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

**Family Preparedness Tips For Staying at Home**
- Prepare your home for bad weather
- During a Hurricane:
  - Fill your car with gasoline
  - Get cash
  - Protect your valuable documents
  - Extra set of home and car keys
  - Battery-operated, NOAA Weather Radio
  - Moisture wipes
  - Extra set of towels
  - Hygiene items
  - Food to last 5-7 days
  - Water
- **Family Preparedness Tips For Evacuating**
  - Fill your car with gasoline
  - When evacuating:
    - Notify family and friends of your plans and how to contact you
    - Secure your home before leaving
    - Bring your disaster supply kit
  - Use evacuation routes specified for your area. Don’t get on the highway. Don’t get stranded - evacuate early.
- **Hurricanes** are classified according to their wind speed:
  - Category 1 hurricane: Winds 111-130 mph
  - Category 2 hurricane: Winds 96-110 mph
  - Category 3 hurricane: Winds 74-95 mph
  - Category 4 hurricane: Winds 116-150 mph
  - Category 5 hurricane: Winds 156-175 mph
- **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 rain and sustained winds of 74 mph or greater. A hurricane brings its life cycle as a tropical wave and develops in stages from tropical depression to tropical storm before becoming 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 coastal 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 winds 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 away from tidal and river areas.

**Disaster Supply List**
- **Water** - At least 1 gallon daily per person for 5-7 days
- **Food** - At least enough for 5-7 days
- **Clothing** - Several days’ worth of clothes
- **Flashing Lights/Towels** - Red or orange
- **Additional Items**
  - Extra set of towels
  - Hygiene items
  - Food to last 5-7 days
  - Water

**Watch and Warning – know the difference**
- **Watch** - indicates that there is a chance of a storm threat. You should remain vigilant. If a watch is coupled with a “shiny” drawstring type camper’s laundry bag, at least 12” in diameter and 18” high, your local emergency management office should be notified. The bag should contain all essential home and personal items you might need in the event of an emergency. Shelters don’t allow pets, so plan accordingly.
- **Warning** - indicates that conditions are forecast for the area within the next 24-48 hours. This watch will trigger your family disaster plan and you should begin protecting your home and property from the storm. Monitor weather reports via television or radio to stay informed.

**For more information**
- The Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)
  - Virginia Road Conditions:
    - www.VirginiaDOT.org/hurricanes
  - Virginia Road Information:
    - www.fema.gov/hazards/hurricanes
  - Hotel Information:
    - www.virginia_DOT.org/hurricane
  - Traffic Information:
    - www.fema.gov/fema/nfip.sht
  - Fire Information:
    - www.fema.gov/hazards/hurricanes/hurricaf.sht
  - Storm Surge:
    - www.fema.gov/fema/hurricane.sht
  - Flood Information:
    - www.fema.gov/fema/virginiastorms/recovery.sht
  - VDOT:
    - August.2005:job# 05-078
  - VDEM Virginia Emergency Info TOLL FREE LINE: 1-800-367-ROAD
  - Hampton Roads Emergency Management Committee (HREMC)
  - Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
  - American Red Cross (ARC)
  - Human Society of the United States (HSUS)
  - Virginia National Flood Insurance Program (VFIP)
  - Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)
    - www.virginia_DOT.org/hurricanes
    - www.fema.gov/hazards/hurricanes/hurricaf.sht
    - www.vaemergency.co/zتحقق عن السماح بالمجازفة للطبيعة والكائنات الحية في الحياة وسبل هضمها والمحمل السطحي وتشويه الكائنات الحية في الحياة وسبل هضمها والمحمل السطحي وتشويه الكائنات الحية في الحياة وسبل هضمها والمحمل السطحي وتشويه الكائنات الحية في الحياة وسبل هضمها والمحمل السطحي وتشويه الكائنات الحية في الحياة وسبل هضمها والمحمل السطحي وتشويه الكائنات الحية في الحياة وسبل هضمها والمحمل السطحي وتشويه الكائنات الحية في الحياة وسبل هضمها والمحمل السطحي وتشويه الكائنات الحية في الحياة وسبل هضمها والمحمل السطحي وتشويه الكائنات الحية في الحياة وسبل هضمها والمحمل السطحي وتشويه الكائنات الحية في الحياة وسبل هضمها والمحمل السطحي وتشويه الكائنات الحية في الحياة وسبل هضمها والمحمل السطحي وتشويه الكائنات الحية في الحياة وسبل هضمها والمحمل السطحي وتشويه الكائنات الحية في الحياة وسبل هضمها والمحمل السطحي وتشويhe in the area.

**What can 511 do for you?**
- Emergency Information
- Road Information
- Traffic Information
- Tunnels and Bridge Information
- Weather Information
- Answers to your Evacuation Questions can be found on:
  - www.VirginiaDOT.org/hurricanes

**Local Contact Information:**
- To check the evacuation status of your area, visit the website for your local emergency management office.
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 enough time to close and evacuate these structures before they become unsafe for use.

Cross roads will be closed at high 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. 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.

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CITIES AND COUNTIES ISSUE STANDARD EVACUATION ROUTES FOR THEIR AREAS, DRAWN IN RED ON THE MAP ABOVE. A STANDARD EVACUATION ROUTE IS A ROUTE THAT IS USUALLY USED TO EVACUATE THE AREA IN THE EVENT OF A NATURAL DISASTER. THE ROUTES ARE DESIGNATED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND ARE USUALLY USED IN THE EVENT OF AN EVACUATION.

In the event of a Category 4 or 5 Hurricane, the Governor might issue a traffic direction reversal. Traffic direction on I-64 will only reverse during the most severe conditions. When instructed, populations are encouraged to evacuate as follows:

**Phase 1:**
- All Eastern Shore residents should use I-95 northbound toward Salisbury, MD.