

# Hurricane Safety Tips

**H**urricane season is here. If you haven't already, now is the time to prepare your home and family supplies. From June 1st through the 12th, all Florida residents can buy hurricane supplies free of sales tax.

## TAX FREE ITEMS INCLUDE -

- Portable, self powered light source
- Portable, self powered, two-way or weather-band radio
- Tarpaulin or other flexible waterproof sheeting
- Ground anchor system or tie-down kit
- Gas or diesel fuel tank
- AAA-cell, AA-cell, C-cell, D-cell, 6-or 9-volt batteries
- Cell phone battery and charger
- Non-electric food storage cooler and reusable ice
- Portable generator
- Storm shutter devices rated for preventing window damage from storms
- Carbon monoxide detector

## SUPPLIES TO HAVE ON HAND -

- Prescription medication for 2 weeks stored in plastic bags.
- 1 gallon of water/person per day. Plan for 3 to 7 days. It is always a good idea to fill your bath tub in case you need extra water.
- Food supplies for 3 to 7 days. Don't forget a manual can opener!
- 2 coolers - one for ice, one for food
- Paper plates, plastic utensils, garbage bags, waterproof containers, and foil.
- Personal toiletries
- Aseptic hand cleaner
- First aid kit
- Bleach and detergents/cleaners
- Gloves/Masks
- Mosquito repellent
- Sunscreen
- Flashlight
- Battery-Powered Radio
- Corded Telephone that connects directly into the wall
- Copies of important documents and/or insurance policies in a waterproof container
- Plastic Tarps
- Toolkit
- Camera (to record damage of your property)

**Don't** forget the home preparation you can do well before the storm approaches such as pruning trees, bringing in yard objects, stowing pool equipment, turning off pool pump and lowering pool water level to absorb rainwater, protecting windows with impact resistant coverings, and sealing doorways with expanding urethane foam for up to 3 feet above ground level.

Hurricane season officially started June 1st and will continue until November 30. Please be ready, have a contingency plan in place, and keep yourself and your loved ones safe during this time! □



## CORRECTION

The persons living in the house at 4605 South Shamrock Road were incorrectly identified in the story about the Christmas Lighting contest. They are John Marsh and Bowman Stephens. □



**American Red Cross** 813 348-4820  
**Disaster Assistance** 1-866-438-4636

**County Special Needs Shelter  
 Registration** 813-307-8015 x6006

**Emergency Operations Center** 813-232-6890

**Federal Emergency Management Association  
 (F.E.M.A.)** 800-525-0321

**Florida Dept of Agriculture and  
 Consumer Services** 800-435-7352

**Florida Dept. of Financial Services  
 Consumer Help Line** 800-342-2762

**Florida Division of Emergency  
 Management** 850-413-9900

**Hurricane Information Desk  
 (City of Tampa)** 813-232-6861

**Hurricane Information Pre/Post  
 Non-Emergency** 813-272-5900

**State of Florida Hurricane  
 Help Line** 800-227-8676

**National Flood Insurance  
 Program** 888-356-6329

**Poison Control Hotline** 800-222-1222

**Tampa Electric Company** 223-0800  
 to report a power outage call 877-588-1010

**Tree Emergency** 813-931-2168

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**[tampabay.com](http://tampabay.com)**

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