

Whiting Tower

Sixty-Six Years of Aviation Training News



Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, FL

Forging Wings for the Fleet

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Wednesday, July 7, 2010

It Is Time to Prepare for Hurricane Season

By Jim Walsh, NAS Whiting Field Emergency Manager

It is that time of year again when we get ready to enter the peak of hurricane season here in the Gulf Coast. The season runs annually from June 1 to Nov. 30. For 2010, Dr. Klotzbach from Colorado State University has predicted an above-average year with 16 named storms, eight of which will be hurricanes, and four of those becoming category three or higher.

Preparation and mitigation are the keys to being ready for not only hurricanes, but any emergency situation that may arrive. Wind mitigation is one of the biggest things homeowners can do to protect their property. Coverings for win-



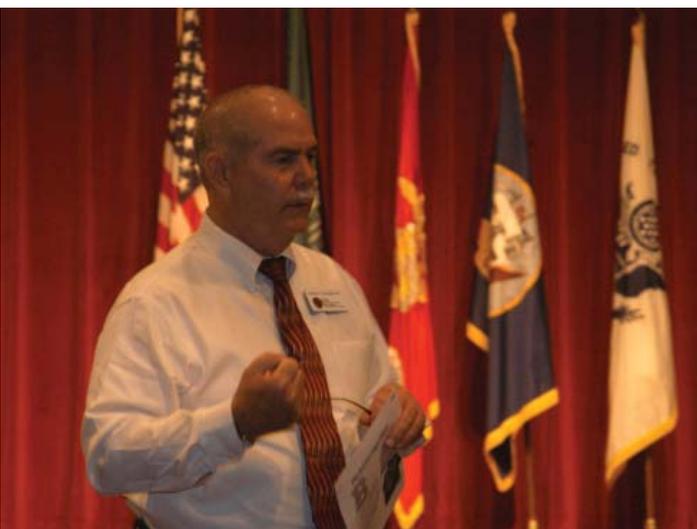
A home in the Whiting Pines housing complex suffers damage from one of the many downed trees and limbs during Hurricane Dennis. U.S. Navy file photo.

dows are what immediately come to mind. From professional installation of hurricane shutters to plywood installation by homeowners, there are a wide variety of means to protect your windows from storm debris. The reason you do not want the windows to break is two fold. First, is the obvious water damage that will occur. Second, it will permit wind inside the house, which increases the chances of a home losing its roof. Additionally, the weakest point in your house is your garage door. Make sure it is properly anchored and supported.

It is also a good idea to take a yearly video inventory of your house. This provides documentation for insurance

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FFSC Brings Disaster Preparedness Seminar to NASWF



Arthur Youngblood, Outreach Coordinator for the Consumer Services Division of the Florida Department of Financial Services, speaks to some members of the Naval Air Station Whiting Field team Wednesday, June 23 in the Base Auditorium. Youngblood gave advice to attendees about how disasters and insurance can affect Florida residents. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tyler Watters.

By Lt. j.g. Tyler Watters, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

What is the definition of “disaster”?

Some might say it occurs when a tornado hits populated areas, or when a strong hurricane, such as Ivan makes landfall. According to Arthur Youngblood, Outreach Coordinator of the Florida Department of Financial Services, “a disaster has occurred if anything causes damage to your home.”

Youngblood, along with six other coordinators hired by the Florida Department of Financial Services, travel through Florida to educate people on the facts of disaster insurance and the oddities of natural disasters.

Youngblood spoke to a group of base personnel in the auditorium, Wednesday, Jun. 23, to explain how to prepare for a disaster.

“A lot of people weren’t prepared for the hurricanes of 2004 and 2005”, Youngblood stated. “We are here to give tips at no charge about natural disasters and how they affect

- (Cont. on Page 5)

Tips from the National Hurricane Center to Help Prepare for a Storm

Discuss the type of hazards that could affect your family. Know your home's vulnerability to storm surge, flooding and wind.

Locate a safe room or the safest areas in your home for each hurricane hazard. In certain circumstances the safest areas may not be your home but within your community.

Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet. These should be measured in tens of miles rather than hundreds of miles.

Have a friend from out of state as a family contact, so all your family members have a single point of contact.

Post emergency telephone numbers by your phones and make sure your children know how and when to call 911.

Check your insurance coverage - flood damage is not usually covered by homeowners insurance.

Stock non-perishable emergency supplies and a disaster supply kit.

Use a NOAA weather radio. Remember to replace its battery every six

months, as you do with your smoke detectors.

Take first aid, CPR and disaster preparedness classes.

Water - at least one gallon daily per person for three to seven days.

Food - at least enough for three to seven days - non-perishable packaged or canned food / juices, foods for infants or the elderly, snack foods, non-electric can opener, cooking tools / fuel, paper plates / plastic utensils.

Blankets and pillows.

Clothing - seasonal / rain gear/ sturdy shoes.

First aid kit / Medicines / Prescription Drugs.

Special items for babies and the elderly.

Toiletries / hygiene items / moisture wipes.

Flashlights and batteries.

Radio - Battery operated and NOAA weather radio.

Telephones - Fully charged cell phone with extra battery and a traditional (not cordless) telephone set.

Cash (with some small bills)

and Credit Cards - Banks and ATMs may not be available for extended periods.

Keys.

Toys, Books and Games.

Important documents - in a waterproof container or watertight resealable plastic bag including: insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.

Tools - keep a set with you during the storm.

Vehicle fuel tanks filled.

You can also improve the uplift resistance of the roof deck from the attic -- without removing the roof covering. This is how:

- Using a caulking gun, apply a 1/4 inch bead of wood adhesive along the intersection of the roof deck and the roof support element (rafter or truss chord) on both sides.

- At places where you have limited access, such as where the roof meets exterior walls, use quarter round pieces of wood approximately two to three feet long and apply the adhesive

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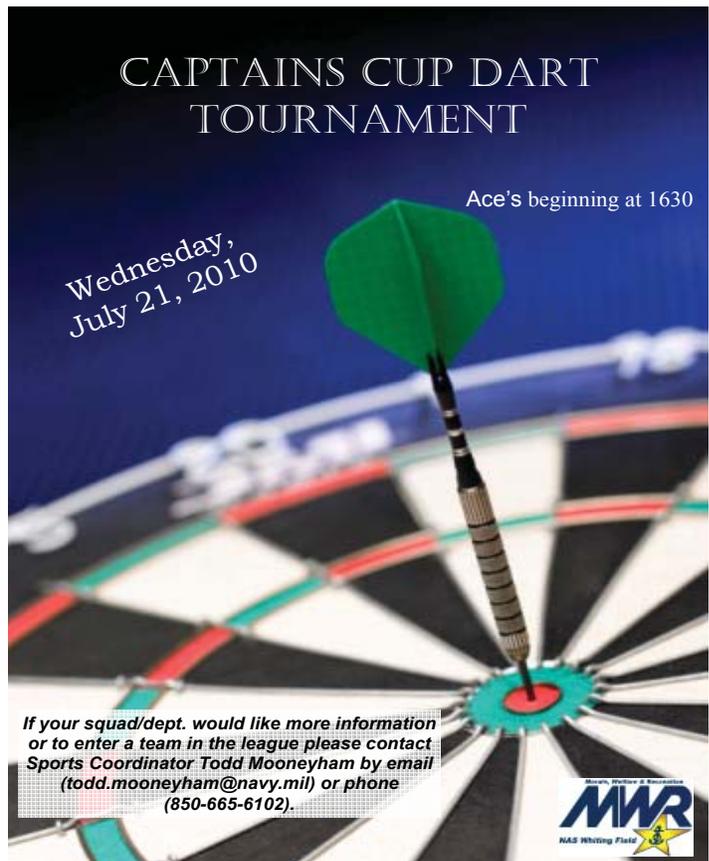
INDOOR VOLLEYBALL

Season Begins July 20

Coaches meeting
Wednesday, July 14
at 1330
in the MWR Conference room

If your Squad/Dept. would like to put a team in the league please call
Sports Coordinator
Todd Mooneyham
850-665-6102
or email him at
todd.mooneyham@navy.mil

MWR
Navy Whiting Field



CAPTAINS CUP DART TOURNAMENT

Ace's beginning at 1630

Wednesday,
July 21, 2010

If your squad/dept. would like more information or to enter a team in the league please contact
Sports Coordinator Todd Mooneyham by email
(todd.mooneyham@navy.mil) or phone
(850-665-6102).

MWR
Navy Whiting Field

News and Notes

Pensacola Beach Air Show - Get ready to witness exhilarating stunts and heart-stopping maneuvers at Pensacola Beach July 9-10. The world famous Blue Angels will headline their annual summer show at the beach with two performances at 2 p.m. each day. Other performers scheduled to perform include: A Grumman Widgeon G-44, the Prometheus, Team RV, Red Star and the Dragon-Dragon Aviation team, and Fat Albert - the Blue Angels popular C-130 Hercules work horse. Both shows begin at noon.

Free Concerts at Seville Square - Pensacola's outdoor concert series returns for its 23rd season of music under the stars. The 2010 series features 14 concerts, satisfying musical tastes from big band to jazz to reggae. Take a lawn chair or a blanket for seating. Evenings in Olde Seville Square begin at 7 p.m. and continue until 9 p.m. each Thursdays through the summer. Admission to the concerts is free. The 2010 schedule includes:
July 8: Chubby Carrier and the Bayou Swamp Band.
July 15: Don Snowden Big Band.
July 22: The Swingin' Dick Tracys.
July 29: The Sawmill Band.
Aug. 5: Mass Kunfuzion.

Child Safety Seat Services Offered Free - Fire and Emergency Services Gulf Coast (F&ESGC) now offers free child seat install assistance to parents or caregivers that have base access. There are nine nationally certified technicians available to assist with this service. Please call (850) 452-3211 to schedule an appointment with a technician that can assist you free of charge.

Discovery Workshop - An "Understanding the Love of Your Life" workshop for married and engaged couples will be conducted by Chaplain Summerlin on Jul. 8. Discover how your relationship can be the ultimate sharing experience in an interactive 3-hour seminar. First you will gain insight into your personal style inventory, then you will develop a greater understanding and appreciation of your mate as you look at how he/she is different in



Pilot for a Day

Allie and Rebekah Nelson get a feel of a firefighter's job as they sit in a fire engine Tuesday. The sisters are participating in the Pilot for a Day program which allows children with critical illnesses from the area to participate in activities that student pilots and personnel on base take part in daily. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tyler Watters.

12 distinct categories. Finally, you will learn how to increase your effectiveness and be more successful in dealing with your mate through practicing versatility based upon each others personality. We promise you won't be bored and will leave with a renewed appreciation for your partner. The workshop will be held Jul. 8 from 8 a.m. to noon in the Atrium Bldg. Rm. 169A. Call 623-7211 to reserve a seat or to obtain additional information.

Free Museum Entrance - The American Association of Museums, in conjunction with the National Endowment for the Arts is offering free admission to various museums across the United States this summer to active duty military personnel and their immediate families. More than 700 museums across the 50 states are participating in the program from Memorial Day, May 31, through Labor Day, Sept. 6. Free admission extends to up to five immediate family members. The program also supports National Guard, Reservists, and Coast Guardsmen. The link to the website is: <http://www.nea.gov/national/bluestarmuseums/index.php>.

ID Card Appointments - The ID card office is utilizing a new electronic appointment scheduler system: There will be 1 appt. slot available every hour. Walk in customers will be seen in between appt times. This will shorten wait times for any customer who decides to take advantage of the scheduler. Please be advised - there will be no same day appointments available. Walk ins are always welcome. Please go to <https://es.cac.navy.mil/signup.pl> to make your appointment. Click on Naval Air Station Whiting Field ID Office, FL. Then click on the "Make an appointment" button and go from there. You can also "Look up an appointment" or "Cancel an appointment".

Big Band Music - Milton High School will host the Drum Corps International Drum and Bugle Corps show, Thursday., Jul. 29. The show is titled Sounds of the South. There will be seven drum and bugle corps at this event and the DCI corps are the elite of the elite when it comes to marching bands. For more information visit: <http://www.mhsbandboosters.info/index.php?menu=event4> or <http://www.tealsound.org/drumbuglecorps/events/soundsofthesouth/>. Tickets are \$20 for the Super Section and \$15 for General Admission. There is also a \$5 Military discount with ID at the gates. For additional information, please call 207-8206.



A Gift that Will Give Again

Proctor & Gamble Representative, Dennis Reed (center), presents Naval Air Station Whiting Field Chaplain's Assistant, Ensign Galen Mahon (left), USN with \$500 worth of Gift Vouchers Jun. 15. The vouchers will be used for the holiday basket program. The NAS Whiting Field Commissary earned the vouchers as a Grand Prize winner of P&G's Special Olympics Sale. Also, pictured Kim Jackson, store Administrator (right). Photo by Linda Masraum.

Upcoming Events

July 16, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

July 21, 0800 - Labor Contract Training - OPS Auditorium

July 28, TBD - RADM Roman Presents NEX Bingham Awd.

July 30, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Aug. 13, 1000 - Blood Drive - NEX Parking Lot

Aug. 13, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

Resume Writing - July 12 @ 8:00 – 10:00 am

This class will assist you in efficiently creating an effective resume. Learn how to handle sticky resume situations like military to civilian transition, age, employment gaps, layoffs, and career change. Learn to use your resume as a marketing tool. Class will be held in the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Challenges of Flight School & Marriage - July 14 @ 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Being in Flight School is hard! Being married in Flight School is even harder! This class will help you and your spouse avoid the common pitfalls of the unique challenges Flight Schools has to offer. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Home Buying Process - July 14 @ 2:15-3:15 pm

Are you in the market for a new home? We can help! From finding the best agent, to negotiating price, types of mortgage loans, and how to get the best interest rates, we can help! Find out how to buy a home and maintain your lifestyle! For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

VA Representative - July 16 @ 8:00 am – 12:00 pm & July 30 @ 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Veteran Service Representative Norman Freeman will help with processing compensation claims at the FFSC. Participants must have a minimum of 60 days and no more than 180 days left on active duty at time of filing; must provide an official copy of your service

Industry of the Month: Pool Contractors, Dealers and Designers

- BBB® examines industries with most activity in 2009

Pensacola, Fla. (June 28, 2010) - With the arrival of summer, your BBB turns its attention to swimming pool contractors. As an industry, swimming pool contractors, dealers and designers were in the top 25, out of 1,700, industries in both inquiries and complaints to your BBB Serving Northwest Florida in 2009. By highlighting an industry each month that had the most activity last year, BBB hopes to proactively provide the information that consumers seek from us as the leader in advancing marketplace trust.

If you are considering installing a swimming pool your BBB|Northwest Florida offers this advice:

Seek at least three bids from prospective contractors. Discuss bids in detail. The lowest-priced contractor may not be the best.

Request references and follow-up to confirm their satisfaction. Any reputable contractor will be proud to showcase previous work.

Licensed and insured? Verify contractor's licensing at www.myfloridalicense.com. Confirm liability coverage to protect you in the event of an accident on your property.

Get a BBB Reliability Report for pool contractors in your area by visiting bbb.org.

Never pay cash or pay in advance of job completion. A reputable contractor may ask for partial payment to purchase materials but you should never pay in full until job is completed to your satisfaction and passes inspection.



Always read the contract Get any verbal promises in writing, including start and completion dates and the terms and conditions of warranties. Do not allow blank spaces in the contract where information could be added post-signature. Do not be pressured into signing a contract right away. Take your time and if you don't understand it, don't sign it!

Understand maintenance The pool contractor should supply you with a booklet that explains pool-cleaning, filter maintenance and surrounding pool surfaces. Many installers have their own service staff;

other businesses specialize in service and maintenance.

Check before you dig. Remember, utility lines may have to be installed or changed, and you should be aware of hook-up charges prior to construction.

Now or later? Accessories are available for pools including pool and outdoor lights, diving boards, slides and handrails for steps. Is it more economical to have fixed pool equipment installed at the time of construction?

Local laws usually require security fences around a pool's perimeter. A self-closing gate with a latch accessible only to older children and adults is a wise safety precaution.

Check your insurance. Before building, talk to your insurance agent to find out about additional homeowner coverage for the new pool.

For more information you can trust when selecting a swimming pool contractor, dealer, designer or other Accredited Business, call 800.729.9226 or start with bbb.org.

our residents.”

Before the storm residents should:

Make sure you're covered – insurance companies do not accept new applications or requests for increased coverage once a hurricane nears Florida.

Know what your policy covers – Flood and wind damage are often covered in separate policies. Decide if you need this protection and contact your agent for more information.

Make sure your coverage is adequate – You may have made recent home improvements or purchases. Consider increasing your coverage if your policy doesn't cover the current value of your home and contents.

Keep policy documents safe – In addition to information on your agent, you should write down the name of your insurance company, policy number, and a telephone number to report a claim.

Fortify your home - Inspect your roof, making sure you have roof anchors installed on your home. Replace your windows and doors that don't pass the impact test, or cover them with shutters. A fortified home with the right doors, windows and shutters will save you money on your insurance premiums (link to discounts).

Secure your property and clear your yard of any debris, lawn furniture, tools or other objects that could turn into dangerous projectiles in high winds.

After the storm it is important to:

Immediately report property damage to your insurance agent and company.

Document any emergency repairs you need to make.

Maintain copies of your household inventory and other documentation. This will assist the adjuster in assessing the value of the destroyed property.

Take precautions if the damage requires you to leave your home. Let your agent or company know your temporary forwarding address and home number.

Beware of fly-by-night repair businesses. Hire licensed and reputable service people. Know what kind of licensed adjuster you will deal with (i.e. company adjuster, independent adjuster or public adjuster). Ask for identification, and if a question arises, call the Department of Insurance hotline for assistance. If you encounter any instances of price gouging, call the Florida Department of Agriculture's Division of Consumer Services at 1-800-357-4273.

Youngblood also answered a commonly asked question about how long insurance policies last.

“Florida can locate insurance policies that date back to 1912.”

The Bureau of Consumer Outreach gives free advice to anyone who desires it. They can identify agents that are properly licensed and have the right credentials. The Florida Department of Financial Services website, myFloridaCFO.com, has numerous resources that can help residents learn more about insurance. Another site, FMAP.org, is a free referral service designed to match consumers, who cannot find property insurance, with Florida licensed agents and insurers who are writing new business. For more information, you can call (800) 524-9023.

TRICARE Notes

HUMANA MILITARY WELLNESS
& SAFETY WEB PORTAL

The Humana Military Wellness and Safety Web portal provides a wealth of resources to help keep you and your family healthy. Access the portal by clicking on the “Health and Wellness” tab on the “Beneficiary” main page at www.humana-military.com. The Wellness and Safety portal provides access to health information for men, women, teens and children, and several of the portal's recommended web sites include kid-friendly interactive features and animation.

Humana Military updates information regularly, so check the Wellness and Safety web portal each month for new special features and resources.

Eco-nomics

For flower beds and gardens, use drip irrigation or soaker hoses instead of regular sprinklers. You can save up to 70 percent of the water you would typically use because evaporation will be minimal and only base of plants will be receiving water as opposed to the leaves and foliage.

Consider installing a rain sensor to override your automatic sprinkler cycle during and after rain events. Depending on the local climate, your water consumption (and your water bill) could drop up to 30 percent per year.

Fit your garden hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle in order to prevent waste when the water is turned on and the hose is not being used. You'll save up to six and one-half gallons per minute. If just ten percent of the U.S. household attached shut-off nozzles to their hoses and the average reduction in hose usage was just thirty seconds per week, the water saved would fill over 128,000 bathtubs every day.

Remembering Hurricane Dennis

This Saturday will be the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Dennis' landfall into the Santa Rosa County area. The 2010 hurricane season is already underway, and the first named storm pounded the Mexican coastline. As we continue preparing ourselves and our families for the possibility of a hurricane sweeping into our area, a look back at a few of the details about Hurricane Dennis seems appropriate.

The storm did an estimated \$1.5 Billion of damage.

In the Florida Keys, Dennis passed to the west as a Category 2 hurricane producing winds of 59 miles per hour with rainfall peaking at 1.5 inches. More than 210,000 customers lost power in South Florida and the Keys.

Hurricane Dennis made landfall as a Category 3 hurricane on Santa Rosa Island on July 10. At Navarre Beach, sustained winds of 98 miles per hour were reported with a peak gust of 121 miles per hour, while a tower at the Pensacola Airport reported sustained winds of 82 miles per hour and a peak gust of 96 miles per hour.

The most severe property damage occurred from Walton County to Wakulla County, where 1,000 homes were destroyed. Numerous boats were ripped from the dock and either floated out to sea, or were washed ashore. In McDavid, the tin roof of the recreation center for Ray's Chapel was ripped off as about 12 people stood in the hallway. Also, several historic sites were damaged or destroyed by Dennis; Angelo's on Ochlockonee Bay, a landmark restaurant, was completely washed away.

As a result of the pounding surf, the Navarre pier was ripped apart in two places.

Milton received 7.08 inches of rain, which is the highest reported rainfall total in Florida caused by Dennis.

As a result of the storm, over 236,000 customers in the Florida Panhandle were without electric power.

Time to Prepare

- (Cont. from Page 1)



The Academic Training Building's roof was damaged during Hurricane Dennis in 2005. U.S. Navy file photo.

companies in the event you lose your house and belongings due to fire or flood. You should also keep on hand all of your serial numbers to any electronic items. This will aid police in case of theft.

The majority of deaths caused by hurricanes hitting the United States are not caused from high winds or storm surge. Fifty-four percent of the deaths are caused by fresh water flooding. People who are trying to cross streams or creeks when water starts rising or those who fail to evacuate from flood prone areas are most in danger. If you live in a flood zone, get out!

Having a preplanned place to go to is another way of preparing for the season. Do not wait until the last minute to leave town. Once the probability is high that we will be in the impact area it is time for you to leave. The longer you wait, the more crowded the roads will be trying to get out.

If you ignore the warnings and choose to stay, remember that emergency responders can not come to your aid until after the storm has passed. Even then, it may be difficult to reach you depending on the amount of damage to the area. The adage "The first 72 is on you!" is being increased from five days to three. This means you will need to be self sufficient for up to five days before services start being restored and stores start to reopen. Make sure you have a sufficient amount of food and water to sustain you and your family.

Be informed, have a plan, and make a kit!

Hurricane Tips

- (Cont. from Page 2)

along the two adjacent sides of the block. The length of the quarter round pieces can be longer or shorter to suit your installation needs.

- Press the wood pieces in the intersection making sure the adhesive has made solid contact with the sheathing and roof support elements.

Your home has either double or single entry doors. If they are solid wood or hollow metal they probably can resist wind pressures and hurricane debris. However, if you are not

sure whether they are strong enough, take these precautions:

- Install head and foot bolts on the inactive door of double-entry doors.
- Make sure your doors have at least three hinges and a dead bolt security lock which has a minimum one inch bolt throw length.
- Since double entry doors fail when their surface bolts break at the header trim or threshold, check the connections at both places. Be sure the surface bolt extends into

During a Storm, Pets Need Care As Well

Your pets need to be taken care of before, during and after a storm just like your other family members. As always, contact your veterinarian or humane society for information on preparing your pets, however, here are a few tips.

BEFORE THE DISASTER

- Make sure that your pets are current on their vaccinations. Pet shelters may require proof of vaccines.

- Have a current photograph

- Keep a collar with identification on your pet and have a leash on hand to control your pet.

- Have a properly sized pet carrier for each animal - carriers should be large enough for the animal to stand and turn around.

- Plan your evacuation strategy and don't forget your pet! Specialized pet and animal control shelters, veterinary clinics and friends out of harm's way are potential refuges for your pet during a disaster.

DURING THE DISASTER

- Animals brought to a pet shelter are required to have: proper identification collar and rabies tag; proper identification on all belongings; a carrier or cage; a leash, an ample supply of food, water and food bowls; necessary medications, specific care instructions and trash bags for clean-up.

- Bring pets indoor well in advance of a storm - reassure them and remain calm.

- Pet shelters will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Call ahead for availability.

AFTER THE DISASTER

- Walk pets on a leash until they become re-oriented to their home - often familiar scents and landmarks may be altered and pets could easily be confused and become lost. Downed power lines, reptiles brought in with high water and debris also pose a threat for animals after a disaster.

- If pets cannot be found after a disaster, contact the local animal control office to find out where lost animals can be recovered. Bring along a photo of your pet.

- After a disaster animals can become aggressive or defensive - monitor their behavior.

Don't forget your pet when preparing a family disaster plan. A pet disaster supply kit includes: proper identification including immunization records, ample supply of food and water, a carrier or cage sufficient for the pet's size, all medications, a photograph of your pet, a muzzle, a collar and a leash.

Being Self Sufficient for Three Days

You may need to survive on your own after an emergency. This means having your own food, water, and other supplies in sufficient quantity to last for at least three days. Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone immediately. You could get help in hours, or it might take days. In addition, basic services such as electricity, gas, water, sewage treatment, and telephones may be cut off for days, or even a week or longer.

Recommended items to include in a basic emergency supply kit: water - one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days; food - at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food; battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both; flashlight and extra batteries; first aid kit; whistle to signal for help; dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting, and duct tape to shelter-in-place; moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation; wrench or pliers to turn off utilities; can opener for food (if kit contains canned food); local maps; and a cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger.

Some additional items to consider adding to an emergency supply kit: prescription medications and glasses; infant formula and diapers; pet food and extra water for your pet; important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container; cash or traveler's checks and change; emergency reference material such as a first aid book or information from www.ready.gov; and a sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person - consider additional bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.

The following list of items is also highly recommended: complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes (consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate); household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper (when diluted nine parts water to one part bleach, bleach can be used as a disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners); fire extinguisher; matches in a waterproof container; feminine supplies and personal hygiene items; mess kits - paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, paper towels; paper and pencil; and books, games, puzzles or other activities for children.

Make sure you establish a **Family Emergency Plan** and that every member of the family is familiar with it.

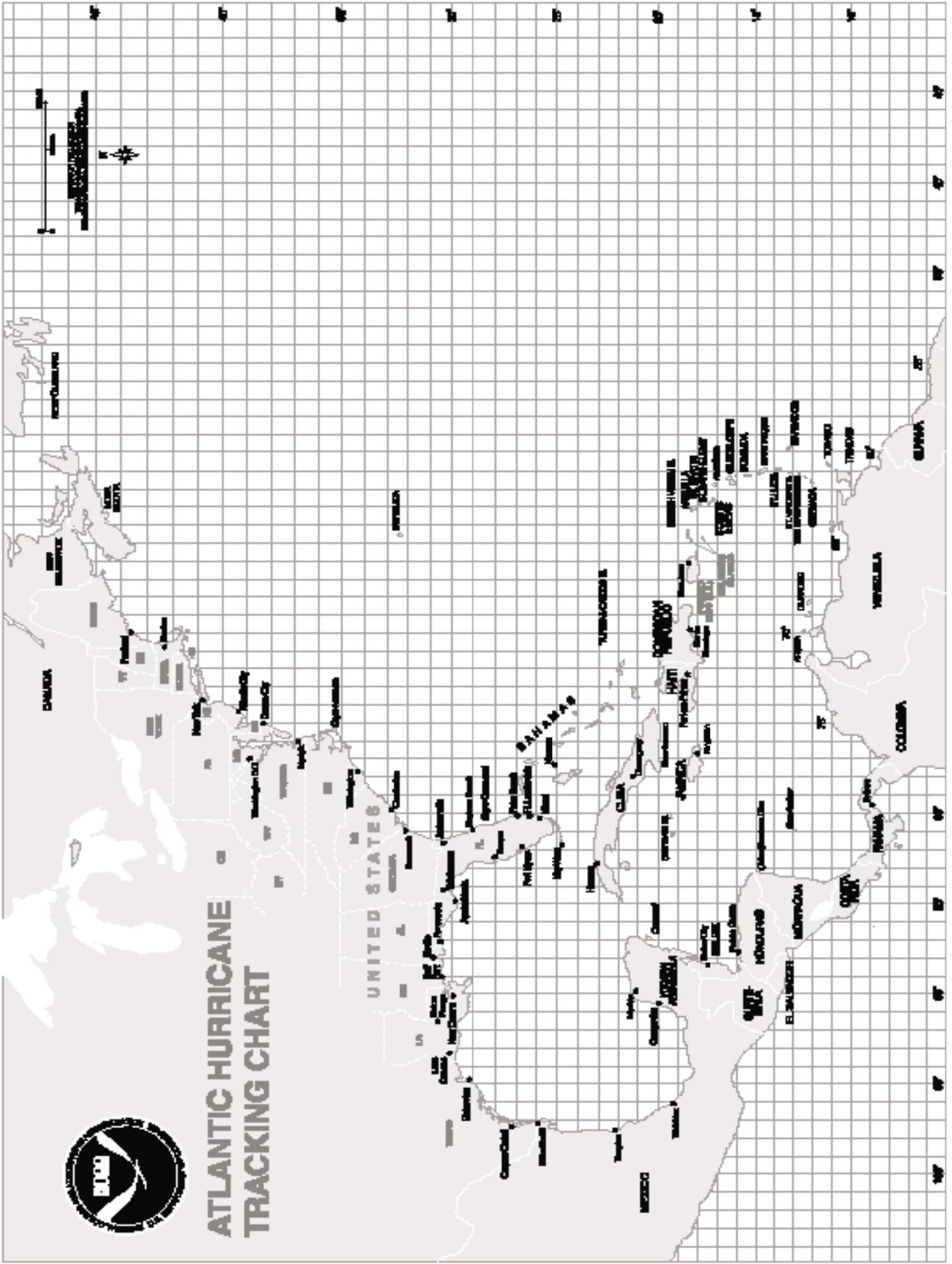
- Identify an out-of-town contact. It may be easier to make a long-distance phone call than to call across town, so an out-of-town contact may be in a better position to communicate among separated family members.

- Be sure every member of your family knows the phone number and has a cell phone, coins, or a prepaid phone card to call the emergency contact.

- Teach family members how to use text messaging (also known as SMS or Short Message Service). Text messages can often get around network disruptions when a phone call might not be able to get through.

- Subscribe to alert services. Many communities now have systems that will send instant text alerts or e-mails to let you know about bad weather, road closings, local emergencies, etc. Sign up by visiting your local Office of Emergency Management web site.

For Americans, preparedness must now account for man-made disasters as well as natural ones. Knowing what to do during an emergency is an important part of being prepared and may make all the difference when seconds count.



ATLANTIC HURRICANE TRACKING CHART