



Training Solutions, Delivered!

Hurricanes, Tornadoes and Floods

**Leader's Guide, Fact Sheet
& Quiz**

Item Number: 3040
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This easy-to-use Leader's Guide is provided to assist in conducting a successful presentation.

PREPARING FOR THE MEETING

Here are a few suggestions for using this program:

- a) Review the contents of the Fact Sheet that immediately follows this page to familiarize yourself with the program topic and the training points discussed in the program. The Fact Sheet also includes a list of Program Objectives that details the information that participants should learn from watching the program.
- b) If required by your organization, make an attendance record to be signed by each participant to document the training to be conducted.
- c) Prepare the area and equipment to be used for the training. Make sure the watching environment is comfortable and free from outside distractions. Also, ensure that participants can see and hear the TV screen or computer monitor without obstructions.
- d) Make copies of the Review Quiz included at the end of this Leader's Guide to be completed by participants at the conclusion of the presentation. Be aware that the page containing the answers to the quiz comes before the quiz itself, which is on the final page.

CONDUCTING THE PRESENTATION

- a) Begin the meeting by welcoming the participants. Introduce yourself and give each person an opportunity to become acquainted if there are new people joining the training session.
- b) Introduce the program by its title and explain to participants what they are expected to learn as stated in the Program Objectives of the Fact Sheet.
- c) Play the program without interruption. Upon completion, lead discussions about your organization's specific policies regarding the subject matter. Make sure to note any unique hazards associated with the program's topic that participants may encounter while performing their job duties at your facility.
- d) Hand out copies of the review quiz to all of the participants and make sure each one completes it before concluding the training session.

3040 HURRICANES, TORNADOES AND FLOODS FACT SHEET

LENGTH: 17 MINUTES

PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:

We have witnessed the devastating effects of natural disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes and floods during the past several years. Not only have homes and businesses been destroyed, but many lives also have been lost. We cannot stop mother nature, but we can reduce damage to property and protect people's lives with proper preparation.

This program will show the viewer how to prepare for an impending catastrophe. The viewer will learn the emergency procedures that apply before, during and after the storm.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

After watching the program, the participant will be able to explain the following:

- The preparations to be made before the storm season arrives;
- The actions to take in each of the disasters (hurricanes, tornadoes, floods);
- What to do when returning home after a natural disaster.

INSTRUCTIONAL CONTENT:

DISASTER PREPARATIONS

- In recent years, we have witnessed first-hand the devastating effect that natural disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes and floods can have on people's lives and property. Houses have been lost, businesses swept away and all too often lives are lost.
- Nothing can be done to prevent these catastrophes from happening, but you can help increase your odds of saving your property, your life, and the lives of your loved ones by being properly prepared.
- Even though science has improved methods of forecasting these emergencies, you never know when and with what severity a hurricane, tornado or flood will strike.
- To better prepare yourself for the onset of a natural disaster, you must familiarize yourself with emergency procedures that apply before, during and after the storm.
- The best way to ensure that you will be ready when the storm hits is to begin planning before the season begins.
- Regardless of the type of emergency, you should always stock a supply of food, water and emergency supplies.
- Storms can affect your ability to get to a store for food or medication, so it's important to keep them on hand. Even something as simple as a broken water main can leave you without water for a few days.
- Water is the most important of emergency supplies. The average person needs at least one quart of water or other liquid per day in order to survive, but more than one quart is advisable.
- Also, keep a couple of gallons on hand for sanitary purposes. Store water in plastic airtight containers and replace the water every two months to be sure it is pure and safe to drink.
- Food should also be included in emergency supplies. You should have enough nonperishable, high energy foods to feed you and your family for up to three days.
- Some examples of these foods are whole dry milk, canned fruit juices, canned meats, bread or crackers, peanut butter or cereal.
- You may be stranded in your home for several days or the store may run low on food supplies.
- If you must go to a public shelter, it's helpful to bring along as much nonperishable food as you can carry. You can never be too safe or too prepared.
- In addition to food and water, you should also have the following equipment: a medical first aid kit, a battery-operated radio with extra batteries, a flashlight, blankets or sleeping bags, paper plates, bottle openers, can openers, candles, matches or an oil or kerosene lantern, as well as any sanitary items such as toilet paper and a portable toilet.
- It is of utmost importance to keep an adequate supply of any medication that you take. If you were stranded or asked to go to a public shelter, you may not be able to get the medication you need.
- If you wear glasses, keep an extra pair on hand in the event yours are broken or damaged.

- Even though you have all the necessary emergency supplies and equipment, don't make the mistake of trying to ride out a storm at home. Evacuate if local authorities tell you to do so.
- Plan for this possible evacuation and you will be able to respond quickly and effectively to changing conditions.
- When you evacuate, you may want to take some of your emergency supplies with you, but don't take more than you can safely carry.
- If you are evacuated to an emergency shelter, the most important items to bring along are medication, blankets, a portable radio, a change of clothes and a small supply of food.
- Take the following steps ahead of time to make the evacuation easier. Keep your gas tank full during storm season. During a natural disaster, fuel may be hard to get. Team up with your neighbors and plan to share rides and supplies.
- Learn the recommended evacuation route from your home. Local television broadcasts will inform you where to go during an emergency, but you can learn the safest route ahead of time by calling your local emergency services office.
- Listen to daily weather forecasts and stay aware of weather conditions.

HURRICANES

- The procedures for preparing before hurricanes, tornadoes and floods are similar, but the actions to take during and after these disasters vary according to the type of emergency.
- First, let's take a look at hurricanes. Hurricanes are storms that have wind speeds exceeding 74 miles per hour moving in a counterclockwise direction. In addition to strong winds, heavy rains, thunder, lightning and sometimes tornadoes accompany the hurricane storm.
- A hurricane's most deadly force is what is known as the storm surge. Ocean tides rise dramatically, creating large waves which crest far beyond the reach of normal waves, leaving destruction in their path. Most hurricane deaths are attributed to storm surge.
- The National Weather Service issues two types of notices about approaching hurricanes: hurricane watches and hurricane warnings.
- A hurricane watch means that a hurricane may threaten coastal and inland areas. It does not mean that a hurricane is eminent.
- However, when a hurricane watch is announced, you should take the following actions. Stay tuned to local stations for updated information.
- Review your emergency plans. Be sure your car is fueled. Gather your emergency supplies and have them ready to go.
- Store all objects on your lawn or patio which could be picked up and carried by the wind. Lawn furniture, garden tools or garbage cans can become deadly in hurricane winds.
- Gather up all important papers in your home such as birth and marriage certificates, wills, insurance policies and deeds. Place these documents in a waterproof container for protection.
- A hurricane warning means that a hurricane is expected to strike within 24 hours. A hurricane warning leaves little time to act. Be prepared!
- When a hurricane warning is announced and an evacuation is ordered, radio and television stations will provide you with information on where to go. Leave early. Roads can flood quickly, leaving you stranded.
- Install shutters to protect your windows or run waterproof tape from corner to corner in the windows to prevent them from shattering. Close and lock all doors. Leave immediately to the evacuation center.
- If you are unable to evacuate before the hurricane hits, stay inside. Don't stay near windows or glass doors; you could be struck by flying debris. Remain calm and listen to a radio or television for storm updates.
- After the hurricane is past, local authorities will announce when it is safe to return to your home. When you return to your home, look for structural damage before you go inside.
- Watch for dangling power lines or broken water or gas lines. If you see any, notify your local officials. Make sure all electrical outlets and appliances are dry before using them.
- Don't drink water from the faucet until official notification that it is safe to drink.
- Snakes, animals, and insects instinctively travel to higher ground to escape floodwaters. Expect them and be prepared to protect yourself.
- Take action now to be better prepared when hurricane season arrives.

TORNADOES

- Next, there are tornadoes. Like hurricanes, tornadoes result in many deaths and caused hundreds of millions of

dollars in property damage each year. With winds swirling at 200 mph or more, a tornado can destroy anything in its path.

- Tornadoes usually occur in spring and summer, but they can happen at any time during the year. They don't just occur in the Midwest. Tornadoes have been reported in every state, so beware.
- There are weather signs and warnings that will alert you to tornado danger. But remember tornadoes are unpredictable. They can demolish a hundred houses in a row and then skip the next few before destroying still more. Funnel clouds can form rapidly, so it's best to be prepared in advance.
- Pick a place for family members to gather in the event of a tornado. This could be a basement, a center hallway or closet. Keep this area free of clutter to allow easy access.
- Put together a disaster supplies kit in a clearly labeled box. It should include a first aid kit and essential medications, a battery powered flashlight and radio with extra batteries, bottled water, canned food and can opener and sturdy shoes and work gloves. Also include written instructions on how to turn off your home's utilities including gas, water and electricity.
- Conduct periodic tornado drills so that everyone is prepared and knows what to do when the time comes.
- Know the difference between a tornado watch and a tornado warning. A tornado watch means that a tornado is possible in your area. A tornado warning means that a tornado has been sighted and is headed your way.
- When a tornado watch has been issued, tune to local TV and radio stations for updated storm information, be alert and watch for changing weather conditions. The loud sound of the tornado or blowing debris are signs that the tornado is near. A tornado watch means be alert.
- If a tornado warning has been announced, you must act quickly. If you are inside, go to your designated safe area. If you were outside, try to find a basement in a nearby building or lie flat in a ditch or other low-lying area. If you are in a car or mobile home, get out immediately and head for safety.
- After the tornado has passed, watch out for downed power lines and stay away from damaged areas. Listen to your radio for information and instructions. Inspect your home for structural damage and broken gas or water mains.
- Taking steps beforehand lessens the likelihood that you or your family will be injured during a tornado.

FLOODS

- Lastly, let's discuss floods. Prolonged rainfall can cause a river or a stream to overflow and flood the surrounding area. A flash flood can be caused by a broken dam or levee or intense rainfall of 1 inch or more per hour.
- Just as with hurricanes or tornadoes, preparation and awareness of safety practices greatly reduce your risk of injury.
- One of the most important aspects of flood preparedness is knowing what to expect. Know your area's flood risk. Be conscious of excessive rainfall and its potential to cause flooding. Listen to radio or television broadcasts for flood information.
- Keep a disaster supplies kit similar to the kits used for hurricanes and tornadoes. Include first aid, food, water, a radio, a flashlight, and spare batteries. Your kit should also include rubber boots and rubber gloves for use in wet conditions.
- Keep all important papers in a safe deposit box. Have an evacuation plan ready and always evacuate immediately when asked to do so.
- A flood watch means that a flood is possible in your area. A flood warning means flooding is already occurring or will soon occur. A flash flood watch means a flash flood may occur. A flash flood warning means that a flash flood is occurring in your area or will occur very soon.
- When a flood watch has been announced, move all furniture and valuables to the higher floors of your home. Fill your car with gas in case of an evacuation. Think over your emergency plans and remain calm.
- If a flood warning has been issued, listen to radio and television reports for information and advice. If an evacuation is called for, do so as soon as possible.
- When a flash flood watch is announced, beware of any signs of a flash flood and prepare to evacuate on a moment's notice.
- In the case of a flash flood warning, waste no time and evacuate as quickly as possible. During a flash flood warning, a few seconds can mean the difference between life and death.
- Move to higher ground away from streams, rivers, and storm drains. During an evacuation, never drive around a barricade; they're there for your own protection. If your car stalls in floodwaters, abandon it immediately and climb to higher ground.
- After the floodwaters have subsided and you have been authorized to return to your home, turn off the electricity at

the main breaker or fuse box even if the power is off completely in your community.

- Do not turn electricity back on until you are sure that your home is dry enough to prevent electrical shorts, shocks, or fires.
- State and federal agencies may provide emergency relief to flood victims. Listen to radio or television for information regarding this assistance.

CONCLUSION

- With today's technology, most hurricanes, tornadoes and floods can be accurately predicted. Radio and television stations provide you with vital emergency information, but if you don't prepare before the warnings begin, you are asking for trouble.
- Hurricanes, tornadoes and floods can spell disaster. Be sure you have done all that you can to protect yourself. The key to safety in any emergency situation is to be prepared.
- Have a complete set of emergency supplies, conduct periodic disaster drills so that everyone in your family is familiar with emergency procedures.
- Know evacuation routes and always evacuate when told to do so.
- Be aware of the risks in the area that you live and be ready to act in the event of a hurricane, tornado, or flood. Your safety and the safety of your family depend on it.

HURRICANES, TORNADOES AND FLOODS

ANSWERS TO THE REVIEW QUIZ

1. a

2. d

3. a

4. b

5. c

6. a

7. c

8. b

9. a

10. b

HURRICANES, TORNADOES AND FLOODS
REVIEW QUIZ

The following questions are provided to determine how well you understand the information presented in this program.

Name _____ Date _____

1. You can help save your life and the lives of your loved ones by being properly prepared.
 - a. True
 - b. False

2. You should have a plan that addresses which part of a natural disaster?
 - a. Before
 - b. During
 - c. After
 - d. All of the above

3. You may be without food, water and medications for several days after an emergency.
 - a. True
 - b. False

4. How much water does the average person need per day in order to survive?
 - a. One cup
 - b. One quart
 - c. One gallon
 - d. Five gallons

5. You should have enough non-perishable food on hand to feed your family for how many days?
 - a. One
 - b. Two
 - c. Three
 - d. Four

6. A flashlight should be a part of your emergency preparedness kit.
 - a. True
 - b. False

7. What type of radio should you have on hand to hear emergency broadcasts?
 - a. AM/FM
 - b. Shortwave
 - c. Battery powered
 - d. AM/FM CD player

8. If an evacuation is called for, wait as long as possible before you evacuate.
 - a. True
 - b. False

9. Gas lines and power lines are some of the most dangerous hazards in natural disasters.
 - a. True
 - b. False

10. A hurricane watch and a hurricane warning are basically the same thing.
 - a. True
 - b. False