

PREPAREDNESS TIPS – AT HOME DURING THE STORM

*****IN ADDITION TO ALL THE TIPS IN THE PREVIOUS LISTS***
YOU SHOULD OBSERVE THESE ADDITIONAL DISASTER
AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIPS**

- Have your family disaster and communications plan readily available
- Make sure all your supplies and preparations have been completed
- Make sure your car is in the safest location possible
- Keep several folding beach chairs or chaises available – they can be used as chairs or cots in your home
- Do not use candles or kerosene lamps for light for safety reasons – use battery-powered lights
- Try not to open refrigerator or freezer frequently so that items inside will last as long as possible
- If you lose electricity, use food that will spoil quickly or discard it – food safety issues are vitally important – If in doubt, throw it out!
- To sanitize water for drinking – two drops of chlorine bleach, soap and scent-free, per quart of water and let it sit for at least 30 minutes; for cleaning – two ounces per gallon of water
- Listen to alerts and reports on your radio and/or TV – have battery-powered units available
- Obey instructions of local authorities
- Use inverter to turn battery power into household current
- Cat litter in large bucket and liner bags can be used as toilet in emergency
- Fill bathtub and utility sinks with water – can be used for cleaning and also for flushing toilet
- Use battery-operated book light for reading – it is easier than using a flashlight
- Fill small bowl with ice and put in front of fan (battery-operated or run by inverter or generator) to help cool down air that blows on you
- Try to remain in room you have previously identified as safest in home so you are away from any possible wind born flying debris – have blankets, pillows, quilts, mattresses, etc. in that area to give extra protection in case your home is damaged by hurricane or subsequent tornado
- Keep pets with you – do not let them roam inside the house
- Be alert to tornadoes after hurricane passes
- Care for emotional needs of children
- If power remains on, turn refrigerator/freezer to coldest setting
- If power goes off, make sure stove and cook top are turned off
- After wind stops, if it is safe and possible to do so, place trash cans and buckets under roof eaves to catch water if you need it for toilet flushing

- Do not open any windows during hurricane – keep all hurricane winds out of house
- Try to avoid boredom and anxiety
- Take care of your family
- Focus on life-saving and life-sustaining activities
- Do not let the eye of the hurricane fool you – do not go outside
- Remain indoors until authorities indicate it is safe to go outside
- If you are in a mobile home, please evacuate to nearest shelter before storm begins