

Hurricane Personal Preparedness

Hurricane Irene is moving up the coast and could mean stormy weather for the Boston area. Although the storm path may change course, please consider the following preparations.

- Be aware of any construction activity in your area. Materials or staging could become hazards in heavy winds.
- Be cautious or refrain from rooftop, balcony or other elevated outdoor activities during heavy winds and/or rain.
- Under high wind conditions, tents at outdoor events, banners and flags, as well as newly planted landscaping can act as sails. Please consider prevailing and predicted wind/rain conditions in your event preparations. Be prepared to either move your event to an indoor location or issue an event cancellation notice.
- The possibility of flooding during heavy rains is ever-present with hurricanes. Remember to close all windows and skylights. Ensure that exterior doors are not propped open.
- If currents remain strong or winds rise to tropical force or higher, the community should refrain from operating watercraft or attempting to “hurricane surf.”

In addition the Ready.gov website offers the following hurricane preparedness tips:

- Get an Emergency Supply Kit (or “to go” bag), which includes:
 - Copies of prescriptions for medications and medical supplies
 - Bedding and clothing, including sleeping bags and pillows
 - Bottled water, a battery-operated radio and extra batteries, a first aid kit, a flashlight
- Copies of important documents: driver's license, Social Security card, proof of residence, insurance policies, wills, deeds, birth and marriage certificates, tax records, etc.
- Non-perishable food and key infant and pet supplies
- Maps

Finally please consider the following information concerns:

- Be sure family members and emergency contacts know where you are and have a way to reach you
- Stay tuned to local media (TV, radio, etc.) outlets for the most current information