

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



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CG BASE Portsmouth

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11 May 2017

MEMORANDUM

From: CG BASE Portsmouth (c)

Dear Coast Guard Family Member,

As you may know, hurricane season runs from 1 June through 30 November. Although we usually do not see any major activity until August or September in the Tidewater Area, Base Portsmouth already has plans in place should the need arise. Each member of Base Portsmouth has a role in preparing and keeping the Base safe and it is important that you are prepared and have a plan as well. Knowing what you and your family will do in the event of a major storm will greatly enhance your safety and security, especially if your CG member is assigned to a deployable team or onboard the Base during the storm.

When a major storm or hurricane threatens the Tidewater area, local emergency management officials may order you to leave your home and seek shelter during a mandatory evacuation, especially if you live in low lying areas. Having a plan for where you will go and preparing yourself for what to expect if an evacuation is ordered will relieve a lot of unnecessary pressure for your entire family. When authorized by the CG District Commander, evacuation of Coast Guard dependents from impending or hurricane hit areas includes reimbursement for travel, lodging and food. However, you must be prepared to cover the initial costs yourself and at a minimum, you should have cash reserves and a credit card set aside to use in the event of an evacuation. Please remember that if power is out, gas station pumps and ATMs may not work, so cash would be required. You should also prepare a hurricane kit that can be loaded into your vehicle on short notice and keep your gas tank filled. Remember, others are evacuating with you and you should leave early enough to arrive at a safe location ahead of the storm.

Getting the entire family involved in preparations helps ease some of the anxiety that a possible storm may bring. Children can help put together plastic containers with items you might need during an electrical outage, such as flashlights, paper goods and sleeping bags. Don't overlook pets and special needs items for family members. The more prepared you are the easier it will be to get through the crisis.

The Base Portsmouth website is an excellent starting point to find checklists, guides, planning tips and shelter locations and other useful links in your area at <http://cglink.uscg.mil/645fb5f5>. In addition to this letter, we also provide up to date information on our **Foul Weather Hotline: (757) 686-4233**. Being prepared and staying vigilant are keys to staying safe during this hurricane season.

Sincerely,

B.K. Kerr
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Commanding Officer, CG BASE Portsmouth

Enclosures: (1) Disaster Kit Checklist

Disaster Kit Checklist

	Water and Containers		Trash Bags		Formula
	Non-electric Can Opener		Flashlight		Batteries
	First Aid Kit		Dust Mask		Food
	Paper Plates		Rain Gear		Utensils
	Paper Towels		Sleeping Bags		Books/Games
	Paper Cups		Blankets		Clothing
	Multi-Tool		Radio (battery)		Keys, Extra
	Prescription Drugs		Hygiene Items		Cash
	Toiletries		Butane Lighter		Bleach
	Cell Phone		Soap/Shampoo		Tape (duct)
	Phone Chargers		Charcoal		Camera
	Cooler		Grill		Rope
	Lighter Fluid		Bug Repellent		Matches
	Power Converter		Tool Kit (incl wrench/pliers)		Gloves
	Power Cords		Pictures		Saw
	Moist Wipes		Tent		Important Papers
	Fire Extinguisher		Pet Supplies (incl leash and carrier)		Baby Supplies
	Sharpie		Pen/Pencil		Financial Data
	Signal Whistle		Hat, Sunglasses		Sewing Kit
	Sturdy Shoes/work boots		Tent/Tarps		Compass