

# HURRICANE MICHAEL: ARE YOU READY?

Check your family's emergency supplies

Living in Savannah, we must be alert during hurricane season. There is no reason to panic, but we must stay informed. It is your responsibility to ensure that your family is prepared to evacuate, if mandatory evacuation is issued.

## BEFORE THE STORM

- HAS encourages all residents to purchase renters/flood insurance.
- Make your plans. Decide where you will go.
- Arrange transportation.
- In case of a mandatory evacuation, Chatham Area Transit will pick up bus riders at their regular stops and take them to the Savannah Civic Center for city-wide evacuation.
- If you have a pet, you will need a proper pet carrier or arrange for the pet to be sheltered.

Be sure to pack the following basics in advance: identification, prescription drugs, water and food, at least three outfits, personal hygiene items, important paper such as insurance cards and phone numbers, a small toy, favorite book or small battery-operated radio, pet vaccination records

## THE WATCH

A Hurricane Watch means that weather conditions are favorable for the threat of a hurricane within the next 24-36 hours. Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) advises you to do the following when a Watch is issued:

- Review your evacuation plan
- Fill up your car with gasoline
- Use masking tape to crisscross tape windows and glass doors
- Cover furniture with heavy plastic, wrapping the legs separately
- Listen to a radio or television for official instructions

## HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEBSITES:

Georgia Emergency Management  
[www.gema.state.ga.us](http://www.gema.state.ga.us)

Coastal Health District  
[www.qachd.org](http://www.qachd.org)

Chatham Emergency Management  
[www.cema.chathamcounty.org](http://www.cema.chathamcounty.org)

National Hurricane Center  
[www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov)

Homeland Security  
[www.ready.gov/america/](http://www.ready.gov/america/)

American Red Cross  
[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

WTOC-TV  
[www.wtoctv.com](http://www.wtoctv.com)

WSAV-TV  
[www.wsav.com](http://www.wsav.com)

For Special Needs/Homebound Emergency Evacuation Applications Call: Coastal Health District (912) 691-7443

- Bring outdoor items inside. Secure items that cannot be brought inside.
- Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest settings.
- Store drinking water in clean bathtubs, jugs and bottles.

## THE WARNING

A Hurricane Warning means that winds of over 74 miles per hour with dangerous high tides and waves are expected within 24 hours. When a Warning is issued, CEMA and the Housing Authority give this advice:

- Listen to the media for official instructions
- Store valuables and personal papers in a waterproof container
- Remove stereo speakers and small household items from the floor



- Stay inside, away from windows and glass doors
- Keep a supply of flashlights and extra batteries handy
- Avoid open flames such as candles and kerosene lamps as a light source
- If power is lost, turn off appliances to reduce electrical surge

***If a mandatory evacuation of Chatham County is issued residents refusing to leave do so at their own risk. There may come a time in the storm when emergency crews will not respond.***

***Stillwell Towers residents are MANDATED to evacuate the building.***

### SHELTER IN PLACE

If a Category I or II hurricane is forecast, evacuation may not be required. Develop a Family Disaster Supply Kit in case you stay at home during an emergency. Be ready for major electrical outages.

Your kit should include the following:

- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Portable, battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- First Aid Kit
- Food that does not require cooking
- Non-electric can opener
- Water
- Essential medicines
- Cash and credit cards
- Sturdy shoes

### EVACUATE

A Category III, IV or V hurricane would require evacuation of the entire county. If an evacuation is mandatory, please keep in mind that it is for you and your family's safety.

- Pack personal items
- Take blankets and sleeping bags
- Tell someone outside of the storm area where you are going
- If you will be staying with someone other than the emergency contact on file with HAS, please notify your neighborhood management office.
- Unplug all electrical appliances
- Lock up your home
- Avoid flooded roads and watch for washed-out bridges

### AFTER THE STORM

- Be alert and watch for news from your area
- Return home
- Check refrigerated foods for spoilage

#### **HAS MANAGEMENT OFFICES:**

River Pointe I and II: (912) 621-1180

Kayton, Frazier: (912) 235-5820

Stillwell, Patterson, Single Family: (912) 235-5835

Yamacraw: (912) 235-5825