

June 2013

June marks the beginning of Hurricane Season, we want to help ensure that you and your family are safe and your property is protected. As we begin to review our own disaster recovery plan, we would like to remind you to prepare one as well.

A few tips for you to consider.....

## I. <u>Before The Storm</u>

- Secure proper supplies
- Check your insurance coverage- flood damage is not covered by your homeowners insurance.
- Stock non-perishable emergency supplies and a Disaster Supply Kit (see next page).
- Don't forget your pet when preparing a family disaster plan.
- Make a plan for your pets if you need to evacuate.
- Keep a collar with identification on your pet and have a leash on hand to control your pet.
- Carefully monitor The Weather Channel, local broadcasts and NOAA weather radio for official bulletins of the storm's progress.
- Secure loose objects (including patio furniture and toys).
- Close all interior doors.
- Set refrigerator controls to the coldest setting, keeping food fresh longer.
- Secure any unprotected balconies/doors with plywood or visqueen and place towels inside all exposed exterior doors on top of thresholds.
- Trim any low hanging or dead tree limbs prior to hurricane season.
- II. Disaster Supply Kit
  - Water at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 7 days

- Food at least enough for 3 to 7 days
- Non-perishable packaged or canned food/juices and a non electric opener
- Foods for infants or elderly
- Snack foods
- Cooking tools/fuel
- Paper plates/plastic utensils
- Clothing Seasonal / rain gear / sturdy shoes
- First Aid Kit/ Adequate Medicines/Prescription Drugs
- Special Items for babies and the elderly
- Flashlight / Batteries
- Radio Battery operated and NOAA weather radio
- Telephones Fully charged cell phone with extra battery and a traditional (not cordless) telephone set
- Cash (with some small bills) and Credit Cards Banks and ATMs may not be available for extended periods
- Keys
- Important Documents in a waterproof container or watertight resealable plastic bag
- Insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security, etc.
- Vehicle fuel tank filled
- Pet care items
- Extension Cord These are essential for helping to provide power from generators to items you need to run.
- Find a safe place for your vehicle and/or boat.
- Fan- if you lose your central air or need to dry an area more quickly, be sure to have a portable fan on standby. A fan will use less power than the A/C should you be dependent on a generator.
- Take interior and exterior pictures of your home for documentation.
- \*\*\*Important Generator Safety Tips\*\*\*\*\*

Be sure never to operate your generator indoors; it runs on gas and can cause unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas which, if inhaled, can be fatal. Also, do not install generator right next to your home because carbon monoxide can collect in the eaves of your home. Don't refill the generator's gas tank while the unit is running because this can cause a fire, which can also lead to serious injury or death. If you use a generator make sure a licensed electrician has wired it. Do not run generators in closed/non-vented areas such as garage. Finally, be sure to remove all gas from the tank when storing your generator for next year.

III. <u>After the storm – Returning Home & Repairing The Damage</u>

- Make a list of property damage. Take photographs of all damage.
- Check for structural damage.
- Have water, gas, electric, and sewer lines checked professionally.
- Most insurance companies will pay for immediate repairs; keep all receipts.
- If you hire someone to help with repairs, check for current licenses (if applicable), insurance and a work permit.

We have also provided below our cell numbers should you need to reach anyone from TotalCare Orlando after hours or on the weekend in an emergency:

Chuck Creel 637-6854	(407) 271-3663	Greg Apgar	(407)
Chris Morgan	(407) 947-3614	Kim Goehring	(407) 947-3590
Bo Morgan	(407) 383-0650	Kevin Ball	(407) 947-6873

We value our friendship, thank you for your business and hope that you enjoy a wonderful summer. Hopefully we will only have to archive this information. Stay safe and have an enjoyable summer.

Your Friends at TotalCare Orlando