Introduction

Life is full of unpredictable events that can destroy life and property. These events can be natural or man-made. We do not know when an emergency or disaster will occur, but we can all prepare for them.

Emergency preparedness begins with each individual. It is important that you **prepare now and have a plan** that could help keep your family safe during an emergency. This guide focuses on preparedness for all hazards, the information is useful for all kinds of emergencies such as thunderstorms, ice storms, nor’easters, hurricanes, hazardous materials and tornadoes.

You will find useful information in this brochure such as emergency planning, organizing an emergency supply kit, shelter information, evacuation routes, and returning home safely after a storm.

Remember, each family is different and so your emergency plan and kit will need to be individualized. Take into consideration the special needs of infants & young children, seniors, family members with disabilities or illness, and family pets.

It is important to involve the entire family when creating your family emergency plan & supply kit.

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**County Fire and Rescue Departments**

**Acomack County**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>New Church VF&amp;R</td>
<td>757-824-9742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Greenbackville VFD</td>
<td>757-824-5251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Chincoteague VFC</td>
<td>757-336-3138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Atlantic VF&amp;R</td>
<td>757-824-4844</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Saxis VFC</td>
<td>757-854-1545</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bloxom VFC</td>
<td>757-665-4651</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Parksley VFC</td>
<td>757-665-6977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tasley VFC</td>
<td>757-787-7870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Onancock VFD</td>
<td>757-787-7778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Melfa VF&amp;R</td>
<td>757-787-4511</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Wachapreague VFC</td>
<td>757-787-7818</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Painter VFC</td>
<td>757-442-9070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Oak Hall Rescue</td>
<td>757-824-3370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Tangier VFC</td>
<td>757-891-2347</td>
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**Northampton County**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Community VFC</td>
<td>757-422-7813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Cheriton VFC</td>
<td>757-331-1555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Cape Charles VFC</td>
<td>757-331-2826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Northampton F&amp;R</td>
<td>757-442-9365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Eastville VFC</td>
<td>757-678-7503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Cape Charles RS</td>
<td>757-331-2392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCEMS</td>
<td>Machipongo</td>
<td>757-678-0411</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Volunteer opportunities are available. Please contact stations directly**
Your Family Plan

Out of Area Contact Person: __________________________
Telephone Number: __________________________
If separated, meeting place: __________________________
Emergency kit is located: __________________________

Important Numbers to Have Available:

Life Threatening Emergencies   911

Accomack County EOC        757-787-0900/757-824-0900
Northampton County EOC        757-678-0442
Chincoteague EOC        757-336-6519/757-336-0911
Accomack Sheriff's Office  757-787-1131/757-824-5666
Northampton Sheriff's Office  757-678-0490/757-678-0458

Poison Control            1-800-222-1222

What is a Hurricane?

Hurricanes are large cyclonic storms which usually develop over warm waters near the equator during the summer and fall. Hurricanes are storms having sustained winds of 74 mph or greater. Hurricane season is officially June 1 - November 30, however, the peak threat for the United States is August through late October. With each storm, there is also the threat of wind damage as well as storm surges, floods, rip currents and tornadoes. The front right area of the storm path is typically where the most damage occurs.

Hurricanes are rated using the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Wind Speed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>74-95 mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>96-110 mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>111-129 mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>130-156 mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>157+ mph</td>
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</table>

For more information visit: [http://www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov)

Storm surge and storm tide can cause tremendous damage. Storm surge is a huge amount of water often 50 to 100 miles wide that comes across the coastline where the hurricane makes landfall. Storm surge is affected by the depth of the offshore water. During a hurricane, the shallower the water, the higher the storm surge. Storm tide is the combination of normal tide with storm surge. For example, if the hurricane makes landfall during a normal 2’ high tide and there is an anticipated storm surge of 15’, there will be a total storm tide of 17’. This huge amount of water, compounded with high winds and subsequently larger waves is devastating to the coastline and can cause a huge amount of damage to life and property.

Rip Currents are powerful, channeled currents of water flowing away from shore, extend from the shoreline, through the surf zone and past the line of breaking waves.

For more information, visit [http://www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov](http://www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov)

Tornadoes can form during a hurricane. They can also form for days after the hurricane has made landfall.

Floods are a tremendous risk in Accomack County during hurricanes. In addition to storm surge and tides, inland flooding is a certain risk factor compounded by heavy rainfall.

For more information visit [http://www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)
When a tropical storm is approaching, advisories will be issued.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advisory</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tropical Storm Watch</td>
<td>Wind speeds of 39-73 mph are possible within 48 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tropical Storm Warning</td>
<td>Wind speeds of 39-73 mph are expected within 36 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hurricane Watch</td>
<td>Wind speeds of 74+ mph are possible within 48 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hurricane Warning</td>
<td>Wind speeds of 74+ mph are expected within 36 hrs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Be Prepared**

Along with hurricanes, Virginians experience winter storms, thunderstorms, toxic spills, earthquakes, tornadoes, terrorism, flooding and fires. Look around where you live. Do you live near a highway where a hazardous material spill could occur? Are you in a flood-prone area? Ask yourself what emergencies or disasters could occur in your area.

**When Disaster Strikes**

- There can be significant damage and loss of life.
- Health and mental health resources can be overwhelmed.
- Media coverage and public fear can continue for a prolonged period.
- Public facilities, workplaces and schools might close. Officials might restrict travel.
- You might have to evacuate to a designated location or remain where you are for an extended period of time.
- Cleanup might take months.
- Water, food and/or medicine might be contaminated.

**Prepare for What Might Happen**

- Discuss with your family, friends and neighbors the types of disasters and emergencies that are most likely to happen and what to do in each case. Know the vulnerability of your home with regards to storm surge, flooding and wind damage. Take a first aid, CPR or other class so that you have the knowledge to help yourself and others if needed. Ask about the Eastern Shore CERT team. If you do not own a vehicle or drive, plan in advance who could assist you in case you should have to evacuate.
- After a disaster, it’s often easier to call long distance than to get a local call to connect. Ask an out-of-town friend or relative to be your family emergency contact. All family members should call this person in an emergency to check in.
- Have an emergency plan for your pets. Pets are not allowed in public shelters. Talk to your veterinarian or local humane society in advance about an emergency plan for your pets. Or, plan to shelter your pet with family, friends or in a pet-friendly motel with you. If you do have to leave your pet at home, post stickers or signs on doors that are clearly visible from the outside. Specify what types, and the number of animals that are on the property.
- Determine your route and final destination should you need to evacuate.

**Family Disaster Plan**

Whether you need to evacuate or decide to stay in your home to ride out a storm, you must get your family together to develop a **Family Disaster Plan**. There simply won't be time to think of everything when a storm gets close.

**Step 1: Respect Nature**

Weather events, such as hurricanes, are powerful and dangerous. Having a healthy respect for hurricanes, tornadoes, winter storms and severe weather in general is the first step to being prepared.

**Step 2: Decide Whether to Go or Stay**

You must first decide if you will evacuate your home or stay and ride out the storm.

**If you are going to evacuate:**
- Where will you go?
- Will you be using a local shelter?
- Where is the shelter located?
- What route will you drive to get there?
- How long will it take to pick up everyone?
- What will you need to bring with you? (Think 3-day Survival Kit)
- How will you care for your pets?

**If you are going to stay:**
- Do you have shutters for all windows and openings?
- How long will it take to put up shutters or boards?
- Is rising water an issue in your home?
- How will you cope with any family members with special medical needs?
- What special supplies and food will you need to have on hand?
- Do you need to have any special equipment available for after the storm?
- Do you have a safe, waterproof place for important documents?

**Step 3: Prepare Your Property in Advance**

The time to begin acquiring shutters and protection for your home is now. Identify loose items located outside such as lawn furniture, grills, toys, yard equipment, etc. that should be brought inside before a storm.

**Step 4: Compile a Disaster Supply List**

**Step 5: Rehearse Your Plan**

The best plan in the world won't do you or your family much good if no one can remember it.

**Step 6: Watch Weather Reports Closely**

Storms and weather fronts, especially tornados and hurricanes, can move very quickly. As a hurricane or other storm moves closer to your area, begin monitoring the weather reports every hour.

**Step 7: Take Action**

Good judgment and early action are everyone’s responsibility.
**POD: Points of Distribution**

Points of Distribution (POD) are at strategic locations that will be established throughout the County approximately 96 hours after a MAJOR disaster. These locations will supply necessary commodities to impacted County residents. Items such as water and Meals Ready to Eat (MRE) will be available. Opening times and locations of these POD sites will be announced on local radio stations.

- Homeowner’s insurance typically does not cover flood damage. During a hurricane, virtually the entire Eastern Shore can be susceptible to some level of flooding. Review you insurance coverage with your agent.
- Make a visual or written record of your possessions to help you claim losses in the event of damage. Include photographs of cars, boats and recreational vehicles and items within the home. Get professional appraisals of jewelry, collectibles, artwork or other items that might be difficult to evaluate. Also, photograph the exterior of your home. Include the landscaping that might not be insurable but does increase the value of your property for tax purposes. Make copies of receipts and canceled checks for valuable items. Keep these and other vital records, such as your insurance policies and birth certificates, in one location in a waterproof container or in a safety deposit box. These documents will help you claim assistance.

For more information visit:
- [https://www.ready.gov/](https://www.ready.gov/)
- [http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/)

**Make an Emergency Supply Kit**

At a minimum, your kit needs to contain:
- Water: at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 7 days
- Food: at least enough for 3 to 7 days—nonperishable items, canned food & juices, high energy snack foods, non-electric can opener, cooking utensils (pots and pans), paper plates and plastic utensils
- Special need items for infants and the elderly
- Personal Hygiene items
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Battery operated radio and NOAA weather radio
- A corded phone
- A basic tool set
- Cash (Banks and/or ATM’s may not be open)
- All vehicles full of fuel
- Important documents, including your pet’s information

If you need to evacuate, add the following items to your emergency kit:
- Keys (extra set to home and vehicles)
- Toys, books, and games to keep busy
- Bedding, blankets, and pillows
- Clothing, including rain gear, boots, etc.
**Pet Safety Plan**

Public shelters and many hotels do not accept pets; therefore, it is very important that you prepare for your pet’s safety during an emergency.

Call a boarding facility, your veterinarian, out-of-area relatives and friends to make arrangements for your pet prior to any event.

Make sure your pet is wearing proper identification.

Assemble a pet kit with medical records including immunizations, information on feeding and medication schedules, current photo, food bowls & food for several days, medication, leash, pet carrier, cat litter & litter box, and pet toys, favorite blankets and such to reduce stress.

After the storm, re-orient your pet to your home and property. Sometimes pets can be confused or upset especially if there has been damage to your home or property.

If your pet is lost, you can contact the following agencies:

- Accomack County Animal Control 757-787-7091
- Northampton County Animal Control 757-678-0458
- SPCA Eastern Shore 757-787-7385

**Special Care for Seniors & People with Special Needs**

The threat of a hurricane can be very disturbing to seniors. This generation is more prone to cardiac difficulties and worrying about an oncoming hurricane can bring undue stress and health problems. Being prepared ahead of time will help alleviate some of the extra stress.

It is very important that you arrange with your home health service provider to deliver extra supplies for any special needs such as oxygen concentrators, electronic medical equipment and special food.

If the need for evacuation exists, please make sure you have the necessary medications in your possession. It is recommended that you have a two-week supply. It would also be a good idea if you had a spare set of eye glasses and hearing aid batteries (if applicable). If you do not drive, pre-arrange for a ride to the shelter with a nearby neighbor or relative.

There are several programs for seniors on the Eastern Shore. Check with your local organization to see if they will arrange for transportation.

**Eastern Shore CERT**

The Eastern Shore Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program prepares citizens and communities to take a more active role in emergency preparedness. CERT participants are trained and maintained as part of a neighborhood or workplace response team. CERT training can give you the basic skills needed immediately following a major disaster, when emergency services may not be available and when residents may have to rely on each other for life-saving and life-sustaining needs.

Citizens will learn how to provide help for their family and neighbors in emergency situations -- whether caused by terrorism, technological disasters or severe weather. Participants will learn about disaster preparedness and response, basic fire safety, first aid, search and rescue techniques, disaster psychology, and terrorism preparedness.

For course information call:

Jennifer J. Justis, Eastern Shore CERT Coordinator
(757)302-4267

For more information visit:

To Sign up for Emergency messages on the Shore use the following links:

Accomack County - Code Red
http://www.co.accomack.va.us/departments/public-safety

Town of Chincoteague - Code Red
http://chincoteague-vw.gov/

Northampton County - Everbridge
https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736722302#login
Enroll in a CERT class and learn all this & more!

Prevent further calamity in your community!
Learn how to locate & shut off utilities.
Effectively use fire extinguishers—
know the different types and
how best to fight different
fire types.

Know how to perform triage for disaster victims
and best assist emergency service personnel
when they arrive.

Prepareness is everyone’s responsibility!
Learn how to protect your family and neighborhood
by training to be a CERT Member.
This program is free to all Accomack and Northampton
County residents.
For information on classes
Call J.J. Justis at 757-302-4267

Boat Safety

Boating is a huge part of life for residents of the Eastern Shore whether it be occupational or recreational. Boats are especially vulnerable to damage during a hurricane. It is important to secure your boat when there has been a hurricane warning advisory issued.

For boats stored on land:

- Remove & store outboard motors, batteries, fuel containers, electronic equipment and any loose items.
- Tie down the boat and trailer. Deflate trailer tires.
- Small boats may be filled with water to add weight.
- If possible, store your boat in a garage.

For boats that are overboard:
* Some marinas require that you remove your boat before a storm strikes. Have a plan already in place if this is applicable to your boat. *

- Double check all ropes, cleats, chocks and winches for strength. Double the rigging lines fore and aft.
- Make sure the lines are high enough on the pilings to allow for extreme ebb and flow of the water during storm surge.
- Cover any rope that may rub the boat with old inner tubes or garden hoses. This will protect the boat and rigging lines.
- Tie old tires around the boat to protect it from being bounced into the dock, pilings or nearby boats.
- Make sure batteries for bilge pumps are fresh.
- Remove or secure any loose items.

For more information on boat preparedness visit
http://www.boatus.com/hurricanes
Shelter Information

Accomack County has six shelters. Shelters will be open on an “as needed” basis. Shelter openings will be announced on local radio stations. You cannot enter a shelter until it is open.

Shelter Locations:

**Accomack County**
- Arcadia Middle & High Schools
  Lankford Highway, Oak Hall
- Nandua Middle & High Schools
  Lankford Highway, Onley
- Accawmacke Elementary School
  Drummondtown Rd., Accomac
- Metompkin Elementary School
  Parksley Rd., Parksley

**Northampton County**
- Northampton High School
  16041 Courthouse Rd., Eastville
- Occohannock Elementary School
  4208 Seaside Rd, Exmore
- Kiptopeake Elementary School
  24023 Fairview Rd., Cape Charles

Shelter Guidelines

- Everyone must have a picture identification and sign in upon arrival to the shelter.
- Please bring bedding items, personal hygiene items, nonperishable food, manual can opener, bottled water, special needs food if applicable, baby items, change of clothing, quiet items such as reading materials and games, and medications. You should be self sustaining for three days.
- No cooking utensils are allowed.
- You will be responsible for your personal items. The shelter is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- Parents are responsible for controlling the actions of their children. Children are not to be left unattended.
- If you have a medical condition and/or take prescription medication, please notify the shelter at the time of registration.
- No pets are allowed in the shelter.
- Noise levels should be kept to a minimum at all times. Everyone needs to be courteous to others.
  - No smoking (inside), no drugs or alcohol, and no weapons of any kind are allowed in the shelter.
  - If these guidelines are not followed, you may be asked to leave the shelter.

Flood Insurance Program

Many homeowners do not find out until it is too late that their homeowner’s insurance policies do not cover flooding. National Flood Insurance protects your most valuable assets – your home and your belongings. Even if you live in an area that is not flood prone, it is advisable to have Flood Insurance because between 20 and 25 percent of Flood Insurance claims come from outside high flood risk areas.

**Flood Insurance** covers the overflow of inland or tidal waters (including storm surge from tropical storms and hurricanes), the unusual and rapid accumulation of runoff or surface water from any source.

Remember, flooding is the most common and widespread of all natural disasters with the exception of fires. Few people question the necessity of having insurance that protects their property from loss caused by a fire. The same consideration should be given to flood insurance, especially by residents in an area with the geographical characteristics of the Eastern Shore.

For more information on these topics go to [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)
**Generator Safety**

Generators, if not properly installed, can cause harm to electrical power restoration crews, emergency personnel and the general public.

It is critical that your generator be totally connected within the electrical system of your home. This means that it has to be completely isolated from your power service provider’s transmission & distribution system. If not, your electricity could travel through your service panel and energize wires from the street. Improperly installed generators can cause life-threatening situations for the power crews.

It is also very important that your generator operate **OUTSIDE** your home to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.

If you plan to install a standby generator, have a licensed electrician install it and have it inspected. You must use proper devices to isolate your wiring from your service provider. Double check your generator to see what it is energizing. If you accidentally energize your service provider’s equipment, disconnect the generator and notify them immediately.

Also, know the rated voltage of the appliances and how much electrical load your generator can carry. Never exceed the maximum load. If you experience an outage or need to report damaged or downed lines you can call the following:

A & N Electric Cooperative (ANEC) 757-787-9750 or 800-431-2632

- **For more information visit:** [www.anec.com](http://www.anec.com) or [http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/power-outage/safe-generator-use](http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/power-outage/safe-generator-use)

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**Heading Back Home After A Storm**

Returning home after a storm can be very stressful. You may have to “rough it” for a few days or even a few weeks. It may take time for businesses and local government to return to full service. Debris and fallen trees will need to be removed. There may be downed electrical and phone lines that must be repaired.

A few things to keep in mind:
- Make sure your emergency supply kit is well stocked before the storm.
- Keep your radio tuned to local channels for up-to-date information.
- Report any major damage to the Accomack County EOC.
- Take photos or video before you start your clean-up.
- Only drive when necessary.
- Stay clear of downed electrical lines. They could still be energized.
- Check all propane gas lines.
- Open doors and windows to ventilate any areas that may have had flood damage.

**Tune In for More Information**

Before, possibly during, and after a hurricane threatens the Shore. Emergency Management personnel will be releasing official press releases to the public via local media. These releases will only be updated as conditions warrant - not on a scheduled time basis.

Our local media does a wonderful job of disseminating this information. It is important that you have access to this information. Always have a battery or solar powered radio with extra batteries in the event we lose electricity.

A NOAA weather radio is also a valuable resource. With these inexpensive home receivers, you can receive emergency weather alerts even in the middle of the night when your television and entertainment radios are turned off. The information broadcast comes from the National Weather Service in Wakefield.

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) also provides crucial information to the public regarding severe weather events, as well as national security threats and Amber Alerts regarding missing children.

- **WESR Radio Station** 103.3
- **WVES Radio Station** 99.3
- **WCTG Radio Station** 96.5
- **WAVY TV, Norfolk** Channel 10
- **WBOC TV, Salisbury** Channel 16

For NOAA weather station information visit: [http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/coverage/station_listing.html](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/coverage/station_listing.html)
Eastern Shore Hazardous Materials Response Team reminds you to **strap down** your above ground fuel tanks **BEFORE** storm season!

**Remember the following when dealing with household chemicals everyday:**

**L** - Limit the number of chemicals in your home
**I** - Isolate the chemicals in a secure area of your home or garage inaccessible by children
**E** - Eliminate the chemicals you don’t need
**S** - Separate chemicals that may react with each other

Always read labels for important information about emergency medical care and proper disposal!

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On the bottom on this page is a survey for people that may have special needs during an emergency. If you fit this description, please complete the survey and mail it back to the address listed below. Please fill this form out for any family members that cannot do so for themselves.

This data will only be used for planning purposes. This information will remain confidential and will not be used outside of the scope of Emergency Management.

**Accomack Dept. of Public Safety**  
PO Box 426  
Parksley, VA 23421

**Northampton Dept. of Emergency Services**  
PO Box 235  
Eastville, VA 23347

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Name: ___________________________ Telephone Number: ___________________

911 Street Address: ____________________ Town: ___________________

Mailing Address: ____________________ Town: ________________ Zip: __________

Emergency Contact Name: __________________________ Relationship: __________

Emergency Contact Telephone Number: ________________________________

Do you have a family that cares for you at home or another caregiver? Yes/No

Are you on home oxygen? Yes/No  Do you require a wheelchair? Yes/No

Do you require a stretcher & ambulance to be transported to an emergency facility? Yes/No

Do you have transportation to get to a shelter? Yes/No

Are you a home health patient? Yes/No  Which agency? __________________________

Are you a Hospice patient? Yes/No

What other special needs do you have? (deaf, blind, IV medications, insulin for diabetes, etc.)
The Emergency Declaration Process

**County State of Emergency** means the condition declared by the local governing body when in its judgment the threat or actual occurrence of an emergency or disaster is or threatens to be of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant coordinated local government action to prevent or alleviate the damage, loss, hardship or suffering threatened or caused thereby.

**Virginia State Declaration of Emergency** means the condition declared by the Governor when in his judgment, the threat or actual occurrence of an emergency or a disaster in any part of the Commonwealth is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant disaster assistance by the Commonwealth to supplement the efforts and available resources of the several localities, and relief organizations in preventing or alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering threatened or caused thereby and is so declared by him.

**The Governor's Request for Assistance.** This request, by law, must state that the Governor has taken appropriate action and directed execution of the State EOP. The Governor must certify that the incident is of such severity and magnitude that State and local resources are inadequate. It must also include a damage estimate, describe the State and local resources committed to response and recovery, describe the assistance being requested, and agree to cost-share.

**A Joint FEMA/State Preliminary Damage Assessment.** FEMA and State representatives complete a PDA. This step involves an inspection of the area to document the impact of the event and to make an initial estimate of the dollar amount of the damage. This assessment establishes a foundation for any request for assistance the Governor may decide to make and provides estimates on the types of disaster assistance needed. The assessment also provides background for FEMA’s analysis of the request and supplies information that will be helpful to those who will manage the recovery operation.

**FEMA's Recommendation to the President** The Governor's request is addressed to the President through the FEMA Regional Director. The Regional Office transmits the request to FEMA Headquarters along with an analysis and recommendation. FEMA Headquarters reviews the request to ensure it meets all the requirements of the Stafford Act. FEMA's Director then recommends a course of action to the President, and the request is hand-carried to the White House.

**Presidential Declaration** After a White House review, the President decides whether or not to declare that a major disaster exists. In the event the declaration is issued, assistance is made available under the Stafford Act. The FEMA Director designates an Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) to oversee the disaster operations. The two main types of Assistance are Public Assistance and Individual Assistance. See [www.FEMA.gov](http://www.FEMA.gov) for more information on these programs and services.

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Evacuation

An evacuation order is an ordered issued by the local government advising everyone in a particular area to evacuate. There are several levels of evacuation:

**Partial Evacuation**
- All islands (not just barrier islands)
- Waterfront properties including creeks and canals
- All low lying areas adjacent to marshes and wetlands
- Flood prone areas including rainfall flooding prone areas
- Mobile & manufactured type homes or substandard housing
- Zones as identified.

**Full Evacuation**
- Entire County

**Voluntary Evacuation**
- Local government officials strongly recommend that citizens located in specified evacuation zones relocate to a safer location.

**Mandatory Evacuation**
- Local government officials order citizens in specified evacuation zones to relocate to a safer location. This evacuation order would apply to the general public. Essential personnel, i.e. public safety officials, disaster response personnel, etc. are exceptions but would be expected to eventually seek adequate shelter before the onset of the storm. Citizens that refuse to evacuate will not be arrested nor removed forcibly from their homes. However, emergency personnel will not be answering emergency calls when winds are 50+ mph and citizens should not expect assistance if they have refused evacuation.

Located in the center of this booklet are Evacuation Zone maps. Each zone area is color coded. Please become familiar with what evacuation zone you are located in. Evacuation orders will refer to specific areas by name and also by zone letter.
Emergency Preparedness Planning
Camper Safety Tips

If you do get caught in bad weather, remain calm and follow instructions from officials.

Account for all family members and make sure to let campground staff know that everyone is safe and accounted for.

Plan ahead of time an alternative destination should you be required to leave the area.

Make sure to contact someone out of the area to let them know that you are safe and on the way.

Enjoy your stay! Have a fun and relaxing time.

We hope to see you again soon.
Events that may affect you with little or no warning:

**Fires**—Should you experience a fire in your RV, campsite or in the park make sure everyone knows where to meet outside the danger area. If in your RV make sure everyone leaves and does not go back in.

**Flood**—Know your location as it relates to nearby creeks and bays. Plan several ways to leave if the water begins to rise. Use marked routes to leave the area. Never drive through flooded roadways. Do not go back into the area until authorized by officials.

**Tornadoes**—If foul weather starts into the area seek shelter until the storm passes. Pay attention to weather reports on weather radio, television or other electronic devices.
Know Your Accomack Evacuation Zone

Local officials may order evacuation of these areas. If you live in an area ordered to evacuate or in a mobile or manufactured home, leave immediately. Failure to obey evacuation orders may result in loss of life. Emergency services personnel will not respond when wind speeds are in excess of 50 mph and transportation routes are flooded.

Please do not dial 911 for hurricane information. This is exclusively designed for life threatening emergencies.