



## HURRICANE SEASON PREPAREDNESS



### CONGRESSMAN MARIO DIAZ-BALART

#### Enclosures:

- Sample mailer
- News release announcing the Congressman's tour of the National Hurricane Center
- Hurricane preparedness checklist posted on the Congressman's website
- Sample e-newsletter
- Dear Colleague from the Franking Commission discussing the email policy
- Best Practices document providing additional information

#### Staff Contact:

- Thomas Bean with Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart, 225-2778
- Alisha Perkins with Congressman Doolittle, 225-2511

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

PUBLIC DOCUMENT  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

This mailing was prepared, published and  
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M.C.

PRSRT STD

CONGRESSMAN



**MARIO  
DIAZ-BALART**

## Hurricane Preparedness Update



### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

**Federal Emergency Management Agency**  
1-800-621-3362

**Florida Emergency Information Hotline**  
1-800-342-3557 (24-hours)

**Emergency Housing Programs**  
1-800-414-1226

**Public Housing Programs**  
1-800-955-2232

**Mail Services**  
1-800-275-8777

**Social Security Administration**  
1-800-772-1213

**Medicare and Medicaid Issues**  
1-800-362-1504

**Small Business Administration**  
Individuals: 1-800-621-3362  
Business: 1-800-659-2955

**State Volunteer and Donations Hotline**  
1-800-354-3571

**Florida Power and Light**  
1-800-468-8243

**South Florida Water Management District**  
1-800-544-2323

**Florida Department of Insurance**  
1-800-227-8676

**Attorney General's Price Gouging Hotline**  
1-800-646-0444

**Banking Issues**  
1-877-275-3342

**Agricultural and Consumer Services**  
1-800-435-7352

**Agency for Workforce Innovation  
Emergency**  
1-800-204-2418

**Finding Pets**  
1-800-486-2631

### CONTACT YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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**City of Doral**  
(305) 593-6725

**City of Homestead**  
(305) 224-4415

**Florida City**  
(305) 242-8135

**Town of Cutler Bay**  
(305) 373-5313

### LEARN MORE

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)  
Federal Emergency Management Agency

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

[www.nws.noaa.gov](http://www.nws.noaa.gov)  
National Weather Service

[www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov)  
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration



25<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT OF FLORIDA



**OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

Dear Neighbor:

Before the Hurricane Season in Florida begins, I wanted to provide you with some pertinent information that you should know about to help you prepare and respond to a natural disaster.

The 2005 hurricane season brought much devastation to Florida's residents. Last year four hurricanes slammed into our state: Dennis, Katrina, Rita and Wilma. Many areas in our community were impacted. Families, farmers, homes, businesses, schools and others suffered significant damage.

I have worked tirelessly to provide disaster relief funding for our community, but we still need to be more prepared to face another natural disaster. For this reason I would like to share with you a hurricane preparedness checklist.

The effects of a natural disaster can be reduced if you are aware of the steps you should take before, during, and after any natural disaster. It is also important that you and every member of your family know the emergency phone numbers listed below.

It is an honor to have the opportunity to be your voice in Congress. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Mario Diaz-Balart  
Member of Congress

**Contact Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart**

**Miami-Dade County**  
12851 Southwest 42nd Street  
Suite 131 (2nd Floor)  
Miami, Florida 33175  
phone: 305-225-6866  
fax: 305-225-7432

**Washington, DC Office**  
313 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
phone: 202-225-2778  
fax: 202-226-0346

Office Hours: M-F, 9 a.m-5 p.m.



Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart assesses community needs with local leaders following Hurricane Wilma.

# Hurricane Preparedness Checklist

The biggest lesson of the disastrous 2005 hurricane season was that citizens need to have enough supplies to survive for at least three days after a hurricane hits. I am providing this suggested checklist of basic items for a disaster supplies kit:

## FOOD AND DRINK

- Drinking Water: 1 gal. per person per day
- Non-potable Water: for hygienic use only
- Propane Gas for Barbecue Grill
- 2 Coolers for Food and Ice
- Manual Can Opener

### Two weeks' supply of the following:

- Nonperishable Foods
- Plastic Tableware and Cups
- Plastic Wrap and Plastic Trash Bags
- Toilet Paper and Paper Towels
- Wet Wipes
- Fuel for Folding Stoves

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Flashlight and Batteries: 1 per person
- Liquid Soap and Hand Sanitizer
- Tooth-Brushing Pads
- Water Purification Kit
- 2-Week Supply of Prescription Drugs
- Fire Extinguisher
- Extra Eyeglasses and Sunglasses
- Insect Repellent
- Sunscreen

### Infant Necessities:

- Infant Medicine
- Diapers
- Baby Formula
- Bottles

### First-aid kit including the following:

- Bandages
- Antiseptic
- Tape
- Compresses
- Pain Relievers
- Anti-Diarrhea Medication
- Antacid
- Medication for common illnesses

## MISCELLANEOUS

- Cleanup supplies: Mop, Buckets, Towels, Disinfectant, Bleach
- Camera/Camcorder: record property before storm & document damage afterwards
- Extra Batteries
- Flat Fixer for Tires
- Work Gloves
- Full Gas Tank
- Appropriate Clothes for Post-Storm: Hat, Closed-Toe Shoes, Dry Socks, Rain Gear
- Animal Care: Ensure that proper food and water are stocked
- Cash: ATMs, credit-card networks might be down
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## IF YOU EVACUATE

- Pillows, Blankets & Sleeping Bags or Air Mattresses: shelters do not provide these
- Folding Chairs or Cots
- Extra Clothing and Shoes
- Personal Hygiene Items: Tooth-Brush, Washcloth, Deodorant
- Food, Water and Ice
- Prescription Medications in Original Containers
- Books
- Handheld Games
- Toys

[www.house.gov/mariodiaz-balart](http://www.house.gov/mariodiaz-balart)



For Immediate Release:  
May 25, 2006

## **Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart To Tour National Hurricane Center on May 30**

**WASHINGTON**—Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL) will tour the National Hurricane Center at 1:30 pm on Tuesday, May 30 and will meet with the Center's staff to discuss predictions, preparations and needs for the upcoming hurricane season, which begins June 1. Diaz-Balart sits on the House Science Committee and its Subcommittee on Environment, which oversees the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration. There will be media availability at 2:15 pm following the tour and meeting.

**WHO: Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart**

**WHAT: Tour and meeting regarding upcoming hurricane season**

**WHEN: Tuesday, May 30 at 1:30 pm with media availability at 2:15 pm**

**WHERE: National Hurricane Center, 11691 SW 17th Street, Miami, Florida**

###

Contact: Thomas Bean · (202) 225-2778 · [Thomas.Bean@mail.house.gov](mailto:Thomas.Bean@mail.house.gov)  
313 Cannon House Office Building · Washington, D.C. · 20515  
Fax: (202) 226-0346 · [www.house.gov/mariodiaz-balart](http://www.house.gov/mariodiaz-balart)



## **HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST**

*The biggest lesson of the disastrous 2005 hurricane season was that citizens need to have enough supplies to survive for at least three days after a hurricane hits. I am providing this suggested checklist of basic items for a disaster supplies kit:*

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- o Flashlight and Batteries: 1 per person
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**Small Business Administration**  
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Business: 1-800-659-2955

**State Volunteer and Donations Hotline**  
1-800-354-3571

**Florida Power and Light**  
1-800-468-8243

**Lee County Electric Co-Op (LCEC)**  
1-800-282-1643  
(239) 995-2121

**South Florida Water Management District**  
1-800-544-2323

**Florida Department of Insurance**  
1-800-227-8676

**Attorney General's Price Gouging Hotline**

- o Baby Formula
- o Bottles

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**Agency for Workforce Innovation  
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1-800-204-2418

**Finding Pets**  
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**LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

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(305) 224-4415

**Florida City**  
(305) 242-8135

**Town of Cutler Bay**  
(305) 373-5313

**Collier County Government Center**  
(239) 774-8999


**Everglades City Hall**  
(239) 695-3781

**IF YOU EVACUATE**

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- o Toys

*<http://www.house.gov/mariodiaz-balart>*

If you are having trouble viewing this E-newsletter, [click here](#).

May 30, 2006	<a href="#">Unsubscribe</a>	<a href="#">Update My Profile</a>
 <p style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><b>CONGRESSMAN</b> <b>MARIO DIAZ-BALART</b> <b>25TH DISTRICT OF FLORIDA</b></p>		
<b>Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart - 25th District of Florida</b>		
<a href="#">Website</a> - <a href="#">Biography</a> - <a href="#">Issues</a> - <a href="#">News</a> - <a href="#">Services</a> - <a href="#">The Floor</a> - <a href="#">Photos</a> - <a href="#">Contact</a>		
<p>Dear Neighbor,</p> <p>Last month, Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert appointed me to the <a href="#">House Science Committee</a>. I am exceedingly honored to be appointed to this Committee. I am looking forward to finding ways to improve science and technology competitiveness in our nation's schools, focus on economically viable alternative fuel sources and also address issues facing NASA.</p> <p>I am also honored to have been appointed to the Subcommittee on Space which oversees NASA, and Subcommittee on Environment, which has oversight of the National Oceanic &amp; Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Hurricane Center in Miami.</p> <p>As hurricane season draws near, I hope you are making the appropriate preparations. Hopefully, this year will not resemble last year, but we should all be as prepared as possible just in case. You can <a href="#">access a list of recommendations from my website</a>.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Mario Diaz-Balart</p>	<div style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p><b>Hurricane Preparation</b></p> <p><b>Do you feel you are prepared for this year's hurricane season?</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #4b4b8b; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"><b>Submit &amp; Join</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">*By answering this survey, you are subscribing to my newsletter</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">If you are having trouble, click here.</a></p> </div>	
<b>Contact Information</b>		
<p><b>Washington, DC</b> 313 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone: (202) 225-2778 Fax: (202) 226-0346</p>	<p><b>Miami, FL</b> 12851 SW 42nd Street Suite 131 Miami, FL 33175 Phone: (305) 225-6866 Fax: (305) 225-7432</p>	<p><b>Collier County, FL</b> 4715 Golden Gate Parkway Suite 1 Naples, FL 34116 Phone: (239) 348-1620 Fax: (239) 348-3569</p>
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Committee on  
**House Administration**

1309 Longworth House Office Building | Washington, DC 20515-6157  
t: 202-225-8281 | f: 202-225-9957 | [www.house.gov/cha](http://www.house.gov/cha)

[Dear Colleagues](#) :: September 8, 2003

## Updated E-mail Policy Related to Subscriber Lists

Dear Colleague:

The Committee on House Administration has adopted a new policy related to individuals who subscribe to an electronic mailing list. Effective immediately, the new policy allows an individual who subscribes to a Member's electronic communication or newsletter, to be categorized as a "solicited" request by the individual. As a result, these communications would not be subject to the 90-day communications ban that applies to unsolicited communications.

The added communication ability also poses greater responsibilities on the part of Members and staff. While there is no requirement to seek an advisory opinion from the Franking Commission, the Committee **strongly encourages** each office to seek guidance from the Franking Commission when questions arise, to ensure compliance with franking content regulations and to avoid enforcement and punitive measures, from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, which may result from communications not in compliance with House and franking rules and regulations.

The new provision in the *Members' Congressional Handbook* reads accordingly:

### Subscribed E-mail updates

A subscribed e-mail update is an e-mail sent to constituents who have individually subscribed to an e-mail list. Members must notify constituents who subscribe to e-mail updates that the constituent is authorizing the Member to send regular e-mail updates from the Member's office to the person's e-mail account. All e-mail updates to subscribers must contain an option that enables the constituent to unsubscribe from the e-mail list. Members may send subscribed e-mail updates without obtaining an advisory opinion.

### Non-subscribed E-mail updates

If each e-mail address used in a mass communication was not obtained with consent for subscribed e-mail updates, then the Member must receive a Franking Advisory prior to the distribution of the mass communication.

*Please see Unsolicited Mass Communications Restrictions.*

This new category enables Members to provide legislative updates to individuals who have specifically requested this official information, and will allow Members to communicate with their constituency more closely as bills make their way through the legislative process. Subscriber lists would be treated consistently with other communications that fall within a solicited category, such as petitions, mass



distribution issue cards mailed in from constituents, and mass distribution telegrams that are received in Member offices. The unique nature of e-mail warrants different standards than would apply to the standard letter sent through the post office and the intent of this change is to allow Members to keep constituents better informed about legislative activity.

If you have any questions related to the new policy, please contact the Committee on House Administration (Majority – x58281; Minority – x52061), or the Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards at the same numbers.

Sincerely,

S/ BOB NEY

Chairman



# BEST PRACTICES

## A GUIDE TO WHAT'S WORKING

CHAIRMAN DEBORAH PRYCE    SECRETARY JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

## HURRICANE SEASON PREPAREDNESS

MEMBER: REP. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

STAFF CONTACT: THOMAS BEAN, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

### ABOUT THIS EVENT:

Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart specifically targeted the issue of hurricanes for his constituents in Florida. However, this idea could be tailored for other regions of the country by focusing on forest fires, tornadoes, earthquakes, flooding areas, etc. This is also a great way for Congressman Diaz-Balart to be recognized as assisting in recovery as well as helping his constituents become better prepared for a possible natural disaster.

### PREPARATION

#### **Who is involved?**

Primarily the Washington staff will develop the documents; however, the district staff will add necessary in-put. The district staff will also arrange the Congressman's tour of the National Hurricane Center.

#### **Are any outside groups involved?**

No outside groups needed for this one.

#### **Timeframe for preparation:**

Since this is the first time that the Congressman's office has sent out these items, it took a little longer to gather the information and develop the documents. However, the goal is to re-use these items in the future.

### PRESS COMPONENT

#### **What press did you invite?**

National press are invited to highlight this hurricane preparedness package; however, they are only invited to join the Congressman after the tour.

#### **What went into your press plan for the event?**

A news release is sent out announcing the Congressman's National Hurricane Center tour date and time.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### **How often do you hold this event?**

This will be the first mailer and e-newsletter for Congressman Diaz-Balart; however, the information and prep-work has now been completed for next year.