

IMPORTANT NUMBERS AND RESOURCES

(program these numbers into your phone)

Emergency Dispatch Fire and Police (911)

203-453-8000 (routine calls)

Fire Department

203-453-8000 (routine calls) 911(emergency)

Police Department

203-453-8061 (routine calls) 911(emergency)

Health Department

203-453-8118

Selectman's Office

203-453-8015

Public Works

203-453-8081

Shelter –Community Center

203-453-8068

Hospital Yale ER

203-453-7900

Poison Control Center

203-785-2353

Red Cross

203-787-6721

Connecticut Light and Power

1-800-286-2000 (report power outage)

Connecticut Water Company

860-669-6655

IMPORTANT WEB SITES:

Town of Guilford

www.ci.guilford.ct.us/

Connecticut Light and Power

Outage updates

www.cl-p.com/outage/mobile.aspx

Connecticut Hurricane

www.ct.gov/hurricane

National Weather Service

www.nws.noaa.gov/NWR

FEMA

www.ready.gov

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT

Each family and individual should maintain an emergency preparedness kit with supplies to last for 3-7 days. Some of the basic supplies include:

- Water, one gallon per person per day
- Non-perishable supply of food (canned, dried and packaged food items)
- Battery-powered radio and flashlight with extra batteries
- First aid kit
- At least one change of clothing and shoes per person
- One blanket/sleeping bag per person
- Emergency tools to turn off utilities
- Extra set of car keys
- Special items for infant, elderly or disabled family members
- Moist towelettes for sanitation
- Manual can opener for food
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates, plastic utensils and paper towels
- Whistle to signal for help
- Garbage bags and ties
- Scissors and tweezers
- Paper and pencil
- Cash-ATMs won't work without electricity
- Disinfectant

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

What is a Public Health Emergency?

Is anything that poses an urgent threat to the public's health? Natural occurrences include pandemic flu. Man-made occurrences can be either accidental or deliberate. Bioterrorism is an example of a deliberate man-made public health emergency.

What would happen in a Public Health Emergency?

A public health emergency is declared by the Governor in conjunction with the State Commissioner of Health. Instructions would then be given on how members of the public could protect themselves. These instructions might include how to Shelter-in-Place or how to receive vaccination or preventive medications for yourself and your family at a Point of Distribution (POD) site.

How would I know what to do in a Public Health Emergency?

A public health information campaign would be conducted through newspapers, radio, television and the Town of Guilford Website www.ci.guilford.ct.us

WE NEED YOU – BECOME A VOLUNTEER

During public health emergencies, facilities such as emergency shelters and mass-vaccination centers will be staffed with Volunteer Health Professionals and members of the Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Members of the MRC receive extensive training via online courses and classroom training events. The shoreline MRC is a growing organization but still more volunteer members are need. If you would like more information for an application to join contact the Guilford Health Department at 203-453-8036.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS BROCHURE



Henry Whitfield Museum
Guilford, Connecticut

*Disasters can happen
anytime, anywhere.
Are you prepared?*

Information for
You and Your Family
Presented by the Town of Guilford

HURRICANES

Hurricanes and tropical storms can cause catastrophic damage to our coastline and extend several miles inland. These events can spawn tornadoes, create storm surges along the coast and cause extensive flood damage from heavy rain. Residents of Guilford who live along the shoreline should be aware of the flood zones affecting their property. FEMA flood zone maps can be found on the Town of Guilford Web page located at: www.guilfordgis.com/ags_map/default.htm

When a hurricane watch for coastal Connecticut is issued by the National Weather Service you should:

- Monitor you local TV, radio and internet sites.
- Fuel your vehicles and generators.
- Stock up you disaster kit, food supply, medications, medical supplies and bleach.
- In on well water fill your tub and stock up on bottled water.
- Bring in all furniture, toys and other objects that could become flying missiles.
- Moor or pull out boats to a secure place.
- Take pictures of property and contents for insurance purposes
- Cover windows with plywood.
- Check on friends, relatives and neighbors, especially older adults and people with disabilities or health conditions and assist them with their preparation and evacuation.

EVACUATION ROUTES

Evacuation route signs are posted directing residents to the community shelter. If you fail to evacuate you may become isolated during the most dangerous period of the storm making rescue by emergency personnel unlikely and risky. Most hurricane fatalities occur during the peak of the storm. If necessary, the Guilford Evacuation Shelter, located at 32 Church Street, will be opened up prior to the storm to provide a safe place of refuge for residents.

If you are not in a low-lying/storm surge area and decide to stay in your home you be prepared to:

- Continue to monitor local TV and radio for updated information.
- Remain indoors in a closet, bathroom, or hallway on the lower level of your house, well away from windows during peak wind.
- Cover yourself and family members with a mattress or dining room table to protect yourself from falling debris.

GENERATOR AND CARBON MONOXIDE SAFETY

During hurricane events it likely that downed trees will interrupt electrical power service to residential and commercial properties. Use of emergency portable generators is rising in popularity and homeowners must be aware of safe operating procedures:

- Never use a generator indoors or in an enclosed area such as a garage (with the door open), deck, porch, craw space or basement. Deadly levels of carbon monoxide may build up in these areas and linger for a long time.
- Operate portable generators at least 10 ft from the house with the exhaust directed away from windows, doors or intake ducts.
- Never operate generator under wet conditions. Generators produce high voltage.
- Turn off the generator when refilling gas, leaving the home or going to sleep.
- Do not hook the generator up to the house wiring. Use a power transfer switch to keep power off of the grid.
- Use only heavy-duty, outdoor-rated power cords with an adequate wire-gauge for generator connections.

SAFETY NOTES

- Never use gas ovens or stovetops to heat homes; also, charcoal or propane grills should not be used inside the home. They pose a serious threat of fire and create poisonous carbon monoxide.
- Ashes removed from the fireplace or wood stove should be cooled and placed in a metal container away from the house.
- Never drive over or try to move downed power lines. All power lines should be treated as energized.

DISASTER SHELTER FACILITIES

Guilford's primary disaster shelter is located at the Green Community Center, 32 Church Street. This shelter is equipped with an emergency generator, food supplies, cots, showers and bathrooms. It can be used to shelter residents during hurricanes, power outages, local flooding and ice storms.

- Evacuees must sign in before being officially admitted to the shelter.
- Bring a sufficient supply of your prescription medications if planning to stay at shelter.
- Bring to shelter your sleeping bags, bed rolls, pillows, disaster kit, change of clothes, essential toiletries, infant care item and towels.

- No alcohol, illegal drugs or weapons are permitted in the shelter.
- The shelter is not intended to be an emergency treatment facility or house ill individuals requiring specialized care.
- Pets are allowed at the shelter, but will be housed in an area or building separated from the human shelter.
- All evacuees are responsible for their belongings. Valuables should be locked in cars or kept with the evacuees at all times.

FOOD SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

When power outages occur, keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible to maintain cold temperatures.

- Keep a thermometer in refrigerator to monitor temperature changes.
- A refrigerator will keep food safely (40° F) cold for about 4 hours if it is unopened. A full freezer will hold temperature for approximately 48 hours (24 hrs. if it is half full and door remains closed).
- Discard refrigerated perishable food such as meat, poultry, fish, soft cheeses, milk, eggs, leftovers, and deli items after 4 hours without power.
- Plan ahead and freeze water in plastic containers for use with safe food storage.
- Food containing ice crystals is safe to eat.
- If in doubt, throw it out.

DISINFECTING WATER

When you can, stick to bottled water for cooking and drinking. If you must use another water source: boil water for 1 minute or add 8 drops of chlorine bleach (unscented) to each gallon of water, let stand for 30 minutes before using.

**KEEP THIS BROCHURE
AS AN EMERGENCY
REFERENCE GUIDE**