



CENTER FOR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF
INFECTIONS— HIV CARE CENTER
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2012 HIV/AIDS Hurricane Guide

This hurricane guide is tailored specifically for the HIV/AIDS population that we serve, however contains information that can be used by anyone in Florida Area 1 (Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, and Walton counties). Within the past several years our area has been hit hard by storms— specifically Hurricanes Ivan, Dennis, and Katrina. After these storms we had individuals in our HIV/AIDS community who were at times injured or stranded due to lack of information about proper hurricane preparation. In order to make sure that individuals in our area are prepared for the 2011 Hurricane season, we are providing this information to assist individuals in making informed decisions.

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Evacuation

It is extremely important for individuals to know when the proper time is to evacuate for a storm. According to the Emergency Operations Center, if an individual is in a mobile home the best thing for them to do is evacuate during any hurricane. This does not necessarily mean that the individual must go to a shelter. They may choose to stay with a friend or family member in a brick home, make arrangements to stay in a hotel, or even choose to evacuate out of the area. Remember that even in a Category 1 Hurricane winds can cause major damage to mobile homes.

If you live in a low-lying area where a mandatory evacuation is issued, you generally have no more than 8 hours to safely evacuate. It is important to remember that if you choose not to evacuate, help may not be able to get to you should you need it.

If you evacuate, please make sure that you bring with you all of your medications in their original bottles and a medication list from your doctor's office. It is also a good idea to bring a copy of your original proof of HIV status. If you are unable to get back to town before you need a refill on your medications, you may be able to fill them at a local pharmacy or through another physician's office if you have these items with you.



Hurricane Categories

Hurricane Category 1 74
-95mph winds— storm
surge 4-5ft above normal

Hurricane Category 2
96-110mph winds—
storm surge 6-8ft above normal

Hurricane Category 3
111-130mph winds—
storm surge 9-12ft above
normal

Hurricane Category 4
131-155mph winds—
storm surge 13-18ft above
normal

Hurricane Category 5
155+mph winds— storm surge
18ft+ above normal

Transportation

Transportation is available for individuals who would like to be transported to a local shelter. In Escambia and Santa Rosa counties, individuals can call ECAT at (850) 595-3228. In Okaloosa County, individuals can call Okaloosa County Transit at (850) 833-9168 in Fort Walton Beach or (850) 689-7183 in Crestview. In Bay/Holmes/Washington/Walton counties, individuals can call the Tri-County Council at (850) 547-3688. Before calling any of these transportation services you must have everything packed and be ready to go to the shelter. The agency will tell you what time they will pick you up—you cannot choose a specific time that you would like them to come. You also cannot choose which shelter to be transported to—they will take you to the nearest shelter with available space.





Medication

Many individuals in the HIV/AIDS population are required to take multiple medications. It is vital that these individuals maintain at least a 1-week supply of medication. Remember that immediately after the storm many pharmacies and physician's offices are not open. Hospitals cannot be used as outpatient pharmacies—it is illegal for them to dispense medication beyond what is needed while a person is hospitalized. They cannot give refills on medication or fill your current prescriptions. If you do run out of one or more of your antiretroviral medications (HIV meds) it is best to stop all of them until you are able to refill them. If you are out of town, however, and are unable to return, contact a local Ryan White case management agency to see if they are able to assist you.

Some people choose not to evacuate because no shelter accepts their animals. This puts their well being at risk.



Evacuation and Pets

Many individuals, including those in the HIV/AIDS population, are very attached to their pets. As we saw during Hurricane Katrina, some people chose not to evacuate because no shelter accepted their animals. Pets become a vital part of our health and happiness, so it is understandable that we treat them like they are part of our family. For individuals with pets who live in trailer homes or low-lying areas and who need to evacuate, there are two available pet friendly shelters **FOR CATS AND DOGS ONLY** for hurricane evaluations : Molino Park Elementary School / 899 Highway 97 / Molino, FL and Avalon Middle School / 5445 King Arthur's Way / Milton, FL. For those individuals who anticipate they will be evacuating with their pet to this shelter, you must pre-register through your county's local animal shelter. This registration does not reserve a space in the shelter, and it functions on a first come first serve basis. The shelter should be a means of last resort for individuals.

If you plan to evacuate out of town, you can go online to www.petswelcome.com to find a list of hotels and motels that accept dogs and cats. You will need to call these facilities in advance to make a reservation to ensure that they have a room for you and your pet.

Special Needs Shelters

Special Needs Shelters are facilities that are available as a last resort to shelter persons with special medical needs temporarily during an emergency. These shelters are intended for those who require assistance that exceeds the basic level of the general population but will not require the level of skilled medical care provided at institutional facilities and are able to provide for only the basic needs of an individual during an emergency.

In Escambia, Santa Rosa, and Walton counties, you must pre-register to enter a special needs shelter (see information below). Pre-registration is for screening and planning purposes only. It **does not** reserve you a space in the shelter which functions on a first-come first-serve basis.

REGISTRATION FOR SPECIAL NEEDS SHELTERS

Escambia County -

Call (850) 471-6400 or go online to www.bereadyescambia.com/special_needs_faq.php

Santa Rosa County -

Call (850) 983-5360 or go online to www.santarosa.fl.gov/emergency/specialneeds.html

Walton County -

Call (850) 892-8065 or go online to www.doh.state.fl.us/chdWalton/PopulationBased/preparedness.htm



Preparing for a Hurricane

The standard is that individuals should be prepared for 72 hours after the storm. This is the amount of time that it takes to get assistance into our area to bring items such as ice, water, and MREs.

If you cannot buy bottled water, you should store water in a thoroughly washed plastic, glass, fiberglass, or enamel-lined metal container. Heavy plastic containers such as soda bottles work best. If you use tap water to fill the containers, you should

add two drops of unscented bleach per quart of water (or two teaspoons per 10 gallons), stir, and let stand for at least 30 minutes. Seal the containers tightly and store them in a cool, dark place. Also, fill your tub with water so that you will have water for your toilet.

You should have enough canned or nonperishable food, formula, and baby food to last at least 3 days after the storm. You should keep a manual can opener with the canned food so that it is

easily accessible.

Keep on hand flashlights and batteries, sanitation and hygiene items (i.e. toilet paper, hand sanitizer, etc.), first aid kit, extra clothing and blankets, photocopies of identification and credit cards (and medication list), cash and coins, pet supplies, and medications.

If you have children, remember to keep some toys, books, and games to keep children busy. Also keep extra batteries for any electronics they may have.



Special Medical Needs

For individuals who use medical equipment for activities of daily living, there are certain things to keep in mind when preparing for a hurricane.

If you have oxygen, you should make sure your oxygen tank is full and that you have spare tanks available. If you use a motorized wheelchair or scooter it is a good idea to make sure you have backup batteries to run the scooter or have a non-motorized alternative.

If you are a dialysis patient receiving treatment, make sure that you check with your physician to find out what arrangements may need to be made for your care during and after a hurricane. Dialysis requires electricity and running water, therefore you may be required to evacuate to another hospital or center out of the disaster zone to receive care.

If you have difficulty with mobility, keep in mind how you will cope with disaster debris inside or outside of your home. Make sure you have a safe exit. If you use a ramp to get in and out of your home, keep in mind that the ramp may be damaged during the storm.

For the vision impaired or hard of hearing, make sure you have a support person who is able to convey emergency information if you are unable to use the television or radio.

If you receive care from a home health agency, find out from the agency what provisions they have in case of emergencies. Can they guarantee someone will come to check on you and provide what treatment is necessary after the storm? Can they provide services at another location after the storm?

If possible, have a cell phone with an extra battery. If you have multiple medical problems, consider obtaining a medical alert system that will allow you to call for help if needed.

“Can your home health agency guarantee someone will come to check on you and provide what treatment is necessary after the storm?”



Create a Support Network

It is important that all individuals have a support network of individuals who know where they plan to be during and after a storm. In addition, arrangements should be made for follow-up contact after the storm. Do not depend on one person—arrange for multiple people to check on you. If you do not have anyone who is able to do this for you, call the Citizens Line (see page 6 for the number for your county) before the storm and give them your name and information so they are able to check on you after the storm.



SUPPLY KIT

Non-Perishable Food
Drinking Water
Baby Food, Formula, Diapers
Medications
Battery Powered Radio / TV
Flashlights or Lanterns
Extra Batteries
Manual Can Opener
Disposable Plates, Cups, etc
First Aid Kit
Ice Chest / Ice
Matches
Toiletries
Fuel Can
Fire Extinguisher
Cell Phone w/ Extra Batteries
Portable Generator
Extra Clothing
Insect Repellent
Extension Cords
Important Papers

Staying Safe During a Hurricane

If you do not live in an evacuation zone or in a mobile home and you plan to stay in your home during the storm, it is important that you make plans to keep yourself as safe as possible.

Stay away from windows and doors, even if they are covered and remain in an interior room on the first floor of the house. Closets, bathrooms, and small storage rooms offer the additional protection of having only one door and no windows. Bathrooms have the additional advantage of

water supply and toilet.

Any space you choose should be free of clutter so that it can be easily entered without fear of falling objects. During the storm individuals should lie on the floor, under a sturdy object, if possible.

During the eye of the storm, it will likely be calm for a short period of time. **REMAIN INDOORS!** As soon as the eye passes, the storm will strike again with full force.

Above all, remain calm and listen

to the local media for the most current information.



Don't forget to continue to practice safe sex during and after the storm. Store extra condoms in your hurricane kit or take them with you if you evacuate.

Hygiene During and After a Storm

As much as possible, continue your regular hygiene habits during and after a storm. This includes brushing your teeth, washing your face, combing your hair, and washing your body with a wet washcloth.

Keep your fingers out of your mouth and avoid handling food with your hands. Purify drinking

water (see section on page 3—Preparing for a Hurricane). Sterilize your eating utensils with heat or in purified water with additionally added chlorine bleach (2 1/2 teaspoons per gallon of purified water). Keep your clothing, especially underclothes, as clean and dry as possible.

Sanitation Items To Have On Hand: Cornstarch, fingernail clippers and files, sanitary napkins, insect repellent, toilet paper, baby wipes, bath towels, small handheld mirror, liquid all-purpose soap, hand sanitizer, liquid chlorine bleach, and ammonia.



Tips for After a Storm



After the storm it is important to continue listening to your local radio or TV stations for information (see information on page 7). If you have

evacuated, only return home when authorities advise that it is safe.

Drive when it is only absolutely necessary. Immediately following the storm, debris and water may be covering roadways making them dangerous or impassible. If you must drive, avoid flooded areas.

If you are returning to your home after evacuation, enter with extreme caution. Beware falling objects. Use only flashlights for light, do not use open flame of any kind. Ventilate your home. Check gas, water, and electrical lines for damage; however, do not repair them without calling a professional. Do not drink or prepare food unless you know it has not been contaminated. The Health Department will issue advisories regarding drinking water.

Begin cleaning your home as soon as possible; however, be sure to take pictures of the damage first. Wear protective clothing while cleaning debris and rubber

gloves while scrubbing flood damaged areas.

Remember to never use a generator inside your home or garage. Keep the generator outdoors in a well-ventilated area. Also remember to never store gasoline in your home.



Escambia County Hurricane Shelters

Bailey Middle School 4110 Bauer Road(Pensacola)	University of West Florida 11000 University Pkwy Bldgs 13,-1100 (Pensacola)	<u>Special Needs Shelter</u> Pensacola State College 1000 College Blvd.,Pensacola,32504 (Pensacola)
Cater Century K-8 440 East Hecker Road(Century, Fl.)	Workman Middle—Bldg 7 6299 Lanier Drive (Pensacola)	Special needs(Preregistration required)
Jim Allen Elementary School 1051 Highway 95A (Cantonment) 32533	Northview High—Bldg 1 4100 W Highway 4 (Century)	People requiring special assis- tance should register with emergency officials as soon as possible. Escambia : 850-595- 3311
Molino Park Elementary899 Highway 97, (Molino) Fl	Pensacola Civic Center 201 E Gregory St Pensacola 32501	
Lipscomb Elementary 10200 Ashton Brosnaham Rd (Pensacola)	West Florida High 2400 Longleaf Dr.,Pensacola Fl.	
Tate High Cafeteria/Gym 1771 Tate Road (Pensacola)		

If you go to a public shelter,
you will need to take the
following items:

- A change of clothing, rain gear and sturdy shoes
- Toiletries and personal items
- Blankets or sleeping bags and pillows
- Identification and any important papers
- Games or toys for children
- Books for adults
- Special items for infants or elderly family members
- Any special dietary needs and non-perishable food for snacks
- Battery operated radio, flashlights and plenty of spare batteries
- Prescription medications or any over-the-counter medications that you normally take

Santa Rosa County Shelters

Milton Community Center 5629
Byrom Street (Milton)

SS Dixon Intermediate School
5540 Education Drive (Pace)

Special Needs Shelter
Sims Middle School 5500
Education Drive(Pace) Fl. 32571

People requiring special needs
should register with emergency offi-
cials as soon as possible. Santa Rosa:
850-983-5360/850/494-7458

Baker School
1369 14th Street (Baker)

Davison Middle School

Okaloosa County Shelters

6261 Old Bethel Road, Crestview,Fl
32536

Choctawhatchee High School
110 Racetrack Road, Ft. Walton Beach,
Fl. 32547



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

WILL BECOME ACTIVE WHEN AN EMERGENCY OCCURS:

Escambia County Citizens Line—
850-471-6600

Santa Rosa County Citizens Line—
850-983-4636

Okaloosa County Citizens Line—
850-651-7583

Walton County Citizens Line—
850-892-8392 or 850-892-8394

TRANSPORTATION

ECAT (Bus) - (850) 595-3228

Pensacola Bay Transportation—
(850) 476-8130

Okaloosa County Transit—
(850) 833-9168 or (850) 689-7183

Tri-County Council—(850) 547-3688

RADIO STATIONS:

Okaloosa County—AM 1260, AM
1050, FM 105.5, FM 104.7 and FM
99.5

Walton County— AM1460,
FM106.3, AM1280, AM1050,
FM91.3

Escambia/Santa Rosa County—
AM790, FM99, FM100.3, FM96.5,
FM100.7, AM1370, FM94.1,
FM88.1, FM105.5, FM106.1

Important HIV/AIDS Provider Phone Numbers

Useful Websites

Dr. Wade/Li-Espino/Patiag/Plummer—(850) 476-3131

Lutheran Services Ryan White Program— (850) 497-7157

Sacred Heart Ryan White Program— (850) 416-6833

OASIS (FT WALTON) — (850) 314-0950

OASIS (PENSACOLA) - (850) 375-5336

BASIC (PANAMA CITY) —(850) 785-1088

ADAP (Escambia County) - (850) 595-6767

ADAP (Santa Rosa County) - (850) 983-5200

ADAP (Okaloosa County) - (850) 833-9240

Appetite for Life—(850) 470-9111

Positive Healthcare—1-800-832-0778

AIDS Healthcare Foundation—(850) 470-8071

Children's Services Center—(850) 595-5900

Florida Medicaid (DCF) - 1-866-762-2237

Lakeview Center—(850) 432-1222

Escambia County Emergency Management
www.bereadyescambia.com

Santa Rosa County Emergency Management
www.santarosa.fl.gov/emergency/index.html

Okaloosa County Emergency Management
www.co.okaloosa.fl.us/dept_ps_em_mgmt.html

Walton County Emergency Management
www.co.walton.fl.us/index.aspx?nid=551

State of Florida Emergency Management
www.floridadisaster.org

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
www.fema.gov

National Weather Service, Mobile Office
www.srh.noaa.gov/mob/

National Hurricane Center
www.nhc.noaa.gov

Storm Prediction Center
www.spc.noaa.gov

American Red Cross
www.redcross.org

