

# County of Powhatan, Virginia

3834 Old Buckingham Road Powhatan, VA 23139

## Press Release

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 1, 2022

Contact:

Travis Lindsey, Emergency Management Coordinator

Email: tlindsey@powhatanva.gov Phone: (804) 598-5646

### **Powhatan County Emergency Management Resources for Hurricane Preparedness**

**POWHATAN, VA** – The 2022 Atlantic Hurricane Season begins today, June 1st, and Powhatan County joins our state and federal partners in encouraging individuals, families, businesses, and communities to begin preparing for hazardous weather that may result from hurricanes and other tropical systems.

"It is not uncommon for residents of inland communities to think hurricanes and tropical systems are unlikely to impact them where they live, but that is not necessarily the case. Tropical weather systems can have severe impacts hundreds of miles inland from the coast. A storm does not need to be a major hurricane to cause damage, and it only takes one to change your life." said Travis Lindsey, Powhatan County Emergency Management Coordinator.

Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic is still an ongoing hazard that could influence your hazardous weather plans when it comes to evacuation and sheltering. This is something to strongly consider when preparing for hurricane season. For example, you may need to adjust your plans if you are unwilling to gather in a group setting such as a public emergency shelter.

#### Take action today to prepare for hurricanes and other tropical systems:

**Know your risk.** These storms are not just a coastal threat. Extreme flooding and damaging winds could occur hundreds of miles inland from the coast.

**Begin planning**. Know what you'll do if a storm is coming to your area, how to stay in touch with family and friends, and where you will go if your home is unsafe. Visit <a href="http://www.powhatanva.gov/234/Emergency-Management">http://www.powhatanva.gov/234/Emergency-Management</a> or <a href="ready.gov">ready.gov</a> for preparedness and planning tips.

Make a kit. Make sure you have non-perishable food items, water, essential documents, flashlights, a battery back or other means of charging your cell phone, NOAA weather radio, toys or comfort items for kids, and any supplies needed for your pet. Have enough supplies to last at least 72 hours but preparing to be on your own for up to a week is a good idea. Learn more at ready.gov/kit.

**Stay informed.** Enable Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) on your mobile phone to receive emergency alerts from the National Weather Service. A <u>NOAA Weather Radio</u> can also provide these lifesaving emergency alerts.

- Pay attention to weather forecasts in your area provided by local news outlets or the <u>National Weather Service</u>. Many people also use weather apps on their mobile phones for this purpose.
- Sign up for the Powhatan Alert System at <a href="http://www.powhatanva.gov/234/Emergency-Management">http://www.powhatanva.gov/234/Emergency-Management</a>

More information on how to prepare may be found at <u>ready.gov/hurricanes</u>.