

## Hurricane Season Begins - Get Serious, Be Prepared

**Prepare a disaster kit for your home:** Stock up on non-perishable food and water to sustain you and your family for up to 72 hours or longer. Ensure you have important papers (e.g. insurance, identification), first aid kit, a supply of prescription medicines and other specialty items in your preparedness kit. In addition, plan to have an emergency kit for your car in case you need to evacuate. While creating a disaster kit, pet owners should remember to pack the necessary items for their pets. You can find more information on preparing your disaster kit at: [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

**Create an emergency plan:** Know what to do if you have to evacuate. Make sure you know how to contact members of your family and have an emergency contact number for someone out of state who knows where you are in the event of an emergency. Make sure your pet is included in your emergency plan. You may want to offer assistance to an elderly or disabled family member or neighbor that may be alone and may need your help during an emergency. Make your plans ahead of time and practice them.

**Be informed:** Know evacuation routes, and listen to local authorities when asked to evacuate. Everyone should know their risks. Whether you live in a coastal community or inland, speak with your insurance agent now about flood insurance and review your homeowner's policy. Everyone is at risk for flooding and homeowners insurance does not cover flood damage. Flood insurance is a cost-effective way to prepare financially for floods. To learn more about your risk and flood insurance, visit [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov).

To stay informed during a storm, keep a battery-powered radio for weather and evacuation information should you experience a power outage, and have extra batteries on hand. Visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov), [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov), for more information about disaster preparedness.

*Portland's Emergency Management Team works together with our first responders and public safety officials to ensure that we inform our citizens and improve our capability to prepare for and protect against hazards.*