



TOSJ EM Working Group Staff

Updated 06/06/2024

Jeff Repp - Director/Town Manager

Walt Lynch – Deputy Director (June 5, 2024)

Joe Castagnola - Assistant to the Deputy Director/FD Liaison to EM

Noel Nadol - Finance/Admin Section Chief

Karl Goodwin - Planning Section Chief

Agnes Orr - Medical and Health Section Chief

Kenneth Kent

Bill Cesareo

Dave Lippincott

Tom Connors

Diana Kelly

Walt Walling

Chris Contney

Ed Kamerer

Steve Altieri

Joe Giese

Laury Dowd

TOWN OF ST. JAMES

TOWN COUNCIL

Jean Toner, Mayor
(412) 551-7718
jtoner@stjames.town

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(910) 777-3867
ddelong@stjames.town

Jim Board, Councilor
(717) 659-1743
jboard@stjames.town

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(248) 842-5555
ldutney@stjames.town

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(570) 881-7054
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TOWN STAFF

Jeff Repp, Town Manager: jrepp@stjames.town

Laura Williams, Clerk / Asst. Zoning Administrator: lwilliams@stjames.town

Pauline Haran, Finance Director: pharan@stjames.town

Steve Brennan, Community Center Manager: sbrennan@stjames.town

TOWN HALL: 4140A Southport-Supply Road, St. James, NC 28461 • Phone: (910) 253-4730

COMMUNITY CENTER: 4136 Southport-Supply Road, St. James, NC 28461 • Phone: (910) 253-3012

Website: www.townofstjamesnc.org **Email:** tosj@stjames.town



Town of St. James Emergency Management

2024 Severe Storm Seminar Exhibitors

- Brunswick County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
- Brunswick County Access and Functional Needs Program
- Brunswick County Animal Services
- Brunswick County Emergency Services
- Brunswick County Sheriff Impact Program
- Brunswick County Electric Membership Corporation
- NWS Warning Coordinator Meteorologist Steve Pfaff
- St. James Firewise Committee
- WECT Chief Meteorologist Gannon Medwick



**Town of St. James, North Carolina
2024 Annual Severe Storm Seminar
June 6, 2024
1:00-2:30 PM**

AGENDA

TOSJ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Mayor Jean Toner, TOSJ
- Mary Nash, Deputy Director TOSJ Emergency Management

ST. JAMES PLANTATION POA

- President Bill Lendh

ST. JAMES FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Chief Scott Boyer

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

- Sheriff Brian Chism
- First Sgt. TK Nowell
- David McIntire: Director Brunswick County Emergency Management
- Billy Howard: Access and Functional Needs Program

WECT FIRST ALERT CHIEF METEOROLOGIST

- Gannon Medwick

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE- WILMINGTON, NC

- Steve Pfaff, Warning Coordinator Meteorologist

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

TOSJ INFORMATION FAIR 2:30 PM-3:30 PM

REFRESHMENTS GRACIOUSLY PROVIDED BY TROON

Important Contacts

- Emergency Management
910-253-5383 *(non-emergency)*
- BC Sheriff's Office
910-253-2777 *(non-emergency)*
- BC Social Services (DSS)
910-253-2077
- BC Public Utilities *(water/sewer)*
910-253-2655
- Brunswick Senior Resources
910-754-2300
- Brunswick Transit System
910-253-7800
- Brunswick Family Assistance
910-754-4766
- Brunswick Electric Mem. Corp
910-754-4391
- Duke Energy
800-452-2777

Plan. Prepare. Stay Informed.



Brunswick County Emergency Management

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 249
Bolivia, NC 28422

Physical Address:

3325 Old Ocean Hwy
Bolivia, NC 28422

Contact:

910-253-5383
800-522-2366
Fax 910-253-4451

Billy Howard

**Access & Functional Needs
Coordinator**

910-253-2850

billy.howard@brunswickcountync.gov



Find resources and sign up
for the Access & Functional
Needs Registry online at

brunswickcountync.gov/emergency

Access & Functional Needs Program & Call Registry



Are you prepared for
an emergency
evacuation?

We're here to help.

Emergency
Management

910-253-5383



Access & Functional Needs Program Goals

- 1) Identify Brunswick County Residents who have access and/or functional needs (AFN).
- 2) Assist residents who have AFN with creating personal emergency preparedness plans and include them in the AFN Registry.
- 3) Coordinate evacuation transportation for residents who are in need of transportation to Brunswick County evacuation shelters.
- 4) Ensure that Brunswick County's evacuation shelters are accessible and can remain accessible throughout the duration of an activated shelter.

Access & Functional Needs Defined

Residents with AFN are those who may have additional needs before, during, and/or after emergency events in functional areas such as Communication, maintaining Medical care/health, Independence, Safety/Support, and Transportation (CMIST). AFN may include, but is NOT limited to, people with disabilities.

The AFN Registry

The AFN Registry is a voluntary, HIPAA compliant database of residents who have one or more AFN. Staff assist residents in the AFN Registry with creating personal emergency plans. In turn, this helps us plan for how many residents need transportation to shelters and residents' needs in shelters.

AFN in Emergency Events

When an emergency event, such as a hurricane, has triggered an evacuation for our coastal community, AFN staff establish a call center. Call center staff (i.e. live people) attempt to contact every resident in the AFN Registry that is in an affected area (i.e. all or part of the county). Staff share information

about the event with each resident and discuss the resident's plan for that particular event (e.g. stay home, go to a shelter, leave area/county). Anyone who needs transportation to a shelter is given a date and time for pick-up.

Approximately half of NC's population has an AFN. If this is you or a loved one, sign-up for the AFN Registry today.



To sign-up for the AFN Registry or to learn more call 910-253-2850

To sign-up online visit:

<http://forms.brunswickcountync.gov/Forms/accessneeds>



COMMUNICATION



MEDICAL CARE



INDEPENDENCE



SAFETY & SUPPORT



TRANSPORTATION



TOSJ EM STRONGLY SUGGESTS
RESIDENTS SIGN UP FOR THE
BRUNSWICK COUNTY EMERGENCY
NOTIFICATION SYSTEM.

ENTER THE LINK BELOW INTO YOUR
WEB BROWSER AND FOLLOW THE
PROMPTS TO SET UP AN ACCOUNT.

<https://member.everbridge.net/311440963535093/login>

YOU WILL BE ABLE TO CHOOSE A
VARIETY OF ALERTS INCLUDING
TORNADIC EVENTS

NUTS AND BOLTS . . .

TECHNICAL DETAILS

A fiberglass or high-density polyethylene wastewater holding tank has been installed underground on your property and wastewater grinder pumps are housed in the tank. The tank cover is round and is the only part that shows above the ground. All of the wastewater from your home flows into the buried tank. When the tank fills to a pre-set level, the grinder pump automatically turns on, grinds the waste, and forces it out of the tank and into the wastewater system.

The grinder pump normally will run for one or two minutes and will automatically turn off when the tank has been emptied. The pump is programmed to operate in cycles, rather than continuously. Cycles are determined by the amount of water used, usually after 20 gallons has entered the tank. During a usual day, the grinder pump will turn on and off to empty the tank 10 to 20 times.

The grinder pump is powered by electricity and is connected to the electric service lines usually at a panel box near your electric meter on the outside wall of your home. However, some are located on a panel inside the home. Grinder pump electricity charges are estimated to be less than a dollar per month and will be included on your monthly electric bill. The cost of electricity is paid by you, not the County.

IN CASE OF POWER FAILURE

If there is a power failure which affects your home, your grinder pump will also experience a loss of power and not be able to operate. The grinder pump tank has a certain amount of holding capacity, but interior water use should be severely limited until power has been restored.

WHILE ON VACATION

If you will be away from home for more than several days, the following steps should be taken to minimize the potential for the development of stagnating odors:

First, run water from an inside tap long enough for the grinder pump to begin working. After the pump turns on, turn the water off. The grinder pump will run until the tank is empty and will shut off. This process will cleanse the pump and leave it filled with a minimum of clean water. Always leave the electrical power on. This allows the heating element inside the pump to operate which helps eliminate condensation and freezing.

By following these guidelines, you can ensure that your low-pressure system will provide many years of safe, reliable service.



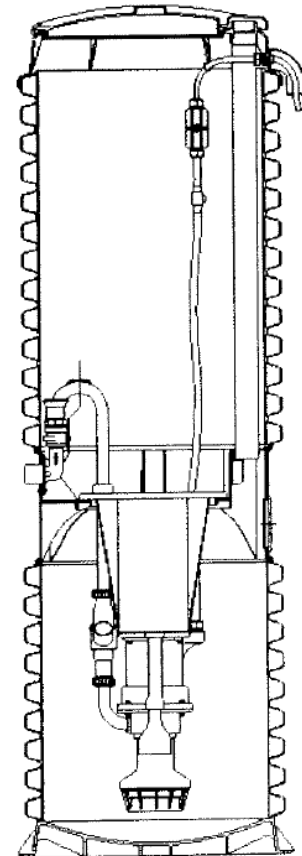
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
P.O. Box 249
Bolivia, NC 28422
250 Grey Water Road NE
Supply, NC 28462

Telephone: (910) 253-2657
Fax: (910) 253-4305
Web Site: www.brunswickcountync.gov

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Grinder Pump Station Homeowner Information



ABOUT YOUR GRINDER PUMP ...

The low-pressure wastewater system servicing your home is part of the larger Brunswick County wastewater collection system. Every day of the year hundreds of miles of pipe carry wastewater to the reclamation facilities operated by the Department of Public Utilities.

The grinder pump in your yard is an important part of the system. The Department of Public Utilities uses several types of collection systems. Each has been designed to best serve the customer in a particular area. Your home is one served by a low-pressure system, which uses a grinder pump to grind the wastewater from your home (much like the garbage disposal in your kitchen) and push the wastewater through small plastic pipes to the larger line in the street.

Low-pressure wastewater systems are economical solutions for areas of the County that cannot be served by gravity lines. However, a grinder pump system does require that the homeowner take a more active role than required for a property served by gravity sewer.

It is important that you know how your home sewer system operates and that you notify the Department of Public Utilities emergency dispatchers if a problem occurs. Our technicians provide maintenance and service; however, there may be service charges for pump repair and/or replacement.

County-installed grinder pumps are placed in a 15-foot utility easement to provide access for maintenance and service. It is not advisable to plant flowers or shrubs or place such items as fences, decorative pilings, fish ponds, etc. within the easement as damage to the grinder pump, underground electrical or piping systems may occur. The County will not be responsible for any damage to landscaping of items placed within the easement while performing any maintenance function. Also, electrical power and alarm wires are buried under the ground between the control panel and the tank. Before digging in the area, call to have a technician locate the lines.

Many grinder models have a small breather vent located on the side of the tank, just below the cover. It is important to keep this vent open and free of debris, such as mulch or grass, for the unit to remain operational. It is also helpful to have the ground sloped away from the tank so water will not pool and enter the vent rendering the unit inoperable.

With your cooperation, your low-pressure system will provide many years of safe, reliable service. Please take a few moments to read the following information to ensure the proper functioning of your pump.

IF THE ALARM SOUNDS

If there is a grinder pump failure, the tank which contains the pump will become too full. An alarm horn and light located in the alarm box on the outside of your home will automatically turn on.

You should...

- Discontinue water use to prevent overflows.
- Turn off the alarm by depressing the alarm light on the front of the alarm box. The alarm horn should silence, but the light will remain on until the grinder pump is repaired.
- Wait 15 minutes before taking further action. A high level of water usage will sometimes cause the alarm to come on. This situation is self-correcting. If the pump is operating correctly, the wet well will automatically be pumped down and the alarm light will turn off.
- If the alarm light is still on after 15 minutes, during normal business hours call the Public Utilities dispatcher at (910) 253-2657. For 24-hour emergency service call (910) 371-3490 or (910) 755-7921. County emergency crews are on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week and will respond promptly.
- Never attempt to open the tank cover of the electrical panel box.

CAUTION: Electrical shock or damage to the system may occur.

PROTECT YOUR PUMP

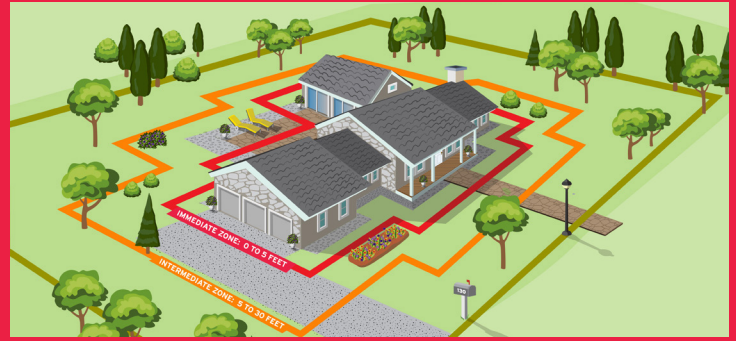
The grinder pump can handle any wastewater that is normally discharged to the sewer from the kitchen, bathroom, or laundry. Some chemicals and materials may cause operating problems or safety hazards. It is advisable to check labels on chemicals prior to their disposal. Never connect a sump pump to the grinder pump.

CAUTION: Never put any of the following materials into sinks, toilets, or drains—they may clog your system or create an unsafe environment:

- Glass, metal, wood, seafood shells
- Papers, socks, rags, or cloth of any kind
- Plastic objects (toys, eating utensils, etc.)
- Any strong chemical, toxic, caustic, or poisonous substance
- Degreasing solvents
- Any explosive or flammable material
- Gasoline, kerosene, fuel oil, paint thinner, and antifreeze
- Lubricating oil or grease
- Cooking fat (lard, oil, grease)
- Hair clippings

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR WILDFIRES

WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION STEPS THAT CAN MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER DURING A WILDFIRE



■ VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

1. HOME IGNITION ZONES

To increase your home's chance of surviving a wildfire, choose fire-resistant building materials and limit the amount of flammable vegetation in the three home ignition zones. The zones include the **Immediate Zone**: (0 to 5 feet around the house), the **Intermediate Zone** (5 to 30 feet), and the **Extended Zone** (30 to 100 feet).

2. LANDSCAPING AND MAINTENANCE

To reduce ember ignitions and fire spread, trim branches that overhang the home, porch, and deck and prune branches of large trees up to 6 to 10 feet (depending on their height) from the ground. Remove plants containing resins, oils, and waxes. Use crushed stone or gravel instead of flammable mulches in the **Immediate Zone** (0 to 5 feet around the house). Keep your landscape in good condition.

■ FIRE RESISTIVE CONSTRUCTION

3. ROOFING AND VENTS

Class A fire-rated roofing products, such as composite shingles, metal, concrete, and clay tiles, offer the best protection. Inspect shingles or roof tiles and replace or repair those that are loose or missing to prevent ember penetration. Box in eaves, but provide ventilation to prevent condensation and mildew. Roof and attic vents should be screened to prevent ember entry.

4. DECKS AND PORCHES

Never store flammable materials underneath decks or porches. Remove dead vegetation and debris from under decks and porches and between deck board joints.

5. SIDING AND WINDOWS

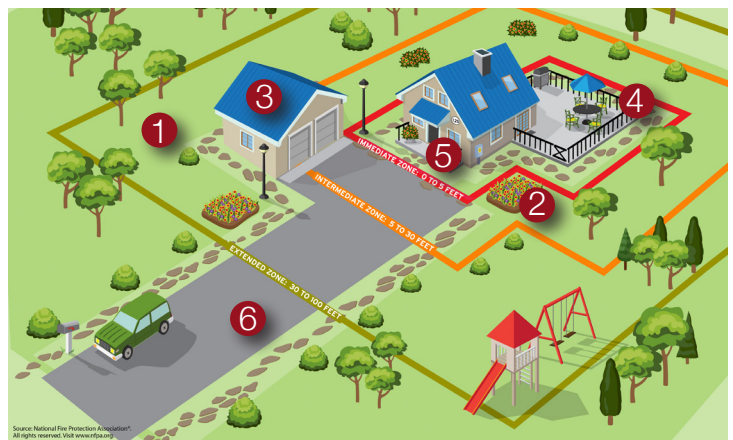
Embers can collect in small nooks and crannies and ignite combustible materials; radiant heat from flames can crack windows. Use fire-resistant siding such as brick, fiber-cement, plaster, or stucco, and use dual-pane tempered glass windows.

■ BE PREPARED

6. EMERGENCY RESPONDER ACCESS

Ensure your home and neighborhood have legible and clearly marked street names and numbers. Driveways should be at least 12 feet wide with a vertical clearance of 15 feet for emergency vehicle access.

- Develop, discuss, and practice an emergency action plan with everyone in your home. Include details for handling pets, large animals, and livestock.
- Know two ways out of your neighborhood and have a predesignated meeting place.
- Always evacuate if you feel it's unsafe to stay—don't wait to receive an emergency notification if you feel threatened from the fire.
- Conduct an annual insurance policy checkup to adjust for local building costs, codes, and new renovations.
- Create or update a home inventory to help settle claims faster.



**TALK TO YOUR LOCAL FORESTRY AGENCY
OR FIRE DEPARTMENT TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT THE SPECIFIC WILDFIRE RISK
WHERE YOU LIVE.**



FIREWISE USA®
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

VISIT [FIREWISE.ORG](https://www.firewise.org) FOR MORE DETAILS

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Order a Reducing Wildfire Risks in the Home Ignition Zone checklist/poster at [Firewise.org](https://www.firewise.org)

St. James Plantation: Your “Firewise Community”



FIREWISE USA[®]
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

Wildfires are a fact of life in North Carolina, resulting in millions of dollars in property damage and adverse impacts to humans and wildlife every year. Surprisingly, despite being surrounded by water - the Atlantic Ocean, Cape Fear River, Intracoastal Waterway, marshes, ponds, and creeks - our area of coastal NC is prone to an elevated risk of wildfire.

What causes our regional wildfire risk? Natural resins in our pine, palmetto, wax myrtle, yaupon, switchgrass, and other native species that can burn at astonishing rates. Fanned by 20-mph winds, a hardwood forest can burn at 75-acres per hour versus a pine forest that can burn at 340-acres per hour. Coastal vegetation can burn at **3,000-acres per hour!** Combine this with the rapid population growth of Brunswick County, and the result is many more people at risk of wildfire impacts.

We can't stop wildfires, BUT we can protect our property to reduce wildfire impacts. **Firewise USA[™]** is a program developed by the National Fire Protection Association with the US Department of Agriculture Forest Service, and National Association of State Foresters with the mission “**Residents Reducing Wildfire Risks**”. St. James became a Firewise Community in 2003. Our Town Firewise Committee oversees our community-wide mitigation efforts and educational outreach.

The Firewise program offers practical steps residents can take to reduce their risks. Firewise identifies three zones around your house: the “**Immediate Zone**” 0-5 feet; the “**Intermediate Zone**” 5-30 feet; and the “**Extended Zone**” 30-100 feet. Examples of residential risk mitigation include:

- Managing vegetation, including trees, shrubs, plants, and mulch. Trimming branches near your house, thinning trees so fire can't jump from tree to tree, removing/replacing flammable species, choosing less flammable mulch in the Immediate Zone.
- Replacing pine straw in the Immediate Zone with bark mulch or stone. In a recent local fire involving homes on a cul-de-sac, those surrounded by pine straw were a TOTAL LOSS, while those with bark mulch fared much better.
- Keeping your roof, porches, decks, and yard free of pine needles and other flammable materials can guard against fire from flying embers. Keep firepits, BBQs, and other ignition sources away from flammable materials.
- Emergency planning such as clearly marking your house number, ensuring your driveway is accessible to emergency vehicles, and having an evacuation plan for people and pets, and scanning your homeowner's insurance and e-mail it to yourself.

Additional resources can be found on the Firewise USA[™] website: www.firewise.org and Firewise literature is also available at our booth, at the St. James Town Hall, and online: www.townofstjamesnc.org under "Departments", then under "Firewise Committee". We invite you to explore these resources and to take action to make your property "Firewise!"

TOWN OF ST. JAMES EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & THE ST. JAMES FIRE DEPARTMENT

SUGGESTED DO'S AND DON'TS BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER AN EVENT

BEFORE

DO:

- Use common sense.
- Sign up for Brunswick County Emergency Notification System at: <https://member.everbridge.net/311440963535093/login> for County Wide alerts.
- Sign up on the Special Needs registry with Brunswick County if necessary: www.brunswickcountync.gov, or call 910-253-5383 to register by phone.
- Ensure your POA profile is up to date for TOSJ-specific alerts.
- Have an emergency plan. Share it with your family and friends either verbally or by email.
- Plan for your pets. Check pet friendly hotel availability. Bring their current immunization papers, food, and any meds they may be on.
- Pack a go bag - details on what to include are listed in the Disaster Preparedness Guide. Add hand sanitizer and masks to your go bag. Put it in your car. Back your car into the garage.
- Pack important papers - insurance documents, passport, etc. Additional guidelines may be found in the Disaster Preparedness Guide.
- Keep your vehicle fuel level topped off. Use caution if storing spare cans of gas.
- Prepare to be self-sufficient for a minimum of 5 -7 days. This includes; food, water, and medicines for you and your pets, oxygen if necessary etc. Additional guidelines may be found in the Disaster Preparedness Guide.
- Follow Emergency Personnel directions.
- Store drinking water in disinfected bathtubs, jugs, bottles and cooking pots.
- Save large plastic bottles, fill them with water and freeze them. Leave room for expansion.
- Turn the refrigerator to its coldest setting.
- Keep cell phones fully charged. Consider purchasing an external charger. If you don't have one, purchase a car charger.
- Have cash/coins on hand in the event of power outage- ATMs may not function.
- Keep flashlights and extra batteries for all equipment on hand.
- Have fire extinguishers on hand- know where they are and how to use them.
- Turn off your sprinkler system. If you don't know how, contact your irrigation system provider or landscaper.
- Test your generator- if you have one. Educate yourselves on "back-feeding".
- Secure any yard ornaments, deck, and porch furniture that could become damage-inflicting missiles.
- Check storm drains in and around your area. If you see issues, report to POA.
- Educate yourself on how to secure French doors that may blow open.

- In the event you evacuate, turn off propane and water at the main. If you don't know how, contact your propane provider/water company for instruction.
- Remember the adages: Turn Around Don't Drown. Hide from wind. Run from water.
- Check in with your neighbors.

DON'T

- Wait till the last minute to evacuate. The surrounding evacuation routes flood early.

DURING

DO:

- Use common sense.
- Monitor local media. *Remember, social media is not necessarily the best source of information.*
- Stay inside away from windows, skylights, and glass doors.

DON'T:

- Use your generator inside the house or garage.
- Use flaming candles. They are a fire hazard.
- Move barricades on roads that are blocked.
- "Sightsee" during and immediately after a storm. Stay home.
- Grill in your garage.
- Run your car in the garage in the event you need to charge your cell phone.

AFTER

DO:

- Use common sense.
- Continue to monitor local media for updates.
- Stay away from disaster areas.
- Stay away from downed power lines. Report them to the power company.
- Avoid walking through standing water. Standing water could contain hazardous debris, snakes, and pollutants that could cause infections.

DON'T:

- Attempt to remove heavy debris from your property after the storm.
- Drink or prepare food with tap water if there has been a water main break.
- Sightsee. Keep roadways clear for emergency personnel.
- Drive with excessive speed through the community that could cause wakes that can push water into residents' yards and garages.
- Attempt to return to St. James after an evacuation until verifiable information on state/local road closures/openings is available.

Suggested list of What to take with you if you Evacuate your Home or Go to a Shelter in time of a Disaster

- ❑ **Special Needs**
 - Special dietary foods, baby foods, diapers, etc.
- ❑ **Prescription Medications / Treatments**
 - 2 Week supply of medicine in original containers
 - Small cooler of ice, if refrigeration is needed for medication
 - If using oxygen, bring your concentrator & as many full, portable tanks as possible
- ❑ **Bedding**
 - Lightweight cot or folding lounge chair
 - Blankets / Sleeping bags / Pillows / Sheets
- ❑ **Flashlights & Portable Radio**
 - Plenty of extra batteries
- ❑ **Clothing**
 - Clothing for one week
 - Rain gear
- ❑ **Personal Care Items**
 - Towels, washcloths & soap
 - Toiletries / other personal care or feminine hygiene items
- ❑ **Spare Eyeglasses/Contacts** including supplies
- ❑ **Games & Toys**
 - Quiet games and “favorite” toys for children
- ❑ **Identification**
 - Store important papers, such as insurance cards/papers, immunization records, deeds, titles, keepsakes in a safe deposit box or at least in a waterproof container
- ❑ **Traveler's checks**

NOTES:

- Hurricane Shelters will be available for people who have no other place to go. Shelters may be crowded and uncomfortable with no privacy and no electricity. (Those shelters designated for people with medical dependencies should have electricity).
- DO NOT LEAVE YOUR HOME UNTIL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ANNOUNCE on radio and/or television or you verify by contacting emergency officials by phone that a particular shelter is open.
- Shelters are typically located in schools that provide a large “safe” area inside a sturdy building. They tend to be barren and the sheltering visitors bring in most “comforts”.

DO NOT BRING WEAPONS, ALCOHOL OR ILLEGAL DRUGS TO SHELTERS!

Hurricane Survival

(If your staying home or “sheltering in place”)

Prepare Now

- ❑ Before hurricane season begins, June 1st, put together a survival kit and make decisions regarding where to go and plan what you would do if you had to suddenly evacuate
- ❑ Learn the emergency evacuation routes for your area
- ❑ Make a list of valuable, irreplaceable items to gather if only given 15 minutes to pack and leave
- ❑ If oxygen dependent, prepare enough portable oxygen if electricity is lost
- ❑ **Survival Kit**
 - Waterproof container with lid to store/carry items
 - Canned, non-perishable foods (including pet food)
 - Infant care items (diapers, formula) if needed
 - Manual can opener
 - Can of Sterno, matches/lighters
 - Disposable plates, cups, utensils
 - Drinking water in clean, unbreakable containers- 2 quarts per person/day
Change water every 6 months – Old milk jugs are NOT recommended
 - Flashlights, portable radio, extra batteries
 - Masking or duct tape
 - Compass
 - First Aid kit (sterile bandages, scissors, tape, rubbing alcohol, pain reliever, antacid, antibiotic cream)
 - Copies of important papers in sealed waterproof container (Birth certificates, emergency numbers, immunization records, insurance papers, Social Security numbers, cash/traveler's checks) Originals should be in safe deposit box in another location
- ❑ **Have on Hand**
 - Prescription medications / treatments (2 week supply in original containers)
 - Portable outdoor stove or grill with extra fuel supply
 - Ice chests
 - Liquid household bleach
To purify water- place ¼ teaspoon/ gallon water, shake, let sit 30 minutes
 - Sheets of plywood to board up windows during hurricane watch
(24-36 hours before storm)

Before the Storm

- ❑ Listen to weather updates on television or radio. Stay informed! (89.9 FM)
- ❑ Have car ready – Check gas, oil, water & maintenance
- ❑ Board up or put storm shutters on windows
- ❑ Plan for pets- Pets are not allowed in shelters
- ❑ Secure & store loose objects in your yard (trash cans, lawn furniture, etc)
- ❑ Turn refrigerators/freezers to coldest settings
- ❑ Fill tubs with water for washing & flushing toilets

During the Storm

- ❑ Remain indoors, stay in an interior, windowless area away from windows
- ❑ Stay inside until local authorities announce your area is safe

After the Storm

- ❑ Do **not** drink tap water until informed by authorities that it is safe
- ❑ Rarely open the refrigerator/freezer during the first 12-18 hours after power is lost.
A full, unopened freezer will stay frozen for 2 days, a ½ full freezer for 1 day.
- ❑ Canned goods, dry food and food with intact seals are safe to eat.
- ❑ Fruit/vegetables are safe if not washed with contaminated water