Virginia Partners in Prayer & Prevention, Partner Resource Webinar Series

#### Be Prepared: Emergency Preparedness & Response

Kristina Stark Federal Preparedness Field Assignee Office of Emergency Preparedness Virginia Department of Health August 18, 2022 *"Failing to Prepare is Preparing to Fail"* 



#### **Topics for Today's Discussion**

- Why Prepare?
- Know your Risks
- Make A Plan
- Take Action
- Stay Informed
- How CBOs can Help
- Food & Water Safety
- Other Considerations
- Volunteer and Donation Opportunities
- Useful Links & Resources



#### Why Prepare?

People, Families, and Communities that plan will:

- Help keep people safe;
- Limit property damage;
- Know what to do during and after a disaster;
- Better manage their savings;
- Support community preparedness; and
- Help their community get back up and running after a disaster.





#### **The Basics**

# KNOW YOUR RISKS MAKE A PLAN TAKE ACTION STAY INFORMED



#### What Threats do We Face in Virginia?



Threat-Specific Information (VDEM)



#### Making a Plan



#### Make a plan to prepare for disasters







#### Make a Personal/Family Emergency Communication Plan

- Out-of-Town Contacts
- Meeting Places/Contact Info
  - Local
  - Out-of-town
- Medical Contacts
  - Doctors, Veterinarians, Pharmacists, etc!
- Insurance Contacts
  - Medical Homeowner/Rental, Vehicle, Flood
- Work & School Locations/Contact Info
- <u>Premade Templates for</u> <u>Communication Plans</u>





#### Make an Evacuation and Shelter-In-Place Plan

- ALWAYS Follow orders and advice from local authorities and first responders
- Evacuation
  - Local officials declare when a mandatory evacuation will occur. Local officials may also advise, but not require, evacuations.
  - If leaving, Shut off Gas or Water before leaving.
- Sheltering
  - Best protection in high winds, tornadoes, and many other events is to find shelter in an interior room away from windows, doors, and flood waters.



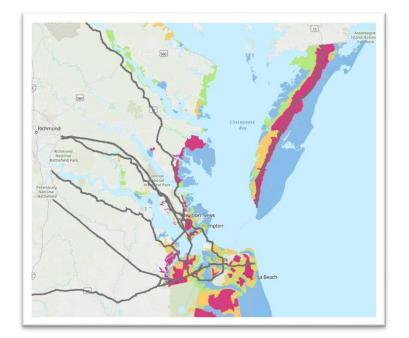
#### Evacuating

- Pick safe meeting places.
- Make sure that everyone in your household knows where to go.
- If you have a vehicle, keep a full tank of gas.
- Become familiar with alternate routes and backup modes of transportation.
- Leave early enough to avoid being trapped.
- Be alert for road hazards.
- If you do not have a car, plan your transportation in case of an evacuation.
- Take your emergency supply kit with you during an evacuation.
- Pay attention to your radio or smartphone/tablet and follow local evacuation instructions.
- Take your pets with you but understand that only service animals may be allowed to stay with you in public shelters.



#### If You Have Enough Time Before Evacuating

- Call, text message, or email your outof-state contacts.
- Close and lock doors and windows.
- Unplug electrical equipment.
- Leave freezers and refrigerators plugged in, unless there is a risk of flooding.
- Shut off water, gas, and electricity before leaving.
- Leave a note telling others when you left and where you are going.
- Wear sturdy shoes and clothing that give protection.
- Check with neighbors who may need
  assistance





#### **Other Considerations**



#### **Prepare Suministros para Desastres**

Haga una lista de artículos para reponer sus suministros de huracanes y comience a obtenerlos antes de que inicie la temporada de huracanes. Tenga suficiente comida y agua para cada persona para al menos tres días. Asegúrese de tener sus recetas y tenga sus medicamentos a la mano. Radios, baterías y cargadores de teléfono también son indispensables. Llene el tanque de gasolina de su vehículo y tenga dinero en efectivo a la mano.



Mientras se prepara para la temporada de huracanes, siga lo últimos conseios de salud del CDC y de sus funcionarios loc

**Seniors** 

- Children
- Non-English Speaking Population
- Pets
- People with Disabilities or Access and **Functional Needs**





A DESASTRES.

Microchip informatio

Your contact information

Medication instruction

Cone month supply of fle

(if applicable)

tick and heart

oreventative

(phone numbers and

addresses for your family and friends or relatives y may be staying with)

(ex: microchip number, name and number of the

chip company)

PET DISASTER KIT CHECKLIST

Photocopied registration

information (ex: proof of

ownership or adoption

Pet description(s) (ex: breed

sex, color, weight)

Becent photographs for

each of your pets

Waterproof container

Manual can opener

each animal

Feeding instructions f

2-week supply of any

DOCUMENTS Photocopied veterinary

Rables certificate

U Vaccinations Medical summary

Prescriptions for

medications

test result (dogs)

each animal stored in waterproof containers

2-week supply of water for

Non-spill food and water

each animal

WATER, FOOD, MEDICATIONS 2-week supply of food for

A Most recent he

records

#### Prepare a Kit



Following a disaster, it may take three to five days for outside assistance to reach you!



#### Food and Water

- Water
  - One gallon drinking water per person (& pet) per day (3-5 days)
- Food
  - (3-5 days) non-perishable; high protein; requiring no cooking





#### Food and Water Safety

#### **Food Safety**

#### <u>www.fda.gov/downloads/Food/RecallsOutbreaksEmergencies/</u> <u>ucm076962.pdf</u>

#### Water Safety

#### <u>https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/emergency/pdf/make-</u> <u>water-safe-during-emergency-p.pdf</u>



#### Get a Kit

- First Aid Kit
- Battery-powered or hand cranked radio
- Flashlight
- Batteries
- Cell phone/charger
- Whistle
- Dust Masks
- Can Opener
- Cash (small bills)





#### Get a Kit

- Personal Sanitation Items
- Plastic Sheeting/Duct Tape
- Multi-tool/wrench/pliers
- Local/Regional Maps
- Important Documents
- Medications/Med Supplies
- Warm Clothes/Blankets
- Comfort Items
- Pet Items





**Other Considerations** 

## Backup Power & Heat



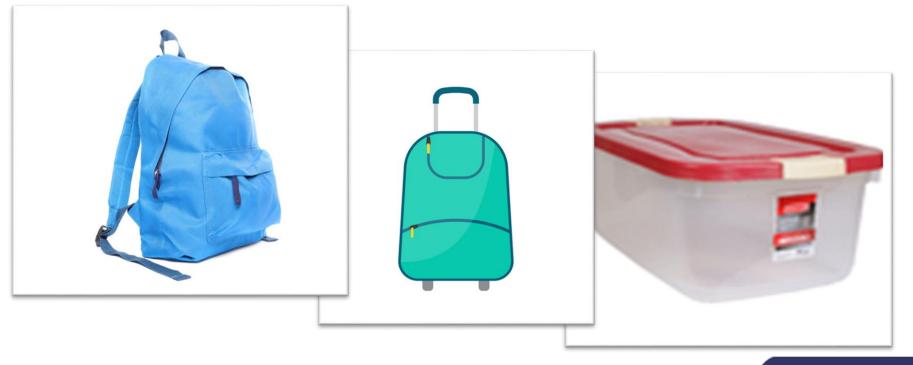






#### Grab & Go!

# Make sure your kit is portable and easy to grab in a pinch!







### Review and Update Your Emergency Plan and Kit Every Six Months



#### Stay Informed

- Know local emergency management organizations' phone numbers, web pages
  - Emergency Management, Fire/EMS, Law Enforcement, Social Services, etc!
- Subscribe to Alert Services
  - Reverse 9-1-1
  - Other Local Alert/Notification Systems



#### **Stay Informed**

- Social Media
  - Facebook, Twitter, etc!

\*Many city & county governments have Facebook & Twitter pages where you can go to find local and up-to-date info on emergency preparedness.

- Apps:
  - FEMA Mobile App
  - OSHA-NIOSH Heat Safety Tool App



#### VDH Websites (Facebook and Twitter)

https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/

https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/news/

https://www.facebook.com/VDHgov

https://twitter.com/VDHgov

Check if your Local Health Department has their own Social Media/Communications Pages!



#### **Stay Informed**

Who should I contact to learn more about emergency preparedness in my area?

- Local Jurisdiction Emergency Manager www.vaemergency.gov/readyvirginia
- Local Health District Emergency Coordinator http://www.vaemergency.gov/prepare-recover/
- Law Enforcement

https://vsp.virginia.gov/



#### **Stay Informed**

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) <u>Website</u> and Weather Radio

- Programmed to WeatherBand Frequencies
- Plug-in and Battery-Powered
- AM and FM
- Approx \$20 in most Big Box Stores



#### NTAS



#### National Terrorism Advisory System

• Replaced old color-coded Homeland

Security Advisory System in 2011

- Alerts only issued when credible information is available
- Alerts include a clear statement that there is an imminent threat or elevated threat.



#### Ways Faith Based Organizations Can Help

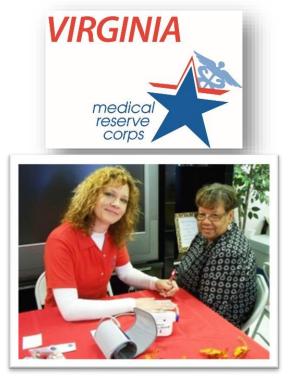


Bolster Recovery and Resilience
 Engage with the Community
 Provide Comfort and Hope
 <u>https://n-din.org/</u>



#### **Volunteer And Donate**

#### Virginia Medical Reserve Corp



#### Community Emergency Response Team



National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (NVOAD)



National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster



#### **Useful Links & Resources**

#### Guides/Toolkits/Webinars:

- Are You Ready? An In-Depth Guide to Citizen Preparedness FEMA
- Social Media Toolkit
- Build a Kit
- Emergency Partners Information Connection (EPIC)
- <u>Ready Virginia</u>
- Pets and Animals
- Individuals with Disabilities
- Financial Peparedness
- American Red Cross Emergency Contact Card
- Disaster Planning: Infant and Child Feeding
- Disaster Safety for Expecting and New Parents
- Infant Feeding in Disasters and Emergencies
- <u>Ready for Kids</u>
- <u>Ready for Business</u>



#### **Useful Links & Resources**

#### State Resources:

- www.vaemergency.gov
- www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-preparedness/
- https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/local-health-districts/
- www.vamrc.org
- www.dss.virginia.gov/community/211.cgi
- www.dom.com
- https://www.appalachianpower.com/
- <u>lge-ku.com</u>

#### National Resources:

- www.ready.gov
- www.fema.gov
- https://emergency.cdc.gov/protect.asp
- www.redcross.org
- https://www.noaa.gov/
- <u>n-din.org</u>



## Questions?



# Thank you!

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