

# **Emergency Preparedness Guide**



**It is important for every resident to be prepared for emergency situations such as hurricanes and other natural disasters.**

**This booklet will give residents an idea of what they should have on hand to get through these situations more easily.**

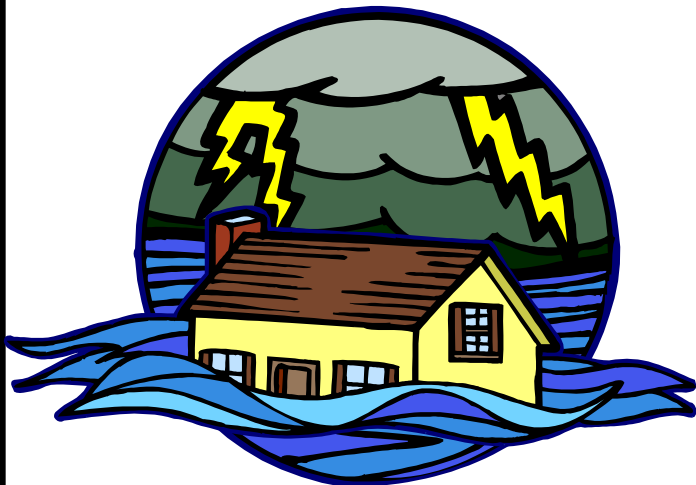
## **Keep in a Waterproof Portable Container**



- **Will, insurance policies, contracts, deeds, stocks and bonds, passports, social security cards, immunization records, bank account numbers, credit card account numbers and companies.**
- **Inventory of valuable household goods, important telephone numbers.**
- **Family Records—birth, marriage, and death certificates.**

## **Important Things to Do and Know Prior to the Emergency**

- **Have a family plan—Who does what and where your family will ride out the emergency? Know your child's school's disaster plan. Have an out-of-state contact to call in case of emergency.**
- **Locate the water meter and electrical shutoff in your home.**
- **Install/test your smoke detector.**
- **Video the contents of your home and store copies of the video in a neighbor's home or in another secure location.**

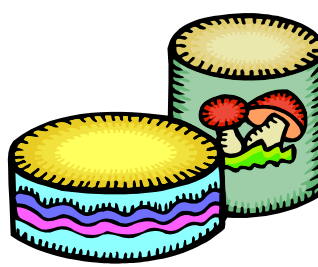


- **Photocopy important papers and store them safely.**
- **Make plans to board your pet if you plan to go to a shelter.**
- **Obtain travelers checks or cash.**
- **Install or test your smoke detector.**
- **Trim trees and store loose items.**

# Have These Supplies on Hand for Emergencies

## Food

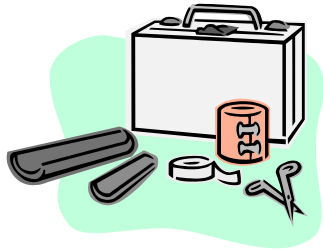
- One gallon of water per person, per day for at least five days
- Sandwich bread (freeze until needed)
- Two cans of ready-to-eat soup
- One box of crackers
- Dry cereal
- Four cans of fruit
- Five cans of meat
- Four cans of vegetables
- One jar of jelly or jam
- One large can of juice
- Instant coffee or tea



## Water

**Water will be used for drinking, cooking, and bathing.**

**Store enough bottled water for all members of your family and pets before a storm.**



## First Aid

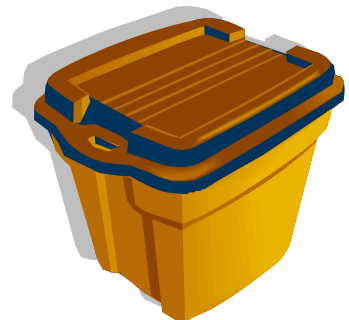
**During a storm, phone and electrical lines go down and weather conditions prevent emergency vehicles from responding to emergency situations. Preparing yourself and your family with CPR and First Aid training can save the life of a loved one.**

## Health and First Aid

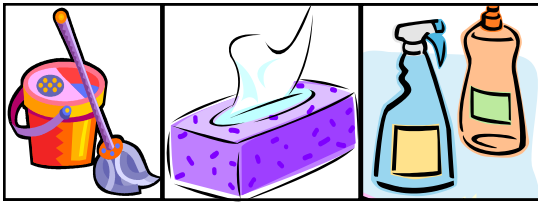
- One bottle of shampoo
- One box of sanitary hand wipes or bottle of hand sanitizer.
- One tube of toothpaste
- Antiseptic
- Deodorant
- Tweezers
- Adhesive bandages
- First Aid tape
- Rolls of gauze or bandages
- Hydrogen Peroxide
- First Aid book
- Petroleum Jelly
- Rubbing Alcohol

## Storage

- Two boxes of large plastic zip bags
- Plastic Wrap
- Two boxes of Aluminum foil
- Assorted plastic containers with lids
- Waterproof portable plastic container with lid.



# Have These Supplies on Hand for Emergencies



## Preserving Food

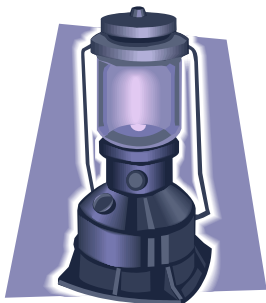
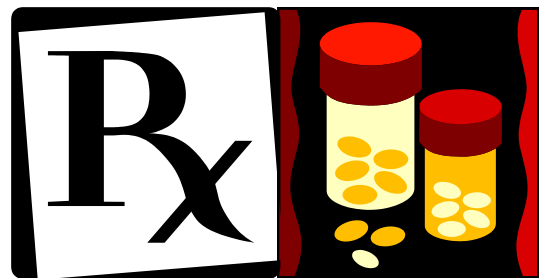
**Power can be off for several days after a storm. Be prepared with canned food and ice to preserve spoilable food for short periods of time.**

## Cleaning and Supplies

- Two packages of each: eating utensils, paper cups and paper plates
- Tissues
- Two rolls of paper Towels
- Four rolls of toilet paper
- Liquid dish soap
- Mosquito repellent
- Matches
- Latex gloves
- Broom, mop and bucket
- Unscented liquid bleach

## Medications

- Extra supply or prescription medication
- Aspirin and/or acetaminophen
- Anti-diarrhea medicine
- Adult vitamins
- Thermometer



## Smart Supplies

- Batteries for camping lantern
- Battery powered camping lantern
- Portable camp stove or grill
- Video or disposable camera

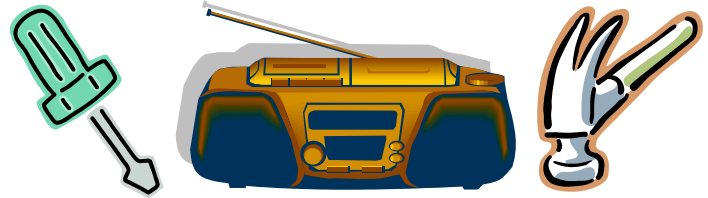
## Your Property

**Before hurricane season, make a complete inventory of your valuables. Store important documents and valuables in a safe dry place, and if you evacuate, take those documents with you. Take a photo inventory prior to a storm event and then take damage photos after the event for your insurance adjuster. Be sure that you are properly insured and understand all of the conditions of your policy prior to a disaster. This will save you from unfortunate surprises during recovery.**

# Have These Supplies on Hand for Emergencies

## Common Tools

- Battery operated radio
- Flashlights
- Flashlight batteries
- Assorted safety pins
- Scissors
- Screwdrivers
- Pliers
- Vise grips
- Hammers
- Heavy work gloves
- Stove fuel/charcoal, lighter fluid
- Camping or utility knife
- Box of disposable dust masks
- Plastic safety goggles



## Heavy Tools

- Plywood and fasteners to cover windows
- Tarps or canvas for temporary roof repair
- Hand saw and/or chainsaw and fuel
- Assorted nails
- Woodscrews
- Hatchet
- Crowbar

## Safety

Most hurricane related injuries occur after the storm, when people are cleaning debris. Wear proper safety gear, make sure you know how to properly use power tools and machinery and never work alone. It may be best to hire skilled and insured professionals to do some work.

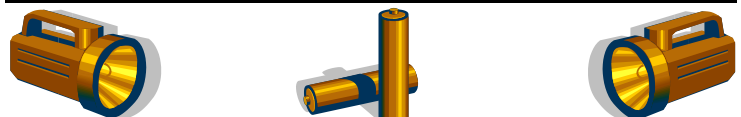


## Everyday Safety

- ABC certified fire extinguisher
- Smoke Detector with battery
- Carbon monoxide detector

## Everyday Supplies

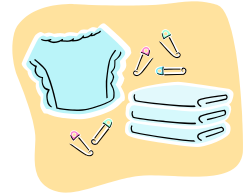
Disasters can happen without warning. It is a good idea to have disaster supplies on hand year-round. Make sure you have working fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, and carbon monoxide detectors in the home. These life-saving items reduce property damage. To reduce the risk of fire use flashlights, **DO NOT USE CANDLES**. Never use a generator, or charcoal grill inside your home or inside your garage.



# Have These Supplies on Hand for Emergencies

## Special Items

- Special foods for special diets
- Extra hearing aid batteries
- Items for denture care
- Spare eyeglasses and contact lens supplies
- One gallon of water per pet
- Leash or pet carrier
- Pet food
- Baby food
- Diapers
- Baby wipes



## What You Need

**Only you know what you need. Some families will need special items added to the disaster based on these needs, such as pet and baby supplies. Spare batteries are always good to have and so are spare eyeglasses.**



## Helpful Supplies

- Games and activities for the whole family
- Extra radio batteries
- Local and state road maps
- Extra gas cans

## Have Patience

**Damage after a severe weather event is unpredictable. It can take several days, and in some cases weeks to restore power. Crews will begin to work as they can to clear roads and restore services. Be patient. Plan for the loss of power, phones, water, and cable television. Have activities, such as board games, playing cards, and books. Remember that everyone in the community is experiencing the same disaster. Make sure that prior to the storm your car has a full tank of gas. DO NOT HOARD FUEL. And remember to work together and help your neighbors.**



# Stay Informed

## Signing Up for OEM Alerts

There are several ways to get emergency updates from the Township and to stay informed, especially during weather events such as Hurricane Sandy last year or Tropical Storm Irene the year before.

With many residents signing up for bundle packages with cable companies, several people were left without home phones, which made communicating extremely difficult during Hurricane Sandy.

## Connect on Facebook

“Before Sandy arrived, the Township Office of Emergency Management established a Facebook page to keep residents updated during and after the storm,” Township Business Administrator Wayne Hamilton said.

The site, [www.facebook.com/MonroeOEM](http://www.facebook.com/MonroeOEM), can be viewed by anyone with internet access, not just Facebook users, as well as those with “smart” cellular phones with data plans, as of publication there are 2,173 people that “like” the page.

## Middlesex County Community Notification System

The best way to keep abreast of emergency situations is to sign up for the Middlesex County Community Notification System. Through the System, residents and business owners who subscribe receive information about severe weather alerts, boil water advisories, health emergencies, road closures, community events and public works announcements. This program allows officials to target specific areas of the Township depending on the situation because the software uses Geographic Information System (GIS) technology.

Those interested in signing up for the notification system should visit:

<https://middlesexcountynj.onthealert.com>.

## Nixle Alert System

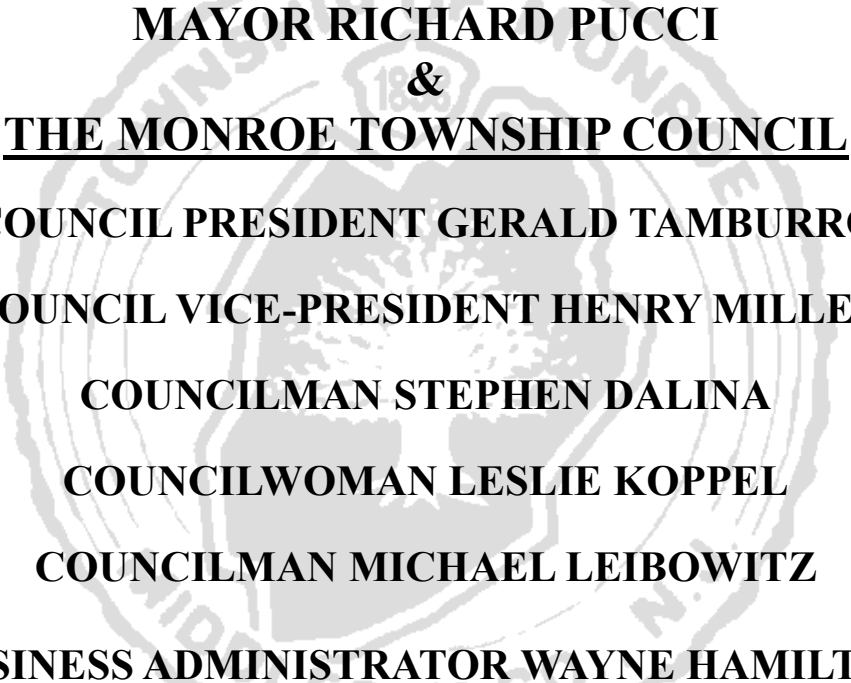
Furthermore, the OEM has established an account with the NIXLE alert system, where residents can register their e-mail addresses and cell phones to receive updates via text. In addition, residents can also get alerts via e-mail through NIXLE and to register visit [local.nixle.com/Monroe-township-office-of-emergency-management](http://local.nixle.com/Monroe-township-office-of-emergency-management). Links to all of notification systems can be found on the Monroe Township website, [www.monroetwp.com](http://www.monroetwp.com).

## Comcast Subscribers

**Monroe TV, channel 28 for Comcast subscribers, will also air emergency notification tickers as needed. But remember if power is lost, the station will not be available. Listen to battery-powered radios to remain informed during emergency situations.**







**MAYOR RICHARD PUCCI  
&  
THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**  
**COUNCIL PRESIDENT GERALD TAMBURRO**  
**COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT HENRY MILLER**  
**COUNCILMAN STEPHEN DALINA**  
**COUNCILWOMAN LESLIE KOPPEL**  
**COUNCILMAN MICHAEL LEIBOWITZ**  
**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR WAYNE HAMILTON**

**Prior to Any Emergency  
Weather Event Visit**

**[www.monroetwp.com](http://www.monroetwp.com)**

**For the Latest  
Information**