

MIDWAY FIRE RESCUE DIVISION OF FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY PRESS RELEASE

PREPARATION FOR A SAFE EVACUATION

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September 2, 2019, 5:00 PM - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – PAWLEYS ISLAND, SC – As Hurricane Dorian continues to move toward the eastern portion of the United States, there is always the possibility of having to evacuate. To ensure your family (and home) are prepared for an evacuation, Midway Fire Rescue Officials urge our citizens to consider taking the following steps in the event an evacuation is called for.

- Establish an evacuation kit for each member of the family. Food, water, medicines, important documents, and clothing should be a minimum. Don't forget your pets
- During the period leading up to any type of significant weather event, ensure the fuel tanks in all your vehicles are full
- Select two meeting places away from your home, in the event you have to evacuate when everyone is not at home. Give out-of-town family/friends your itinerary
- Keep a copy of all important family and home documents. This should include driver's license; passport; proof of car, home, and life insurance; Social Security cards; medical insurance cards; property deeds; and an updated list of personal contacts (printed -- don't rely on your phone)
- Keep an appropriate amount of cash on hand in the event businesses cannot accept cards, or ATMs are not operating
- Before you leave your home, unplug electronics and appliances, such as televisions, cable lines and boxes, stereos, coffee pots and toasters. Also consider turning off the water, electric, and gas supply to your home if you are able
- Secure all lawn furniture, play sets, flags, and other objects which could be dangerous
- Make a phone video tape of household items and valuables, and e-mail to yourself
- If you lose power before you evacuate, double check that all appliances are cut off, specifically stoves, cooktops, coffee pots, hair dryers, and curling irons
- > Ensure your home is properly secured and locked before you leave
- Follow all local evacuation instructions and evacuation routes
- For additional storm related information, please visit: <u>http://www.georgetowncountysc.org/Emergency_Management/</u>