

Steps to Take as a Major Storm Approaches

Please note: Supervisor Norm Hughes will be monitoring Hurricane Irene and overseeing any cleanup or repairs that will be needed after the storm leaves our area. If you wish to leave a message for Supervisor Hughes, please call the Township Office at 1-610-255-5212.

- 8/26/11

With the approach of Hurricane Irene (or any future storm), here are some items that you may want to consider, depending on the projected forecast of the storm:

1. Stay tuned to a local radio or television stations for the latest National Weather Service advisories as well as special instructions from local government.
2. Check battery-powered equipment. Your battery-operated radio could be your only source of information, and flashlights will be needed if utility services are interrupted. Buy extra batteries.
3. Keep your car fueled should evacuation be necessary. Also, service stations may be inoperable after the storm strikes.
4. Store drinking water in clean bathtubs, jugs, bottles and cooking utensils as your water system may be contaminated or damaged by the storm. Obtain extra prescription medications and medical supplies. Check your food supplies and determine if you need anything prior to the storm hitting our area. Consider buying foods that don't need to be cooked / heated or kept refrigerated.
5. Secure outdoor objects that might become debris. Garbage cans, garden tools, toys, signs, porch furniture, and a number of other harmless items become deadly missiles in hurricane winds. Prior to the storm's arrival, go into your yard, look around and ask yourself if I were a hurricane "what could I pick up and blow away?"
6. Be alert for TORNADO WATCHES and WARNINGS as tornadoes are often spawned by hurricanes. Should your area receive a tornado warning, seek shelter immediately in an interior bathroom or small hall, preferably below ground level.
7. Please offer assistance to any neighbors that are disabled or elderly.
8. If you must evacuate your home, do not leave your animals behind. At the first hint of a hurricane, evacuate them to a prearranged safe location if they cannot stay with you during the evacuation period. (Red Cross shelters cannot accept pets due to health and safety regulations.) Keep important pet items, food, medications, leashes and carriers in an accessible place. Planning and preparation will enable you to evacuate with your pets quickly and safely. For more information, contact the local Humane Society.

9. Give your relatives and friends the name of a contact person who will know where you are and how you are doing.
10. Have extra cash on hand for three days worth of expenses should there be a power outage over a wide area.
11. To report power outages, please call PECO at 1-800-841-4141. Have your account number by your phone so if you need to contact PECO you will have it readily available.
12. If you have any issues with your telephone, please contact VERIZON at 1-800-837-4966.
13. To report any down wires or emergencies related to PECO or VERIZON call 911.
14. Here is a list of state roads in Franklin Township maintained by PENNDOT:
 - Route 896 / New London Rd
 - Route 841 / Chesterville Rd and Wickerton Rd
 - Appleton Rd
 - Strickersville Rd
 - Pennock Bridge Rd
 - Clay Creek Rd
 - Good Hope Rd to the Township line
 - Northbank Rd
 - North Creek Rd

PennDOT's General Maintenance Number for Chester County is 1-484-340-3201.

15. If you discover any issues with our municipal infrastructure please call the Township number 1-610-255-5212. If no one answers, please leave a message. Someone will be checking the messages on a regular basis.

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