Hurricane Preparedness Information & Checklist

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Dear Friends,

As the 2007 Hurricane Season in Florida begins, I would like to take this opportunity to provide you some important information to help you better prepare for and respond to a natural disaster.

Natural disasters are an unpredictable reality that can potentially cause catastrophic and life-threatening damages in a matter of mere moments. With this in mind, it is critical to make preparations and take the necessary precautions in advance to ensure your safety and that of your family and loved ones.

As we remember well in South Florida, hazards from hurricanes come in many forms: storm surges, high winds, tornadoes, and flooding. For this reason, hurricanes can potentially damage not only our coastlines but also our communities far inland.

Being aware of the necessary steps you should take before, during, and after any natural disaster can help reduce the effects of a natural disaster. For this reason, I would like to share with you the following hurricane preparedness checklist.

It is an honor to be serving you in Washington. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance or if there is a matter that you would like to bring to my attention.

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CONGRESSMAN

Lincoln Diaz-Balart

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Tools

- Flashlight & extra batteries: 1 per person
- Battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- Manual can opener
- Pliers
- □ Shut-off wrench
- Whistle
- Plastic sheeting
- **Fire** extinguisher
- Plastic storage containers
- Matches in a waterproof container
- 🗖 Tape

Health & Safety

- Liquid soap and liquid detergent
- Tooth-brushing pads
- Water purification kit
- Extra eyeglasses and sunglasses
- □ Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- 🗖 Lip balm
- **2**-week supply of prescription drugs

Infant Necessities:

- Infant medicine
- Diapers
- 🗖 Formula
- Bottles

First-aid Kit with the Following:

- Sterile adhesive bandages (assorted sizes)
- Latex gloves
- □ Tweezers
- Non-prescription drugs (e.g. pain reliever)
- □ Antiseptic
- Antacid
- Anti-diarrhea medication
- Compresses
- 2-inch and 3-inch roller bandages (at least 3 rolls)

Food and Drink:

- Drinking water: lgallon per person/day
 Non-potable water: for hygienic use only
 2 coolers for food and ice
- Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits, and vegetables
- High-energy foods
- Vitamins

Two Weeks Supply of the Following:

- □ Nonperishable foods
- Plastic table tableware and cups
- Plastic wrap and plastic trash bags
- Toilet paper and paper towels
- Wet wipes
- Fuel for folding stoves

Miscellaneous Items:

- Cash (ATM and credit card networks may be down)
- Cleanup supplies: disinfectant, bleach, mop, bucket
- Camera/camcorder (record property and storm damage)
- **D** Flat fixer for tires
- Work gloves
- □ Full tank of gas
- Propane gas for barbeque grill
- At least one complete change of clothes and footwear per person
- Animal Care (plenty of food and water, medication and veterinary records)

If Asked to Evacuate

- Blankets, sleeping bags and pillows
- Folding chairs or cots
- Books and games
- Prescription medications in original container
- Personal hygiene items
- Extra clothing and shoes
- Food, water and ice

Keep These Records in Waterproof Portable Containers:

- Will, insurance policies, contracts, deeds, stocks and bonds
- Passports, Social Security cards and immunization records
- Credit card account numbers and companies
- Inventory of valuable household items and important telephone numbers
- Family records (birth and marriage certificates, immigration and immunization records, etc.)
- Current pictures as identification should you and your loved ones or pets be separated

Contact Your Local Government:

Broward County Emergency Management 954-831-3900

Miami-Dade County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security 305-468-5400

Learn More Online:

Federal Emergency Management Agency www.fema.gov

American Red Cross www.redcross.org

National Weather Service www.nws.noaa.gov

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration www.noaa.gov

Congressman Lincoln Diaz-Balart



Washington D.C. – 202-225-4211

District Office - 305-470-8555

http://diaz-balart.house.gov

Emergency Contacts:

Federal Emergency Management Agency 1-800-621-3362

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

Mail Services 1-800-275-8777

Social Security Administration 1-800-772-1213

Florida Department of Financial Services Insurance Claim Hotline *1-800-227-8676*

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

Agency for Workforce Innovation Unemployment Claims 1-800-204-2418

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

Salvation Army Donations Helpline 1-800-725-2769

American Red Cross 1-800-435-7669

American Red Cross Food, Shelter and Financial Assistance 1-866-438-4636



discusses the distribution of meals in

the aftermath of Hurricane Wilma.