

Lower Pontalba Condominiums of Old Metairie

Hurricane Preparedness

What to put in your family Hurricane kit (3 day minimum or better)

- Flashlight and radio with extra batteries
- Bottled water for at least a week
- First aid kit and prescription medications
- Personal hygiene items such as toilet paper, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.
- Paper towels, hand sanitizer, mosquito repellent and eating utensils
- Clothes (minimum 3 days), diapers, blankets/sheets, pillows, sleeping bags
- Non-perishable food items, including canned food and non-electric can opener
- Utility knife, wrench, and pliers
- Special items for infants, elderly and disabled family members
- Eyeglasses, contacts, and sunglasses- extra pair if possible
- Personal items such as soap, shampoo, toiletries, etc.
- Keys- vehicles and the place you may be going
- Cellular phone, charger, etc.

Gather important documents

- Driver's license, personal ID, passport, social security card
- Proof of residential address (deed, lease, utility bills)
- Insurance policies (home, auto, flood)
- Certificates of birth, marriage, etc.
- Stocks, bonds and other negotiable certificates
- Important papers- wills, tax returns, company documents
- Receipts for valuable home items
- Cash, credit cards, checkbook, and any unpaid bills
- Family photos/heirlooms

Other important tasks

- Unplug electrical appliances to reduce potential damage from power surges that may occur
- Turn your refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting and keep the door opening to a minimum
- Fill bathtubs with water for flushing
- Remove outdoor furniture, potted plants, decorations, etc. and store inside your home
- Keep your vehicle's gas tank full in case of a last minute decision to evacuate
- Check your insurance coverage and consider additional coverages for living expenses in case your home is uninhabitable after a storm. Document the content of your home with a video camera.
- Have an established evacuation plan. If you do not have transportation of your own, make plans with family and friends and **DO NOT FORGET YOUR PETS**

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HURRICANE PREPARATION

Evacuation for a hurricane is a very difficult and personal decision. Here are some things for you to consider when making your decision:

USE OF PRIVATE GENERATORS IS NOT ALLOWED.

If local authorities issue a mandatory evacuation, we strongly recommend that you evacuate. In the event of an evacuation, you should not expect the manager, handyman, housekeeper, or any Board members to be available to provide service.

Even if evacuation is not mandatory, LPCA staff and Board members will not be available to assist you.

YOU MUST HAVE A BACK UP PLAN

Things to consider when making your decision:

- You are responsible for providing any services you may require.
- If your caregiver is not available to help you, you must make back up plans with family or friends to evacuate you. The Lower Pontalba does not provide these services.
- You may not be able to flush the toilets
- Tap water may be undrinkable
- Grocery stores, gas stations, and drug stores will be closed
- ATM's will not work
- Hospitals will be operating on emergency power
- Ambulance and firefighting services may not be available
- There will be no garbage collection
- There will probably not be anyone from JPSO available to provide security
- When electricity is out:
 - Hallways and stairwells are pitch dark
 - Elevators will not work

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- Locks on the 4 entry doors will not lock; therefore the building will not be secure. We will not be able to padlock the doors if any one person remains in the building.

Before evacuating:

- Remove all items from your patio or balcony. If items are too heavy to move, and you must tie them down, you must tie them with something strong enough to withstand hurricane force winds. Be a good neighbor- remove or secure
- Remove all perishable items from your refrigerator and freezer
- Turn off all A/C units to protect them from a power surge when electricity is restored
- Unplug computers and televisions
- Fill your tub with water to use for toilet flushing
- Place towels at the base of all windows and sliding doors
- Fill your car with gas