

HURRICANE EVACUATION SURVIVAL INFORMATION

One of the most important decisions you will have to make is "**Should I Evacuate?**"

If you are asked to evacuate, you should do so without delay. That means that it is important for you and your family to **HAVE A PLAN** that makes you as safe as possible in the event you must leave your home.

Disaster prevention includes modifying your home to strengthen it against storms so that it can be as safe as possible. It also includes having the supplies on hand to weather the storm. The suggestions provided here are only guides. You should also use your best judgment in creating in your disaster prevention plan.

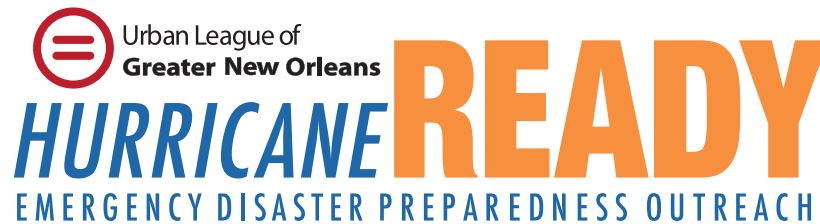
- **DEVELOP A FAMILY PLAN** - Your family's plan should be based on your vulnerability to the Hurricane Hazards. You should keep a written plan and share your plan with other friends or family.
- **CREATE A DISASTER SUPPLY KIT** - There are certain items you need to have regardless of where you ride out a hurricane. The disaster supply kit is a useful tool when you evacuate, in addition to making you as safe as possible in your home.

Important papers to take with you in a portable, waterproof container:

- Driver's license or personal identification
 - Social Security card
 - Proof of residence (deed or lease)
 - Insurance policies
 - Birth and marriage certificates
 - Stocks, bonds and other negotiable certificates
 - Wills, deeds, and copies of recent tax returns
- **SECURE YOUR HOME** - The most important precaution you can take to reduce damage to your home and property is to protect the areas where wind and water can enter. According to recent wind technology research, it's important to strengthen the exterior of your house so wind and debris do not tear large openings in it. You can do this by protecting and reinforcing these five critical areas:

[ROOF](#) | [STRAPS](#) | [SHUTTERS](#) | [DOORS](#) | [GARAGE DOORS](#)

- **FLOOD INSURANCE**- The National Flood Insurance Program is a pre-disaster flood mitigation and insurance protection program designed to reduce the escalating cost of disasters. The National Flood Insurance Program makes federally backed flood insurance available to residents and business owners. Flood damage is not usually



covered by homeowners or renters insurance. Do not make assumptions. Check your policy.

[National Flood Insurance Program](#) call **1-888-CALL-FLOOD ext. 445, TDD# 1-800-427-5593.**

PRE-APPLY ONLINE NOW FOR DISASTER FOOD STAMPS



All low- to- moderate income families may be eligible for Disaster Food Stamp benefits in the event of a natural disaster and should pre-apply now for benefits online or by phone. Current SNAP recipients do not need to pre-apply and would receive disaster benefits automatically.

To pre-apply residents can visit dss.louisiana.gov or phone **1-888-LA-HELP-U (1-888-524-3578).**

Emergency Shelter Information and Checkpoints

Because of the fluid nature of shelter occupancy, citizens are encouraged to obtain information about shelter openings and locations at shelter information points along the evacuation route. Information about shelter evacuation points will be posted on www.emergency.la.gov as well as on the [Department of Social Services website](#), the [Louisiana State Police website](#), or by calling the American Red Cross at toll-free number, (866) GET-INFO or (866) 438-4636.