	89	94	100	106	113	121	129								
85	85	90	96	102	110	117	126	135								
90	86	91	98	105	113	122	131									
95	86	93	100	108	117	127										
100	87	95	103	112	121	132										

Likelihood of Heat Disorders with Prolonged Exposure or Strenuous Activity

Caution Extreme Caution Danger Extreme Danger

"5 P'S OF COLD WEATHER SAFETY"



		Temperature (°F)																	
		40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0	-5	-10	-15	-20	-25	-30	-35	-40	-45
Wind (mph)	5	36	31	25	19	13	7	1	-5	-11	-16	-22	-28	-34	-40	-46	-52	-57	-63
	10	34	27	21	15	9	3	-4	-10	-16	-22	-28	-35	-41	-47	-53	-59	-66	-72
	15	32	25	19	13	6	0	-7	-13	-19	-26	-32	-39	-45	-51	-58	-64	-71	-77
	20	30	24	17	11	4	-2	-9	-15	-22	-29	-35	-42	-48	-55	-61	-68	-74	-81
	25	29	23	16	9	3	-4	-11	-17	-24	-31	-37	-44	-51	-58	-64	-71	-78	-84
	30	28	22	15	8	1	-5	-12	-19	-26	-33	-39	-46	-53	-60	-67	-73	-80	-87
	35	28	21	14	7	0	-7	-14	-21	-27	-34	-41	-48	-55	-62	-69	-76	-82	-89
	40	27	20	13	6	-1	-8	-15	-22	-29	-36	-43	-50	-57	-64	-71	-78	-84	-91
	45	26	19	12	5	-2	-9	-16	-23	-30	-37	-44	-51	-58	-65	-72	-79	-86	-93
	50	26	19	12	4	-3	-10	-17	-24	-31	-38	-45	-52	-60	-67	-74	-81	-88	-95
	55	25	18	11	4	-3	-11	-18	-25	-32	-39	-46	-54	-61	-68	-75	-82	-89	-97
60	25	17	10	3	-4	-11	-19	-26	-33	-40	-48	-55	-62	-69	-76	-84	-91	-98	

Frostbite Times: 30 minutes 10 minutes 5 minutes

Wind Chill (°F) = 35.74 + 0.6215T - 35.75(V^{0.16}) + 0.4275T(V^{0.16})
Where, T= Air Temperature (°F) V= Wind Speed (mph) Effective 11/01/01

Protect ...

People: Remember to dress in layers and wear a hat and gloves outdoors. It is important to stay out of the wind and stay dry. Ensure young children and the elderly keep warm; they are the most sensitive to cold weather.

Pets: If cold weather is in the forecast, be sure to bring outdoor pets inside, or give them a warm shelter to stay in.

Plants: Cover young and cold-sensitive plants to protect them from frost and dangerous low temperatures.

Pipes: Cover exposed pipes; allow outdoor faucets to drip slowly to prevent freezing and breaking.

Practice Fire Safety: Use safe heating sources indoors. Do not use fuel-burning devices such as grills or generators indoors; they release carbon monoxide, which is a deadly gas. Also, make sure to use space heaters according to their instructions and be attentive to open flames.

MORE INFORMATION GO TO:

www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/index.shtml

www.floridadisaster.org







www.weather.gov/os/heat/index.shtml

Source: www.nws.noaa.gov

SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS HAIL AND LIGHTENING

FLORIDA CAN BE DANGEROUS!

Thunderstorms are very common in Florida and can be extremely dangerous. Every thunderstorm has wind, rain, and lightning. Severe thunder storms have even higher winds, plus hail and/or tornadoes. Lightning, hail, flooding, high winds, reduced visibility, and slick roadways associated with these storms cause millions of dollars in property damage, injuries, and deaths every year. Learn these thunderstorm forecast terms so you'll know what to expect:

THUNDERSTORMS (no label)	1 - MARGINAL (MRGL)	2 - SLIGHT (SLGT)	3 - ENHANCED (ENH)	4 - MODERATE (MDT)	5 - HIGH (HIGH)
No severe* thunderstorms expected	Isolated severe thunderstorms possible	Scattered severe storms possible	Numerous severe storms possible	Widespread severe storms likely	Widespread severe storms expected
Lightning/flooding threats exist with all thunderstorms	Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity	Short-lived and/or not widespread, isolated intense storms possible	More persistent and/or widespread, a few intense	Long-lived, widespread and intense	Long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense
					
• Winds to 40 mph • Small hail	• Winds 40-60 mph • Hail up to 1" • Low tornado risk	• One or two tornadoes • Reports of strong winds/wind damage • Hail ~1", isolated 2"	• A few tornadoes • Several reports of wind damage • Damaging hail, 1 - 2"	• Strong tornadoes • Widespread wind damage • Destructive hail, 2" +	• Tornado outbreak • Derecho

* NWS defines a severe thunderstorm as measured wind gusts to at least 58 mph, and/or hail to at least one inch in diameter, and/or a tornado. All thunderstorm categories imply lightning and the potential for flooding. Categories are also tied to the probability of a severe weather event within 25 miles of your location.



Before a storm: Pay attention to weather forecasts. Remove dead or rotting trees and branches that can fall and cause injury or damage during a severe thunderstorm. Secure outdoor items that can blow around or become damaging projectiles in gusty high winds.

If a thunderstorm is likely: Postpone outdoor activities and stay out of the water. Rubber-soled shoes provide no protection from lightning. Go into a sturdy building or a hard-topped vehicle. Close/shutter windows and exterior doors. Do not touch anything metal. Turn on your battery-operated NOAA Weather Radio so you can get alerts about hail and tornadoes.

During a storm: If you are **driving** and cannot pull over to wait for it to pass, slow down and turn on low beam headlights so others can see you. Do NOT use flashers/hazard lights unless parked. **Indoors,** keep away from doors and windows. Lightning can travel through the wires and pipes in walls. Don't use electric appliances or land-line telephones, and consider unplugging televisions and other expensive electronics so they won't be damaged by power surges. Avoid showering or bathing.

After a storm: The threat of lightning is still high. Wait thirty minutes after the last clap of thunder before resuming outdoor activities.

REMEMBER — When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!

PETS IN DISASTER

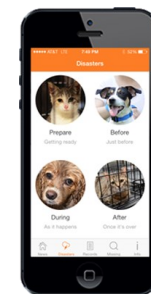
Disaster Preparation for Pets



You are responsible for the health and safety of your companion animals, and pets are more comfortable with their people during stressful times. Include your pets in your emergency plans. If you are told to evacuate, leave early and take your pets with you! Even if you think they'd be happier at home, pets left behind

during disaster are likely to be injured, lost, or worse. Ideally, you have a friend or family member out of the area who will let you and your animals stay with them. If not, locate a pet-friendly hotel out of the evacuation zone, or find out which public emergency shelter will accept pets. You will have to show proof of current vaccinations—keep a copy in your go-kit.

Wherever you go, pets will need their own supplies: a secure place to sleep, a leash, bowls, food, toys, medicine, etc. The AVMA offers a downloadable booklet to help you prepare for disaster with almost any species of companion animal. https://ebusiness.avma.org/files/productdownloads/STWF_English.pdf



FEMA, the CDC, ASPCA, HSUS, USDA, ARC, and others have also put checklists on their websites, as well as lists of resources to help locate pet-friendly accommodations when you have to evacuate. The ASPCA and Red Cross even have free mobile apps that can help you prepare.

Check out:

<https://www.ready.gov/animals>

<http://www.cdc.gov/features/petsanddisasters/>

<https://awic.nal.usda.gov/companion-animals/emergencies-and-disaster-planning>

<http://www.aspc.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/disaster-preparedness>

http://www.humanesociety.org/issues/animal_rescue/tips/pets-disaster.html

<https://www.redrover.org/node/1270>

Prepare for the Storm
Before—During—and After

The key is to know in advance what to do

Pets in Disasters SAFETY CHECKLIST

-  Pet carrier for each pet, with enough room to move around.
-  Two week supply of food and water
-  Pet first-aid kit and medications
-  Cat litter box and litter. Plastic bags for waste disposal
-  Leashes/collars & ID tags/harnesses
-  Toys and treats
-  Photo of your pet/ID and a photo of you with your pet
-  Updated immunization/vet records

www.PreparednessMama.com

Top 5 Features of the American Red Cross Pet First Aid App

-  Step-by-step instructions for first aid emergencies
-  Animal hospital locator
-  Pet profile for storing tag ID, photo and medical information
-  How to include pets in emergency preparedness plans
-  Early warning signs for when to contact a veterinarian

Download at Apple App Store or Google Play Store for Android. Learn about all Red Cross apps at redcross.org/mobileapps.

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SPECIAL NEEDS SHELTERS AND REGISTRATION



The Special Needs Shelter (SpNS) and Evacuation program is designed for those who require daily help with their medical and/or functional needs, and who might need government assistance to evacuate to an emergency shelter in the event of a disaster. The SpNS will be open during disasters or emergency evacuation situations to accommodate evacuees requiring assistance with the daily activities of living. SpNS staff can not provide the level of support available in a skilled nursing facility or hospital. There is no dialysis equipment in the SpNS. Public Health nurses provide shelter supervision to help maintain the evacuees' level of health, but personal caregivers must remain with and provide for the evacuees in the shelter.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR THE SPECIAL NEEDS SHELTER

The Special Needs Shelter & Evacuation Program requires annual enrollment in the SpNS Registry. To get the Special Needs Registry enrollment form, go to www.NassauFL-EM.com, select "People with Special Needs" from the menu, then click the REGISTRATION link to download, print, and complete it. You can also call Nassau County Emergency Management staff at 904-548-0900 and we will be happy to mail a form to you. Completed forms must be returned to the Emergency Operations Center at 77150 Citizens Circle in Yulee.

IF YOU GO TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS SHELTER

- Make sure your regular care-giver knows they must stay with you; medications must all be in original bottles with labels, and take a copy of your physician's orders/instructions — if you contract with a home-health agency, they must continue to provide the same type and frequency of care in the SpNS as they do at your home. *Don't forget to eat a good meal before you leave for the shelter!*
- You must bring your own healthcare equipment (*it's a good idea to clearly label everything*), medicines, and personal care/comfort supplies to last at least 4 to 5 days, such as: wheelchair/walker/cane, oxygen concentrator, blankets, pillow, sleepwear, extra clothes, sweater, dressings, special dietary supplies, feeding equipment, ostomy supplies, hygienic wear, toiletries, books, puzzles, knitting, snacks, etc.
- Your service animal will remain with you; bring its food, bowls, bedding, and comfort supplies as well.
- If your vet or trusted friend can't keep your pet while you are in the SpNS, it can be housed in a separate wing of the shelter as long as it's a mammal or bird, has proof of current vaccinations, a secure crate, food and water bowls, bedding, a leash and sanitary baggies or litter box, and enough food to last 4-5 days.

NASSAU COUNTY COOPERATIVE SERVICE PROVIDERS



TORNADOS

Tornados can strike quickly, and may be nearly transparent until dirt and debris are picked up, or a cloud forms in the funnel. Be alert to changing weather. You might notice:

- An unusually dark sky, often greenish in color
- A loud roar, similar to a freight train, jet engine, or a large waterfall
- A large, dark, low-lying cloud, or large hail
- A visible funnel cloud that has not yet touched the ground



BEFORE

- Build an emergency supplies kit, a family communications plan, and decide where you will go.
- Get a **NOAA Weather Radio** and leave it turned on for emergency alerts; monitor your weather radio if severe weather is forecasted.
- If you live in a mobile home or RV, plan to **evacuate** to a solid frame structure when severe weather is imminent.
- Register for local **Citizen Alerts** via phone, text, and/or email at: www.nassaucountyfl.com/citizenalerts

TORNADO!

- If you are **driving**, stop and **exit the vehicle**. Don't try to outrun it. Seek a ditch or area lower than the roadway, lie face down, and protect your head and neck with your arms.
- In a **mobile home/office**, put on sturdy shoes, and go to the lowest floor of a nearby building or storm shelter, away from windows.
- In a **solid** home, school, store, etc., go to an interior room on the lowest floor and cover yourself with blankets, pillows, or a mattress. If you have a bicycle helmet, put it on.

AFTER

- Check those with you for injuries and call 911 to report the tornado.
- Beware of hazards, broken glass, nails, down power lines, exposed gas lines and unstable structures.
- Provide first-aid to yourself and others; don't attempt to move the seriously injured, get help from trained first responders.
- Follow instructions from public safety officials
- Contact loved ones to let them know you're OK!
- Contact your insurance company

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Become a **Storm Spotter** for the National Weather Service! The **Skywarn™ Storm Spotter** program is a nationwide network of volunteers trained by the National Weather Service (NWS) to report significant weather. Everyone is welcome to participate.

Nassau County Emergency Management hosts NWS **Skywarn™ Storm Spotter** courses and other weather-preparedness training throughout the year — upcoming classes are publicized through our social media accounts. To learn more about these NWS courses please visit: <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/jax/?n=skywarn>

FLOODS

FLOOD BASICS

Flooding is the most common natural disaster in the United States and can happen anywhere. FEMA's "How to Prepare for a Flood" guide explains how to protect yourself and your property, and details the steps to take now so that you can act quickly when you, your home, or your business is in danger.



WHAT Flooding is an overflowing of water onto land that is normally dry. Flooding may happen with only a few inches of water, or it may cover a house to the rooftop.

WHEN Flooding can occur during any season, but some areas of the country are at greater risk at certain times of the year. Coastal areas are at greater risk for flooding during hurricane season (i.e., June to November)

WHERE Flooding can happen in any U.S. state or territory. It is particularly important to be prepared for flooding if you live in a low-lying area near a body of water, such as a river, stream, or culvert; along a coast; or down stream from a dam or levee.

HOW Flooding can occur in several ways, including the following:

- Rivers and lakes can not contain excessive rain.
- Excessive rain fully absorbed into the ground.
- Waterways are blocked with debris and over-flow.
- Water containment structures such as levees, dams, or water and sewer systems can break.
- Strong winds from tropical storms or hurricanes cause a storm surge by pushing seawater onto land.

HOW The speed and duration of flooding can vary significantly.

- Flooding can occur slowly as rain continues to fall for many days.
- Rapid-onset floods occur more quickly, typically developing within hours or days.
- The strong winds of a tropical cyclone or hurricane can push large amounts of seawater up onto the land, causing a storm surge. A storm surge combines with the ocean's tide to produce a storm-tide surge. Storm-tide surges have been registered as high as almost 35 feet above normal sea level and can cause significant flooding across a large area. This generally occurs over a short period, typically 4 to 8 hours.

YOUR GOAL FOR PROTECTION

Flood-related injuries and deaths are often the result of individuals trapped in floodwaters. The best way to stay safe is to leave areas that flood and avoid floodwaters.

- PERSONAL PROTECTION – Plan, Avoid floodwaters, Evacuate
- PROPERTY PROTECTION – Elevate, Waterproof, and Clear Debris
- FINANCIAL PROTECTION – Purchase Flood Insurance (see www.floodsmart.gov)

Source: FEMA Pamphlet: how_to_prepare_flood_033014_508.pdf

GENERAL POPULATION AND PET-FRIENDLY SHELTERS

ARE YOU READY TO STAY IN A PUBLIC SHELTER?

Nassau County Emergency Management has identified emergency shelters that will be open to anyone who needs a safe place to stay during a disaster. Emergency shelters may be crowded and uncomfortable with no privacy, and there is no guarantee of electricity (kind of like camping with a lot of people you don't know, but without campfires or the scenery, and with schedules & rules to follow — no guns or alcohol.) Service Animals are accepted, but pets or "comfort" animals are only allowed in designated "Pet-Friendly" shelters and must have proof of current Rabies vaccination as well as their own supplies. Plan ahead for evacuations – a public shelter should be your **LAST** choice of refuge.

Some food and water will be available in the shelter, but anyone evacuating to a public shelter should take their personal "go-kits" with sufficient supplies to last **4 to 5 days**. Don't forget the following items:

- Sleeping gear: take your own pillow, blankets, air mattress, and comfortable modest sleepwear - there are no private sleeping accommodations - ear-plugs and eye-mask.
- Personal hygiene supplies: hand-sanitizer, baby-wipes (*there are no showers*), toothbrush and paste, sanitary items, etc. *If you have a pet, you will be responsible for their care, feeding, and waste disposal.*
- Prescription and over-the-counter medications must be in **original, labeled bottles**.
- Favorite non-perishable foods, snacks, special dietary supplies, a bottle of water. *There are no "special" meals at shelters and it may be several hours before shelter meals can be distributed. It is best to eat a good meal before you leave your home.*
- Important documents: a photo ID with current address, insurance papers, list of emergency contacts, medical conditions and prescriptions, social security card and any others that can't be easily replaced. *Consider scanning or photographing important documents/pictures and saving copies to a thumb-drive you can keep with you.*
- Comfortable clothing, extra underwear and socks; add a light jacket or sweater if you get cold easily.
- Comfort items: books, cellphone and back-up power source, small games, playing cards, etc.
- Some cash for after you leave the shelter because ATMs, check cashing, and credit card services may not be available for several days. Only bring what you can keep in a pocket — there is no place to secure valuables while you sleep.



Shelters are opened on an as-needed, space-available basis. Verify the opening/availability of shelters by listening to radio or television, calling the Citizen Information Line at 904-548-0936, registering for our Citizen Alerts at www.NassauFL-EM.com, or by monitoring NassauEM on Facebook and @NassauEM on Twitter.



EVACUATIONS

LOCALIZED OR WIDESPREAD

Officials order evacuations to keep the public safe from a known or expected danger. The evacuation may be as localized as a building, shopping plaza, or neighborhood if there is a bomb threat, release of a hazardous material, an active shooter, or any ongoing police activity that is likely to cause harm or injury to anyone in the vicinity. Occasionally, public safety officers will determine it is more safe for affected citizens to shelter-in-place, like in a school lock-down. In Florida, widespread evacuation orders are most likely when large segments of the population are threatened by an approaching hazard like a major wildfire, tropical storm, or hurricane.

It is important for you to know what to expect and to be prepared so that you can act quickly when the order is given. You need to know how to find out when public safety officials decide an evacuation is necessary, how you will secure your belongings while you are gone, where you will go, how you will get there, what you will take with you, and when you can return. You'll also need to let others know where you'll be.

How Will You Know?

Get your information from reliable, official sources! You might be told about localized evacuations via:

- First Responders going door-to-door
- Public Address Systems
- Emergency Management's Notification Systems
- Citizen Alerts via text, e-mail, or cellphone

Widespread evacuations will also be announced via:

- Radio and Television
- Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS) and Wireless Emergency Alerts
- Social Media (e.g. Official Public Safety postings on Facebook, Twitter, and Nextdoor)

ACTIONS TO TAKE NOW

- Register for Citizen Alerts at www.nassaucountyfl.com/citizenalerts
- Think about where you can go on short notice, from home, work, school, etc.; consider alternate routes in case your normal ones are blocked.
- Know your evacuation zone; find it on the map in this guide or by visiting www.NassauFL-EM.com
- Have a family evacuation plan before a major fire or hurricane approaches; know where you will go.
- Build a go-kit; keep supplies of food, water, fuel, medicines, and other needed items on-hand, especially during hurricane season
- Join your Nextdoor neighborhood or follow NassauEM on Facebook or Twitter

WHAT TO EXPECT AND DO WHEN A WIDESPREAD EVACUATION ORDER IS GIVEN

- Heed messages from public safety officials; if you are told to evacuate, grab your go-kit and leave! Even if you think you are in a safe place, the disaster may disrupt delivery of essential services (electricity, water, sewage, grocery, fuel, phone, medical) for an extended period, and help may not be able to reach you.
- Evacuation orders are timed to ensure everyone is out of harm's way before the hazard arrives (e.g. flames or tropical storm-force wind). Lots of things are taken into consideration when deciding to evacuate an area, such as time of day, transportation needs, work and school schedules, construction and other areas evacuating creating heavy traffic on our roadways. It might still look nice out when you are told to leave.
- Notify your "out of the area" contact where you will be so others will know you are safe even if you aren't able to reach them once you've evacuated.
- Follow public safety's local and social media announcements so you will know when it is safe to return.

RIP CURRENTS

RIP CURRENT SAFETY

Rip currents are powerful, narrow channels of fast-moving water that are prevalent along the East, Gulf, and West coasts of the U.S.

Moving at speeds of up to eight feet per second, rip currents can move faster than an Olympic swimmer.

Panicked swimmers often try to counter a rip current by swimming straight back to shore, putting themselves at risk of drowning from fatigue.

Although lifeguards rescue tens of thousands of people from rip currents every year, approximately 100 people drown in rip currents annually, including would-be rescuers. If you see someone struggling in the ocean, get help, don't try to be a hero. Even lifeguards use floatation devices.

Know the conditions before you enter the water. If caught in a rip current, don't fight it! If you're a strong swimmer, swim parallel to the shore and then swim back to land at an angle. Otherwise, float - the current won't pull you under - then yell for help and wave your arms to attract the attention of someone on shore.

BEACH WARNING FLAGS

BANDERAS DE ADVERTENCIA EN LA PLAYA

-  **Water Closed to Public**
Agua Cerrada al Público
-  **High Hazard**
High Surf and/or Strong Currents
Peligro Alto, Resaca Alta y/o Corrientes Fuertes
-  **Medium Hazard**
Moderate Surf and/or Currents
Peligro Medio, Resaca Moderada y/o Corrientes Fuertes
-  **Low Hazard**
Calm Conditions, Exercise Caution
Peligro Bajo, Condiciones Calmas, Tenga Cuidado
-  **Dangerous Marine Life**
Vida Marina Peligrosa

Absence of Flags Does Not Assure Safe Waters
La Ausencia de Banderas No Asegura Aguas Seguras



RIP CURRENTS

Break the Grip of the Rip!



Rip currents are powerful currents of water moving away from shore. They can sweep even the strongest swimmer out to sea.

www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov

IF CAUGHT IN A RIP CURRENT

- ◆ Don't fight the current
- ◆ Swim out of the current, then to shore
- ◆ If you can't escape, float or tread water
- ◆ If you need help, call or wave for assistance

SAFETY

- ◆ Know how to swim
- ◆ Never Swim alone
- ◆ If in doubt, don't go out

More information about rip currents can be found at the following web sites:

www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov
www.usla.org



WILDFIRES

THE FLORIDA WILDLAND FIRE SEASON

Residents and firefighters in Florida must be vigilant year-round for potential wildfires. There is no particular wildfire "season" in Florida. There are conditions which make forested areas more susceptible to ignition. The Florida Forest Service, along with other local, state, and federal agencies, monitor weather, humidity, drought, wind, and natural fuel conditions in an effort to predict when fires are more likely to occur, as well as warn the public and the first responders.

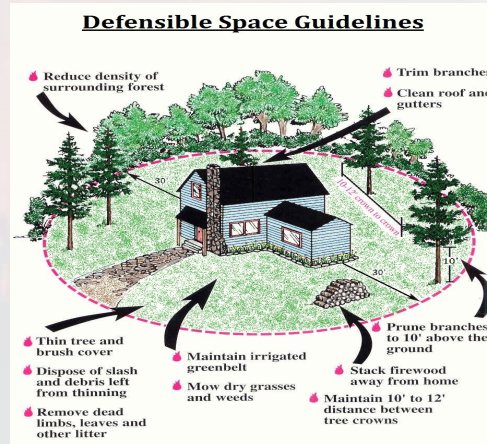
Wildfires consume hundreds of homes in the United States every year. Studies show that 80 percent of these homes could have been saved if owners had followed a few fire-wise safety practices. Fire departments all over the state use every means possible to protect lives, homes, and property from the ravages of wildfire. But, it is important to remember, the number of firefighters and firefighting equipment is limited; not every home will be saved in a major wildfire.

DO YOU HAVE A PLAN?

There are a few basic measures you can take to make you, your home, and property better prepared for an approaching wildfire. Here's a list of suggestions:

- Encourage community leadership to embrace the concepts of a "Firewise" community.
- Create a defensible zone between your home and the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).
- Take steps to mitigate fuel around your property.
- Harden your home to prevent fire from entering the structure.

Pay particular attention to the roof, eaves, vents, walls, decks, windows, and doors.



READY, SET, GO!

Get Ready prior to any wildfire:

- Prepare your family by creating a Family Disaster Plan
- Train your family how to use a fire extinguisher and keep them on hand.
- Know where all home utility shut-offs are located.
- Plan for evacuations via several different routes. Designate a meeting location for family members.
- Know points of contact. Keep a list of phone numbers
- Assemble an emergency supply kit that you can "grab and go".
- Stay well informed about the progress of any wildfire, and comply with directions from local officials.

Get Set to implement your plan:

- Complete your "outside checklist"
- Complete your "inside checklist"
- If you get trapped and can not evacuate – review and use your wildfire survival tips!

Go!!!

- EVACUATE EARLY!
- Know where you're going and the whereabouts of all family members!

Lehigh Acres Fire - Photo by News-Press

FOOD SAFETY DURING DISASTER

FOOD SAFETY BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER A POWER OUTAGE

Know how to keep food safe before during and after emergencies. Hurricanes, tornadoes, winter weather and other events may cause power outages. Follow these tips to help minimize food loss and reduce your risk of foodborne illness.

BEFORE PLAN AHEAD (IF YOU CAN) ...

- Put appliance thermometers in your refrigerator and freezer.
- Keep freezer 0°F or below
- Refrigerator 40°F or below
- Freeze containers of water and gel packs to help keep food cold if the power goes out.
- Freeze refrigerated items such as leftovers, milk, and fresh meat and poultry that you do not need immediately.
- Group foods together in the freezer to help food stay colder longer.
- If you think power will be out for an extended period of time, buy dry or block ice to keep the fridge or freezer cold.
- Store nonperishable foods on higher shelves to avoid flood water.

DURING WHILE THE POWER IS OUT ...

Keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed to maintain cold temperature.

IF DOORS STAY CLOSED ...

- ... a full freezer will hold its temperature for **48 HOURS** if half-full **24 HOURS**
- ... a fridge will keep food safe for **4 HOURS**

WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!

Check the temperature inside of your refrigerator and freezer. If they're still at safe temperatures, your food should be fine.

Never taste food to determine its safety!

WHAT CAN I KEEP?

The following foods are safe if held above 40 °F for more than 2 hours:

- Hard cheeses (Cheddar, Colby, Swiss, Parmesan, Provolone, Romano)
- Grated Parmesan, Romano, or combination (in can or jar)
- Butter or margarine
- Opened fruit juices
- Opened canned fruits
- Jelly, relish, taco sauce, mustard, ketchup, olives, pickles
- Worcestershire, soy, barbecue, and Hoisin sauces
- Peanut butter
- Opened vinegar-based dressings
- Bread, rolls, cakes, muffins, quick breads, tortillas
- Breakfast foods (waffles, pancakes, bagels)
- Fruit pies
- Fresh mushrooms, herbs, and spices
- Uncut raw vegetables and fruit

WHAT SHOULD I THROW OUT?

- Meat, poultry or seafood products
- Soft cheeses and shredded cheeses
- Milk, cream, yogurt, and other dairy products
- Opened baby formula
- Eggs and egg products
- Dough, cooked pasta
- Cooked or cut produce

REFREEZE FOOD THAT STILL CONTAINS ICE CRYSTALS OR IS AT 40°F OR BELOW.

AFTER A FLOOD

FOLLOW THESE STEPS AFTER A FLOOD:

- DO NOT EAT any food that may have touched flood water.
- DISCARD FOOD not in waterproof containers; screw-caps, snap lids, pull tops, and crimped tops are not waterproof.
- DISCARD cardboard juice/milk/baby formula boxes and home canned foods
- DISCARD any damaged cans that have swelling, leakage, punctures, holes, fractures, extensive deep rusting, or crushing/denting severe enough to prevent normal stacking or opening.

SANITIZE
1 tbsp. bleach + 1 gallon water

- Pots, pans, dishes and utensils
- Undamaged all-metal cans after removing labels



For more food safety tips, go to FoodSafety.gov

CITIZEN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

CITIZEN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

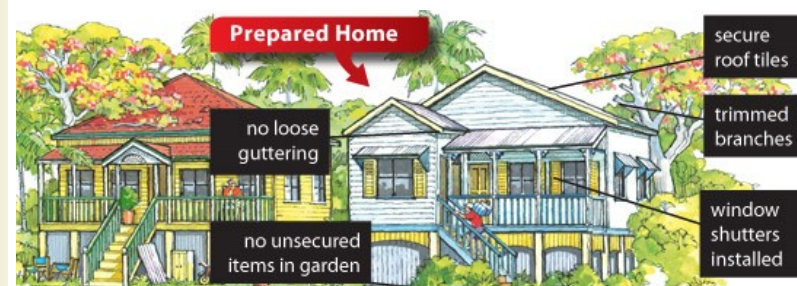
PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR DISASTER

IS YOUR "GO-KIT" READY?

When a wildfire is raging, a tropical storm is bearing down, or a tornado is on the horizon, **it's past time to be thinking about all the things you should have done** to protect your home and finances from disaster. Get things ready now. You need a plan and supplies. If you have to evacuate you need to be able to carry all of the stuff you'll need while you are away, so build a "go-kit" of essentials (things you would need camping in a tent for a week) - they'll probably fit in a five-gallon bucket. After a disaster strikes you'll need supplies to get you through a few days without any power, water, or outside help — a home disaster supply kit with non-perishable food, clean water, medicines, dry clothes, flashlight, tools, gloves, bandages, bug spray, etc.



IS YOUR HOME WIND & WILDFIRE READY?

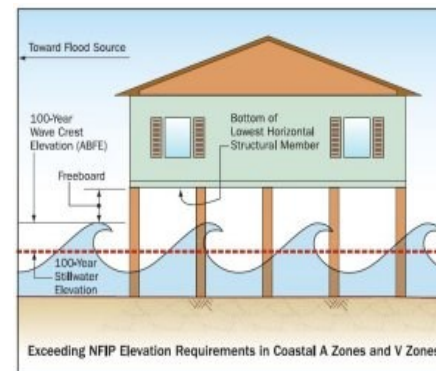


You need to prepare your home to mitigate the damaging effects of natural disasters. The U.S. Forest Service recommends establishing a "defensible space" around your home to reduce its vulnerability to fire. Reducing debris and clutter around homes also keeps those items from becoming missiles in high winds.

Make sure structures are well-anchored and the "envelope" is hardened to withstand straight-line winds, cyclones, and tornados. Roof joists need bracing and ties for whole-house stability. Doors, windows, and shutters should be high-impact-resistant to protect against flying debris.

IS YOUR HOME FLOOD READY?

Flood risk in Florida is high; do you know how high flood waters can get and how water flows around your home? Take action now to safeguard your property by elevating whatever you can. Raise electrical service equipment and outlets a foot above the 100 year flood level. You should also anchor outdoor equipment, like gas tanks, air conditioning units, and generators, off of the ground as well. Install a gate valve to prevent sewage backflow. If your neighborhood floods frequently, consider raising your home, installing foundation vents, or extra sealant and coatings to protect walls and floors. When water is rising, clear gutters and drains, shut off electricity at the breaker panel, move furniture and rugs off the floor, consider putting appliances up on blocks, and put important belongings and documents into waterproof containers.



Know what your homeowner/renter's insurance and automobile policies cover (replacement costs or current "actual cash value") and what they do not. Do you need supplemental coverage? Most property insurance excludes flood and water damage, but you can get flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (see www.FloodSmart.gov). Make a list of all valuable belongings with model numbers and purchase dates; take photos of everything in your home, and keep them in a safe place away from the house (in a safe deposit box, electronic "cloud" storage, etc.) so you'll have that information when its time to make a claim.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

WHAT ARE INFECTIOUS DISEASES?

Illnesses caused by a micro-organism and transferable to new individuals are "infectious". Other terms you might hear to describe these diseases are "contagious" or "communicable". There are many ways that infectious diseases may be spread, such as person-to-person, by animal contact, through food you eat, or by biting insects, and many have the potential to create a serious public health emergency.

HOW DO I PREVENT INFECTION?

The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) at www.FloridaHealth.gov advises everyone to "Drain and Cover" to prevent spreading infectious diseases carried by mosquitoes. Drain all standing water, discard old items that can collect rain water, and clean and refill pet water bowls and bird baths at least once a week. Cover skin with clothing or repellent, and cover doors and windows with screens to keep mosquitoes out of the house.



The most effective ways to stop the spread of most other contagious diseases is to:

- Wash your hands well and often
- Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze
- Get vaccinated
- If you do get sick, stay isolated at home until you are well so you don't spread those germs to others

STAYING INFORMED

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website provides lots of information on emergency preparedness and ways to protect yourself and your loved ones from illnesses (see www.Emergency.CDC.gov/Preparedness/index.asp). If a disease outbreak occurs you will be alerted through various media: television news, the printed newspaper, on websites, and through social media. Some diseases are relatively common in our area, like influenza, tuberculosis, or rabies; others are very rare, like Ebola or Zika Virus.

It is important to know the facts about the disease, how it is transmitted, how to identify it, and how to prevent it. To make sure the information you might hear about an infectious disease outbreak is not just a rumor, consult a reputable source like your physician, FDOH, or the CDC website.

GERMS... BEWARE!



How you can slow the spread of germs

Stay home when sick
Cover your coughs and sneezes
Clean your hands



Examples of surfaces to keep clean

- ▶ Phones
- ▶ Countertops
- ▶ TV remotes
- ▶ Door handles
- ▶ Computer keyboard & mouse
- ▶ Light switches
- ▶ Other surfaces touched by you and others

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS IN YOUR HOME

THERE'S HAZARDOUS MATERIAL IN YOUR HOME!



You probably use many household chemical products in and around your home and garage. These products may include cleaning liquids and powders, polishes, drain cleaners, paint thinners, and windshield washer fluids. These types of products can be dangerous and cause burns, fires, poisonings and explosions.

Household chemical products are among the top products responsible for injuries and deaths in children under the age of five years. Bad taste and odors often do not keep children away from household chemical products. Even a small amount of a chemical product can be harmful to a child. Use, store, and dispose of household chemicals carefully. Learn the meaning of the hazard symbols and follow all directions on the label.

HAS SOMEONE BEEN ACCIDENTALLY EXPOSED?

If someone has come in contact with a household chemical product and you think they may have been harmed:

- If in doubt about the severity of the exposure, or the person is in acute distress, **Call 911 immediately!**
- Then contact the Poison Control Center at **1-800-222-1222** (or your health care provider) right away. Tell the person who answers the phone what the product label says. There should be first-aid instructions, surrounded by a border, on the back or side of the product.
- Take the container with you when you go for help and seek treatment.



SAFE HANDLING TIPS

- Read the label before you buy or use a household chemical product.
- Use household chemical products carefully, especially around children.
- Store household chemical products safely.
- Dispose of leftover household chemical products safely.



SAFE DISPOSAL

Dispose of products properly – Hazardous products should never be deposited down drains or poured out on the ground. Many products shouldn't even be disposed of in the trash as they can cause environmental damage. Disposal down the toilet can cause harm to waste water treatment plants or kill beneficial bacterial in your septic system.



Should you have chemical or product "leftovers", we encourage you to utilize the household hazardous waste collection locations in your community. In Nassau County, there are specific dates and times during the year that household hazardous waste collection occurs. To get more information about proper household hazardous waste disposal, please contact either the Nassau County Solid Waste Management Department at (904) 530-6700, or the local IFAS County Extension Office at (904) 530-6350.

NASSAU COUNTY'S MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

HOW DO I GET NOTIFIED?



Emergency Management has implemented the **everbridge**® Citizen Alert System that lets public safety officials send alerts, warnings, and critical information to individuals, groups, or locations. The ability to push a recorded voice message with critical information out to every landline in the county helps us keep residents informed before, during, and after events.

Residents can "opt-in" to receive important alerts via text, e-mail, or cellphone, by signing up for our "Citizen Alert" System using the link on our website www.NassauFL-EM.com. The Citizen Alert system lets us provide you with critical information quickly in a variety of situations, such as when circumstances create unexpected road closures, require protective measures like evacuations, or a shelter-in-place notice is issued for your neighborhood because of an active shooter or gas leak. You can receive voice-recorded alerts to your choice of home, mobile, or business phones, as well as text alerts, and/or e-mail messages.

Register for the Smart Weather Alerts in our system to receive notifications whenever the National Weather Service issues a watch, warning, or advisory; you select the weather conditions and severity levels for which you want to be alerted. *Note: A "quiet period" has been enabled for weather alerts - you won't be awakened between 9pm and 6am unless a tornado, hurricane, flash flood, or tsunami requires immediate action.*



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



In addition to pushing emergency alerts out to the public, NCEM wants to engage residents and visitors through social media. Through social media you can ask us questions, verify facts, even post your photos of damage after a storm. By sharing and re-tweeting official messages, you help get the word out to others quickly.

Follow NassauEM on Facebook and Twitter to find out about free training opportunities, mitigation steps you can take to protect your property from damage, and preparedness tips for your family.



Our newest social media platform is Nextdoor, which operates on the premise that neighbors who know each other will look out for one another. It offers free secure websites for neighborhoods, so you can post "lost pet" or event announcements, or warn others about suspicious activities in your area. Public Safety officials can now target local hazard warnings, boil water notices, and shelter-in-place or evacuation updates



directly to the affected neighborhood's Nextdoor site. And as with other social media sites, information can go in both directions, so residents can reply or send inquiries to the staff members at Emergency Management.

WATCHES & WARNINGS DEFINED

WHAT DOES THE WEATHER SERVICE MEAN WHEN THEY SAY ...

The National Weather Service (NWS) and Storm Prediction Center use standard terms to alert the public to severe or dangerous conditions meeting specific criteria. These terms can be confusing when you realize that they can indicate different intensities, sizes, or windows of time, and they can apply to different types of hazards such as dense fog, tornadoes, wind chill, thunderstorms, floods, hail, excessive heat, frost, high winds, sleet, dust storms, and fire weather.

The NWS graphic below provides an easy way to understand when you should begin preparing and when it's time to take protective actions, even if you aren't sure exactly how fast the river is rising, how strong the wind will gust, or how large the hail might be.

WARNING

A warning is issued when a hazardous weather or hydrologic event is **occurring, imminent or likely**. A warning means weather conditions pose a threat to life or property. People in the path of the storm need to take protective action.

WATCH

A watch is used when the **risk of a hazardous weather or hydrologic event has increased significantly**, but its occurrence, location or timing is **still uncertain**. A watch means that hazardous weather is possible. People should **have a plan of action** in case a storm threatens and they should listen for later information and possible warnings especially when planning travel or outdoor activities.

ADVISORY

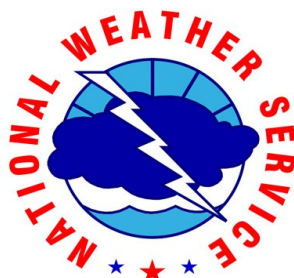
An advisory is issued when a hazardous weather or hydrologic event is **occurring, imminent or likely**. Advisories are for **less serious conditions than warnings**, that cause significant inconvenience and if caution is not exercised, could lead to situations that may threaten life or property.

OUTLOOK

An outlook is issued when a hazardous weather or hydrologic event is **possible** in the next week. Outlooks are intended to **raise awareness** of the potential for significant weather that could lead to situations that may threaten life or property.



**Be Prepared
Be Aware
Be Ready**



MASS SHOOTINGS

FBI REPORT

A 2013 FBI Active Shooter Report indicates consistent upward trends in both annual number of incidents and annual casualty totals. From 2000-2013 there were 160 active shooter incidents that produced 1,043 casualties of which 486 were fatalities. Over this time period, there was an average of 11.4 incidents annually. This number continues to rise.

THE 5 "W"s

- What is happening?
- Who is doing it?
- Where is it taking place?
- When did you observe it?
- Why is the act suspicious?

REPORT CRIMINAL OR SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

HOW TO RESPOND TO AN ACTIVE SHOOTER

- Alert** — warn those around you of an active shooter by any means available
- Lockdown** — lock yourself in the nearest room or facility and barricade the door from the inside
- Inform** — Dial 911 and provide as much information to law enforcement as possible
- Counter** — If you encounter the shooter, be prepared to defend yourself
- Evacuate** — If possible, and leave the area on foot so evacuating vehicles don't block access for responding emergency vehicles.

8 COMMON SIGNS OF TERRORISM

1. Surveillance of potential targets
2. Eliciting information about potential targets
3. Testing security of potential targets by trespassing or leaving unattended bags to gauge response times
4. Funding their actions through the commission of other crimes. Large cash purchases or solicitation of fraudulent donations may signal trouble.
5. Acquiring supplies through the commission of other crimes such as theft of vehicles and uniforms, or use of forged identification
6. Impersonation of first responders, mail carriers, and company employees to gain access to potential targets
7. Rehearsals may measure police and medical response times and tactics.
8. Deployment of supplies and equipment, putting the plan into action

Source: TheRedGuidetoRecovery.com

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

SUBMIT A TIP OR LEAD
to your local law enforcement
agency, your local FBI Field Office,
or by dialing
1-800-CALLFBI

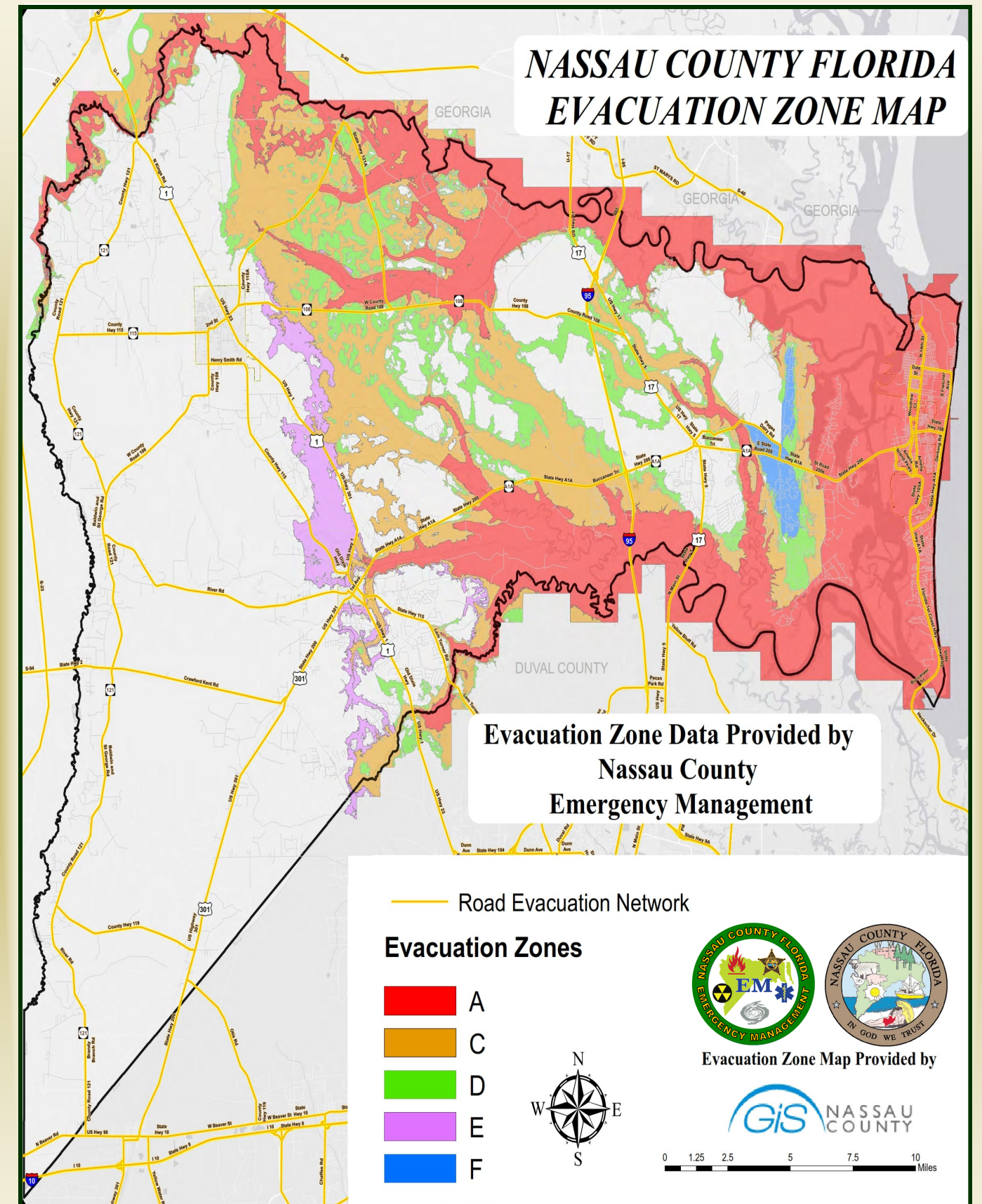
IF YOU BELIEVE THERE IS
IMMINENT DANGER
CALL 9-1-1
IMMEDIATELY

Photo: abcnews.go.com



THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE RECOMMENDED FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT. SINCE EMERGENCIES DON'T JUST HAPPEN WHEN YOU'RE AT HOME, CONSIDER KEEPING A SMALLER VERSION OR "GO-KIT" FOR YOUR CAR OR AT YOUR WORKPLACE. REMEMBER TO REGULARLY REPLACE PERISHABLE ITEMS!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drinking Water (1 gallon, per person, per day for at least 3 days) | <input type="checkbox"/> Important documents such as: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-perishable Food (at least a three-day supply) and snacks | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance policies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Infant formula and diapers | <input type="checkbox"/> Identification cards, licenses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pet food & extra water, leashes, and plastic bags | <input type="checkbox"/> Bank account information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manual can opener | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical information, doctors' contact numbers, and copies of prescriptions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio (battery or hand-crank) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pet vaccination records |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flash light and extra batteries | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Note: keep documents in a waterproof, container or zip-lock bag; consider storing scanned/photo-copies of critical documents on a thumb-drive or "the cloud"</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First-Aid Kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Cash or traveler's checks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whistle | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bags, blankets, pillows, and mats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dust masks | <input type="checkbox"/> Complete change of clothing and sturdy shoes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moist towelettes, baby-wipes, hand sanitizer | <input type="checkbox"/> Unscented chlorine bleach and a medicine dropper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lighter and/or waterproof matches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Area Map | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal hygiene items, toothbrush/paste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prescription medications and extra pair of eyeglasses | <input type="checkbox"/> Mess kits, paper cups, plates, and utensils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Books, games, puzzles, knitting, coloring and writing materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Back-up power supplies, solar chargers for electronics; an extension cord/power strip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other "comfort" items and/or toys (for adults, children, and pets) | |



Find your evacuation zone by searching your address in the Public Safety map layers on the Nassau County Property Appraiser's website: <http://maps2.roktech.net/NassauTaxMap/#>

CITIZEN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

CITIZEN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDE