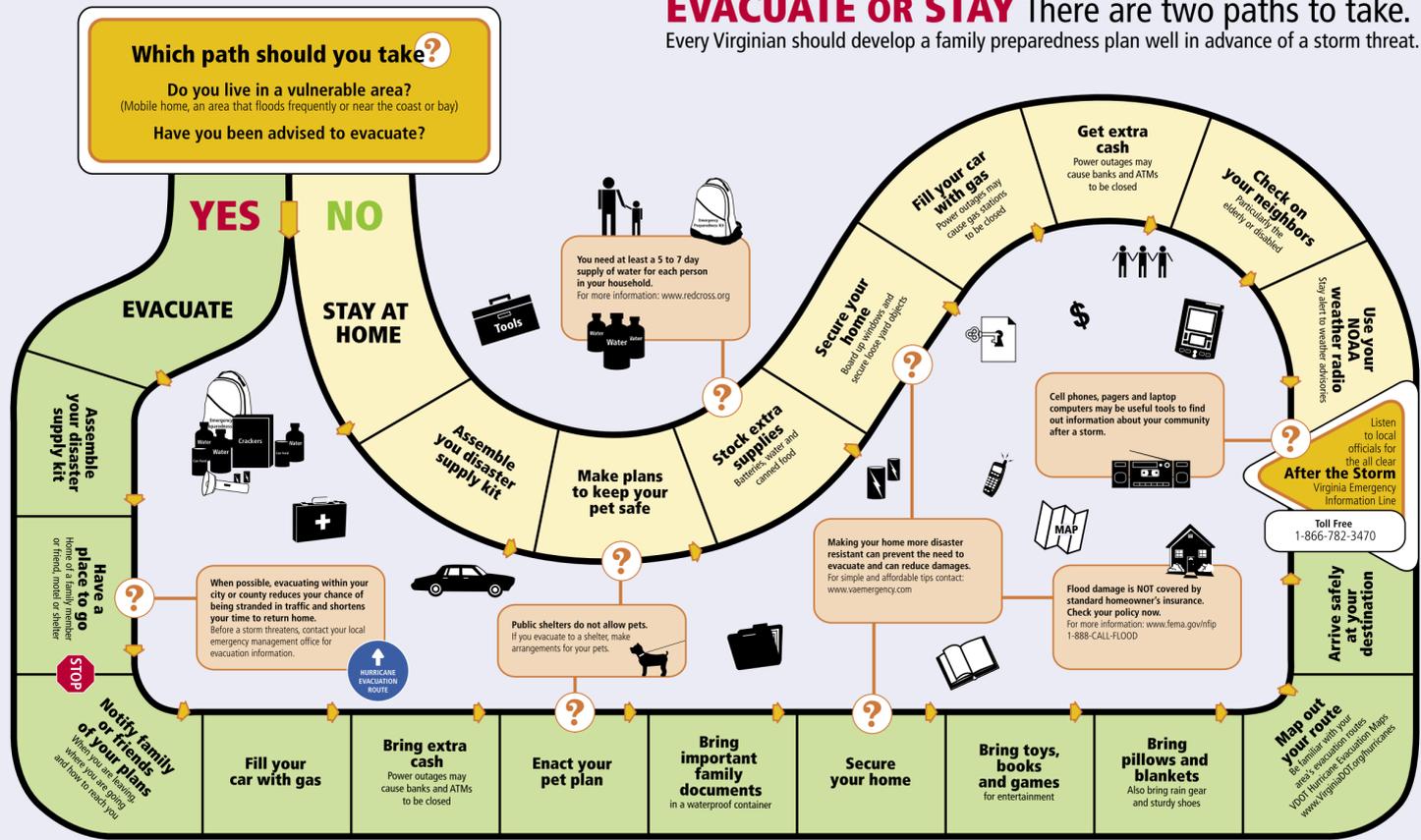


EVACUATE OR STAY

There are two paths to take. Every Virginian should develop a family preparedness plan well in advance of a storm threat.



What is a hurricane?

A hurricane is a tropical cyclone that forms in the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, Gulf of Mexico or Eastern Pacific Ocean, with heavy rains and sustained winds of 74 mph or greater. A hurricane begins its life cycle as a tropical wave and develops in stages from tropical depression to tropical storm before reaching hurricane force. Hurricanes form from a combination of warm ocean water and light winds. If the right conditions last long enough, a hurricane can produce violent winds, incredible storm surges, torrential rains and flooding. A hurricane's thunderstorm bands can produce heavy rains and sometimes generate tornadoes on the coast and inland.

Hurricanes rotate in a counterclockwise direction around a center called an eye. When hurricanes move inland, the heavy rain, strong winds, large waves and storm surge can damage buildings, trees and cars. Storm surge is a very dangerous abnormal rise in the tidal water level and a major reason why you must stay away from low-lying tidal areas during a tropical storm or hurricane. The strongest hurricanes can cause water levels to rise 18 feet or more above normal high tide. This combination of high water and strong seas can be fatal. Storm surge and inland flooding from excessive rainfall can cause significant damage and result in a number of deaths during a hurricane. Citizens can stay safe from storm surges and inland flooding by evacuating early and staying far away from tidal and river areas.

Hurricanes are classified according to their wind speed:

- Tropical Depression:** Winds 38 mph or less
An organized area of low pressure with sustained winds 38 mph or less.
- Tropical Storm:** Winds 39-73 mph
A larger, more organized area of low pressure with sustained winds of 39 – 73 mph. While a tropical storm does not usually produce a high storm surge, its thunderstorms can still be very dangerous for residential communities and mobile homes.
- Category 1 hurricane:** Winds 74-95 mph
Storm surge can reach four to five feet above normal high tide, causing some coastal flooding; minimal damage to buildings, primarily to unanchored mobile homes and minor pier damage.
- Category 2 hurricane:** Winds 96-110 mph
Storm surge can reach six to eight feet above normal high tide, causing considerable damage to trees and moderate structural damage to windows, roofing, doors, mobile homes and piers.
- Category 3 hurricane:** Winds 111-130 mph
Storm surge can reach nine to 12 feet above normal high tide; extensive structural damage caused by large fallen trees; mobile homes are destroyed; flooding near the coast and inland destroys structures.
- Category 4 hurricane:** Winds 131-155 mph
Storm surge can reach 13 to 18 feet above normal high tide, causing extreme damage; major flood damage near the shore and inland.
- Category 5 hurricane:** Winds greater than 155 mph
Storm surge can reach more than 18 feet above normal high tide; catastrophic damage to buildings, roofing, trees and signs; major flood damage to all structures along the shoreline; massive evacuation of coastal residential areas.

Watch and Warning – know the difference.

HURRICANE WATCH - The National Hurricane Center issues a Hurricane Watch to alert specific regions when hurricane conditions are forecast for the area within the next 36 hours. This watch should trigger your family's disaster plan and you should begin protecting your home and property from the storm. Monitor weather reports via television or radio to stay informed.

HURRICANE WARNING - The National Hurricane Center issues a Hurricane Warning when sustained winds of 74 mph or greater are forecast for the area within the next 24 hours. All precautions must be taken immediately; your family should already be in the process of securing property and relocating to a safe place to wait out the storm. Monitor weather reports via television or radio to stay informed.

For more information

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
www.virginiaDOT.org/hurricanes

Virginia Road Conditions:
Dial 511
1-800-578-4111
1-800-367-ROAD



Hampton Roads Tunnel Info Hotline:
757-640-0055

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
www.fema.gov

FEMA Hurricane Hazards Fact Sheet
www.fema.gov/hazards/hurricanes/hurricaf.shtm

FEMA Kids Page
www.fema.gov/kids

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)
www.vaemergency.com

VDEM Virginia Emergency Info
TOLL FREE LINE:
1-866-782-3470

Hampton Roads Emergency Management Committee (HREMC)
Local Emergency Information
www.hremc.org

American Red Cross (ARC)
www.redcross.org

Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)
Tips for preparing your animals for an emergency:
www.hsus.org

FEMA National Flood Insurance Program
1-800-427-4661
www.fema.gov/fima/nfip.shtm

If you decide to stay

If you have not been told to evacuate you should stay at home and listen to your local emergency officials for further instructions.

Family Preparedness Tips For Staying at Home During a Hurricane:

- Stay alert to storm advisories
WATCH AND WARNING - know the difference!
- Follow your family disaster plan
- Make sure your NOAA Weather Radio is working properly and has fresh batteries
- Keep a Disaster Supply Kit ready
See the paper bag to the right
 - Have enough food and water for at least five days
 - Protect your valuable documents
 - Get cash
 - Fill your car with gasoline
 - Do not use candles or open flames as a light source
- Prepare your home for bad weather
Board up windows and glass doors, anchor loose yard objects or bring them inside
- Have a pet plan and follow it
Before the storm threatens, contact your veterinarian or local humane society for information on preparing your pet for an emergency
- Work with your neighbors
Check on the elderly or those with special needs.
- As the storm hits, gather your family in a safe room
An interior room with no windows
- Watch out for downed power lines
- Listen to your local emergency officials

DISASTER SUPPLY LIST

Below is a shopping list of items that should be obtained in advance of a storm threat. Should you need to evacuate, it is a good idea to have a backpack and/or nylon "draw string" type camper's laundry bag, at least 12" in diameter and 24" long for each person to place their supply items.

- WATER** - At least 1 gallon daily per person for 5-7 days
- FOOD**
 - At least enough for 5-7 days
 - Non-perishable packaged or canned food/juices
 - Food for infants or the elderly
 - Snack foods
 - Manual can-opener
 - Cooking tools/fuel
 - Paper plates/plastic utensils
- CLOTHING** - Seasonal/rain gear/sturdy shoes
- BLANKETS/PILLOWS, ETC.**
- SPECIAL ITEMS** - For babies and elderly
- TOILETRIES** - Hygiene items
- MOISTURE WIPES**
- FLASHLIGHT/BATTERIES**
- RADIO** - Battery-operated, NOAA Weather Radio
- CASH**
- KEYS** - Extra set of home and car keys
- IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS in a waterproof container**
Insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc. - Document all valuables
- TOYS/BOOKS/ENTERTAINMENT**
- TOOLS** - Keep a set with you during the storm
- VEHICLE FUEL TANKS FILLED WITH GAS**
- PET CARE ITEMS**
 - Proper identification/immunization records
 - Supply of food/water
 - A carrier or cage
 - Medications
 - Muzzle and leash

If you decide to evacuate

You need to evacuate during a hurricane if you live in a mobile home, a flood-prone area, near the coast or bay, or if you have been told to evacuate.

Family Preparedness Tips For Evacuating During a Hurricane:

- Stay alert to storm advisories
Don't get stranded - evacuate early
- Follow your family disaster plan
- Map out your route
Use evacuation routes specified for your area. Don't get on the road without a place to go
- Fill your car with gasoline
- Get cash
After a hurricane, banks and ATMs might be temporarily closed
- Have a pet plan and follow it
Before a storm threatens, contact your veterinarian or local humane society for information on preparing your pet for an emergency. Shelters don't allow pets, so plan accordingly
- Bring your disaster supply kit
See the paper bag to the left
- Secure your home before leaving
Board up windows and glass doors, anchor loose yard objects or bring them inside and lock your doors
- Notify family and friends of your plans and how to contact you
- When evacuating:
If possible, evacuate to the home of family or friends living in a safe area. Next, try a motel or hotel, and as a last resort, go to a shelter. Remember, shelters are not designed for comfort and do not accept pets
- Those who need special assistance in evacuating should contact their local emergency management office for help with developing their evacuation plans



What can 511 do for you?

- Emergency Information
- Hotel Information
- Traffic Information
- Tunnel and Bridge Information
- Weather Information

Answers to your Evacuation Questions can be found on:
www.VirginiaDOT.org/hurricanes

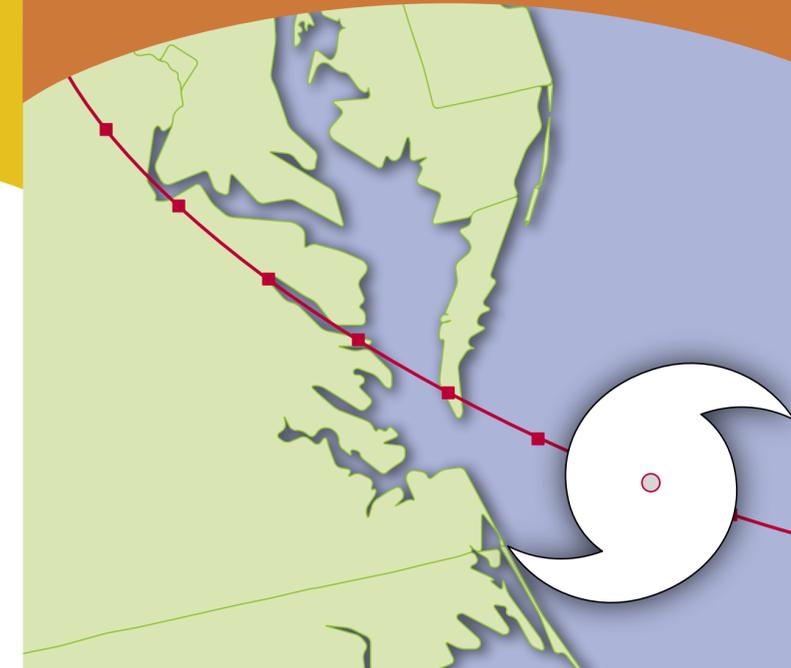
Your Emergency Contact Numbers:

Local contact information:

If this area is blank, check the Government Pages of your phone book for your local emergency management office.

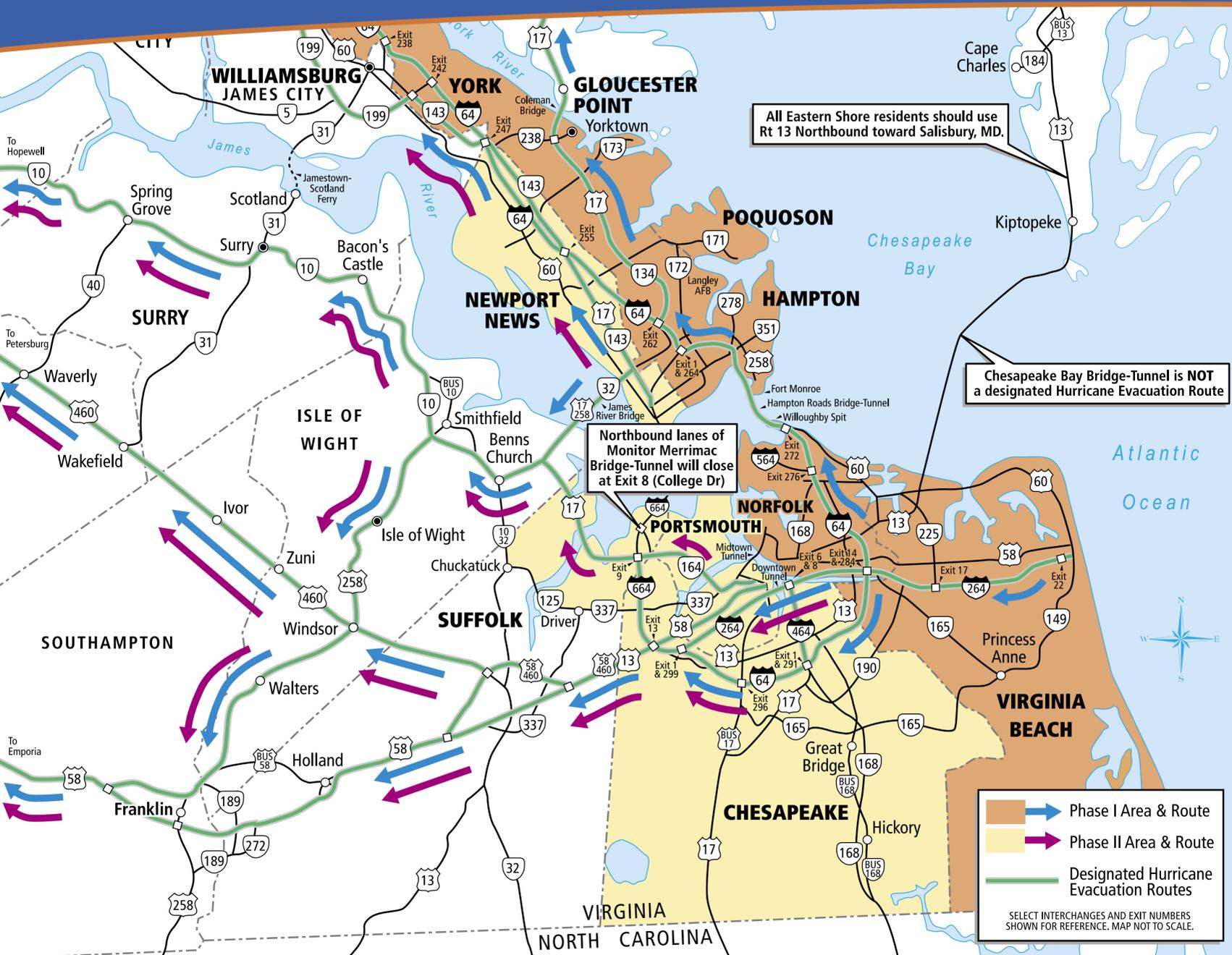
VIRGINIA HURRICANE GUIDE

HAMPTON ROADS REGION



VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation





Phase 1

Motorists should expect some entrance ramps to be closed to smooth traffic flow onto the interstates and prevent bottlenecks. You should follow the hurricane evacuation signs in place to lead you away from the area. During an evacuation, the Monitor Merrimac Memorial Bridge Tunnel's northbound tube, connecting Suffolk to Newport News, will be closed to all traffic to prevent traffic jams at the I-664/64 interchange. All I-664 traffic headed north toward the MMMBT will be detoured onto College Drive at exit 8 and directed to use Route 17 to evacuate the area. The MMMBT northbound/I-664 North is not designated as an evacuation route for the area.

PHASE ONE: 24 to 14 hours prior to the onset of tropical storm force winds. When instructed, populations are encouraged to evacuate as follows:

VIRGINIA BEACH:

- Individuals residing north of I-264 are encouraged to use I-64 West toward Richmond.
- Individuals residing south of I-264 are encouraged to use I-64 East or I-264 West toward Suffolk.

NORFOLK:

- Individuals residing east of I-64 are encouraged to use I-64 West toward Richmond.
- Individuals residing west of I-64 are encouraged to use I-64 East and I-264 West toward Suffolk.
- There is no access to I-64 from Chesapeake Blvd.

HAMPTON:

- Individuals residing east of King Street (Rte. 278) and north of Pembroke Ave. (Rte. 351) are encouraged to use I-64 West toward Richmond (there is access to I-64 West from LaSalle Ave., I-664 and Mercury Blvd.).
- There is no access to I-64 West at Mallory St. or Settlers Landing Rd.
- Individuals residing east of King St. and south of Pembroke Ave. (including Fort Monroe) will use Mercury Blvd./ Rte. 258 South (James River Bridge) to Rte. 258/32 in Isle of Wight, or Rte. 143 West to Rte. 199 (around Williamsburg) to Rte. 60 West.
- Individuals residing north of Mercury Blvd., will take Magruder Blvd. and use Rte. 17 North (crossing over the Coleman bridge) toward Fredericksburg.
- Langley AFB will evacuate out of its west gate toward Magruder Blvd. South, to I-64 East, and will then use Route 258 South (Mercury Blvd. to James River Bridge) to their evacuation assembly area at the Fort Pickett Army Barracks.

YORK COUNTY AND POQUOSON:

- Residents are encouraged to use Rte. 17 North toward Fredericksburg.
- Residents may also use Rte. 171 (Victory Blvd.) to I-64 West toward Richmond.

MIDDLE PENINSULA:

- Individuals residing on the Middle Peninsula are encouraged to evacuate along Rte. 17 North.

NORTHERN NECK:

- Individuals residing on the Northern Neck are encouraged to evacuate toward Fredericksburg (along Rte. 17).

EASTERN SHORE:

- All residents of Northampton and Accomack counties are encouraged to use Rte. 13 North as an evacuation route.

Phase 2

Motorists should expect some entrance ramps to be closed to smooth traffic flow onto the interstates and prevent bottlenecks. You should follow the hurricane evacuation signs in place to lead you away from the area. During an evacuation, the Monitor Merrimac Memorial Bridge Tunnel's northbound tube, connecting Suffolk to Newport News, will be closed to all traffic to prevent traffic jams at the I-664/64 interchange. All I-664 traffic headed north toward the MMMBT will be detoured onto College Drive at exit 8 and directed to use Route 17 to evacuate the area. The MMMBT northbound/I-664 North is not designated as an evacuation route for the area.

PHASE TWO: 14 hours prior to the onset of tropical storm force winds until evacuation termination. When instructed, populations are encouraged to evacuate as follows:

PORTSMOUTH:

- Individuals residing north of I-264 are encouraged to use Rte. 17 North to Rte. 258/32 South in Isle of Wight County, and Rtes. 337 West and 664 North to Rte. 17 North then to Rte. 10 West toward Smithfield.
- Individuals residing south of I-264 are encouraged to use Rte. 58 (Airline Blvd.) to Rte. 58/460 West toward Suffolk.

CHESAPEAKE:

- All individuals are encouraged to use I-64 East or I-264 West to Rte. 58/460 West toward Suffolk.

SUFFOLK:

- Residents north of Rte. 125 (Kings Highway) are encouraged to use Rte. 17 North, to Rte. 258/ 32 to Rte. 10 West toward Smithfield.

NEWPORT NEWS:

- Residents are encouraged to use Rte. 143 West (Jefferson Ave.) to Rte. 199 (around Williamsburg), to Rte. 60 West or Rte. 258 South across the James River Bridge to Rte. 258/32 in Isle of Wight County.

HAMPTON:

- Individuals residing west of King St. and south of Mercury Blvd. are encouraged to use I-64 West toward Richmond (there is access to I-64 West from LaSalle Ave., I-664 and Mercury Blvd.) or Rte. 17 North (crossing over the Coleman Bridge) toward Fredericksburg.
- There is no access to I-64 West at Mallory St. or Settlers Landing Rd.
- Individuals residing west of Armistead Ave. and north of Mercury Blvd. are encouraged to use Rte. 17 North (crossing over the Coleman Bridge) toward Fredericksburg.



VDOT's bridge and tunnel closure plan

With help from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and local governments, VDOT developed guidelines to safely close area bridges and tunnels during the height of a hurricane. These guidelines allow crews enough time to close and evacuate these structures before they become unsafe for travel.

Crews look at wind speeds, storm surge, rain bands and other conditions at each bridge and tunnel to decide if and when to close it. Please tune to local television and radio broadcasts to hear whether area bridges and tunnels have been closed.

Bridges and tunnels will close only after an evacuation gets motorists off the road and into safe shelters. No road closures should occur during an evacuation.

When might VDOT reverse the direction of traffic?

Cities and counties issue standard evacuations for their areas, drawn in two phases on the map above. **A standard evacuation issued by a city or county does not reverse traffic direction on I-64.** Only the governor can issue a traffic direction reversal.

In the event of a Category 4 or 5 hurricane, the governor might issue a traffic direction reversal of I-64 to evacuate citizens more efficiently. Traffic direction on I-64 will only reverse during the most extreme conditions. The I-64 reversal plan begins on the Norfolk side of the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel (HRBT) and ends at the I-295 Interchange in Richmond.

In the event of traffic direction reversal on I-64:

- I-64 westbound traffic traveling from Norfolk and Virginia Beach will shift onto what are normally the eastbound lanes of I-64 just before the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel in Norfolk, near Willoughby Spit. Motorists will continue traveling on the eastbound lanes until they reach I-295 in Richmond. Note: There will be only two possible exits while traffic is reversed between Norfolk and I-295: exit 234 Williamsburg, Route 199 for gas, food, lodging and hospital; and exit 205 Bottoms Bridge for gas and food.

- No traffic will be allowed to travel east on the interstate during a reversal. All I-64 eastbound lanes and ramps between Norfolk and Richmond will be closed to eastbound traffic, from just east of the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel to I-295 in Richmond.

- If motorists exit the reversed I-64 lanes at one of the two exit locations, they can use a standard I-64 westbound ramp to return to I-64 traveling westbound. On the Peninsula, there are no entrance ramps leading to the reversed I-64 lanes. Peninsula motorists have access to the standard I-64 westbound lanes for an evacuation.

- Motorists should expect some entrance ramps onto the standard I-64 westbound lanes to be closed to smooth traffic flow onto the interstates and prevent bottlenecks. All exit points on the standard I-64 westbound lanes will be open to traffic.

- I-64 westbound traffic traveling from Hampton, Newport News and James City County will be able to enter and exit the interstate as they normally would.

In addition to hurricanes, I-64 might be reversed in the event of a terrorist or tsunami threat.

