Bloomsburg’s Flood Task Force invites you to stay informed. Follow the links for Federal, State and Local Flood information on the Flood Damage Reduction Tab on the top of the Town’s website www.bloomsburgpa.org

Stay informed with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA). The readypa.org website provides an excellent source of information. Learn how to BE INFORMED, BE PREPARED, BE INVOLVED. Learn how to prepare a home emergency kit. Sign up for emergency alerts, or read the monthly newsletters.

READ ON FOR INFORMATION REGARDING HURRICANE SEASON AND WINTER WEATHER FLOOD RISKS

PEMA is Social!

Find us, visit us, like us, tweet us, retweet us!

Twitter
https://twitter.com/ReadyPA
https://twitter.com/PEMAdirector

Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/BeReadyPA

PEMA Can Also be Found on the Web!

Be Informed, Be Prepared, and Be Involved!

www.Ready.PA.gov

www.penna gov

Additional Resources

ReadyPA: www.Ready.PA.gov
SERVPA: www.Serv.PA.gov
Office of the State Fire Commissioner: www.osfc.pa.gov
Pennsylvania Department of Human Services: www.dhs.pa.gov
Pennsylvania Department of Health: www.health.pa.gov
PA State Animal Response Team: www.pasart.us
PA Department of Transportation: www.penndot.gov
PA511Connect: www.511pa.com
Pennsylvania State Police: www.psp.pa.gov
Hurricane Season Begins June 1st

It's officially hurricane season! The Atlantic Hurricane Season runs from June 1 through November 30th. These next six months are the most typical times for hurricanes to form, and we need to pay close attention to the National Hurricane Center forecasts.

Names like Agnes, Lee, and Irene trigger vivid memories for many of roaring rivers and swollen streams of brown water leaving behind paths of destruction and mud. For Pennsylvania, our typical impacts from tropical systems come in the form of flooding from heavy tropical rain. However, we do experience strong tropical winds and tornado threats from land falling tropical systems before they eventually race away or slowly fizzle over the commonwealth.

Regardless of the hurricane hazard, there are ways you can prepare for all hazards. Always start with doing a risk analysis for your home and family, then develop and practice your plan. So, let's prepare for hurricanes. FEMA recommends the following SIX things to know before a disaster, which can help you develop your plan and preserve your property.

1. Know where your gas shutoff valve is located and learn how to shut off the gas before a flood or emergency. (Unsure? A call to your gas company can get you on your way.)
2. Know where your electrical shutoff is located and learn how to properly shut off power before a flood or emergency.
4. Make sure you have insurance. Check what it covers to ensure it meets your risk.
5. Plan for your pets. Identify pet friendly shelters.
6. Plan your evacuation routes. While we don't live along the coast, it's still good to develop several routes for safety should you need to leave your home.

Disasters don't plan ahead, but you can. Be sure to consider these important tips today before we have to deal with them tomorrow. Download the full FEMA Hurricane Preparedness Guide here (https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1494007144395-b0e215ae1ba6ac1b556f084e190e5862/FEMA_2017_Hurricane_HTP_FINAL.pdf)

Hurricanes can form any month; however, they typically form after enough heat gathers in the tropical waters of the Atlantic basin, peaking in September.

For a clean copy of this graphic, click here: https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/climo/images/peakofseason.gif.
KNOW WHAT TO DO

**Before A Flood**

- Practice your family emergency plan. Plan and practice flood evacuation routes from home, work, and school that are on higher ground. [www.ready.pa.gov/BePrepared/MakeAPlan](http://www.ready.pa.gov/BePrepared/MakeAPlan)

- Conduct a thorough home inventory. Thorough documentation of your belongings will help you file your flood insurance claim. For more information, visit [http://www.ready.gov/insurance-vital-records](http://www.ready.gov/insurance-vital-records).

**During A Flood**

- Go to higher ground. Get out of areas subject to flooding, including dikes, low spots, washes, etc.

- Avoid areas already flooded, especially when water flows fast. Do not attempt to cross flowing streams. Just six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet.

- Never drive through flooded roadways. Roadbeds may be washed out under flood waters and just two feet of moving water can sweep an SUV off the road.

**After A Flood**

- Check for damage. Check for structural damage before re-entering your home. If you suspect damage to water, gas, electric, or sewer lines, contact authorities.

- Remove wet contents immediately. Wet carpeting, furniture, bedding and any other items holding moisture can develop mold within 24 to 48 hours. Clean and disinfect everything touched by floodwaters.

- Plan before you repair. Contact your local building inspections or planning office or your county clerk’s office to get more information on local building requirements.

- File your flood insurance claim. Be sure to provide: the name of your insurance company, your policy number, and contact information. Take photos of any water in the house and damaged personal property. Make a detailed list of all damaged or

**KNOW THE TERMS**

**Flood or Flash Flood Watches:** A developing weather pattern suggests there is a potential for rapid flooding (flash flooding), more widespread areal flooding (gradual or prolonged), or river flooding. Stay tuned to local media to stay informed.

**Flood or Flash Flood Warnings:** Flooding is imminent or in progress. The warning focuses on specific counties, communities, streams, or areas. Flash Flood Warnings are issued for flooding usually occurring within 6 hours of heavy rain.

**KNOW ABOUT FLOOD INSURANCE**

Flood insurance for your home or business can be a crucial protection should disaster strike. For information on flood insurance in Pennsylvania, go to the PA Insurance Department’s one-stop shop flood insurance webpage at [http://www.insurance.pa.gov/Coverage/Pages/Flood.aspx](http://www.insurance.pa.gov/Coverage/Pages/Flood.aspx). For further information on flood insurance, go to [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov). For information on flood recovery, go to [http://www.ready.pa.gov/AfterAnEmergency/Recover%20And%20Rebuild/Documents/AfterTheFlood.pdf](http://www.ready.pa.gov/AfterAnEmergency/Recover%20And%20Rebuild/Documents/AfterTheFlood.pdf).