



TOWN OF VERNON

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George F. Apel
Mayor

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Mayor Advises Vernon Residents to Prepare for Hurricane Sandy

(Vernon, CT) - Mayor George F. Apel today urged Vernon residents to be proactive in preparing for Hurricane Sandy, due to make landfall on the Eastern seaboard early next week. "It's never too early to be prepared. At this time, I would encourage residents to pay close attention to media broadcasts regarding the upcoming storm, and to take steps to procure necessary supplies including food and water for three days time."

Mayor Apel stated "The State Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) has advised towns to review their emergency plans in preparation for a potential impact. Based on information presently available, longer range forecasts indicate that Hurricane Sandy will likely impact New England Monday through Wednesday of next week. Please be assured that our Department of Emergency Management is closely monitoring the weather. Should the need arise, we will activate the local Emergency Operations Center to monitor the impact of Sandy. I also urge residents to take the following precautionary measures recommended by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, and the American Red Cross, which are as follows:"

Basic Emergency Supply Kit

- *One gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation*
- *At least a three-day supply of non-perishable food*
- *Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both*
- *Flashlight and extra batteries*
- *First aid kit*
- *A whistle to signal for help*
- *Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation*
- *Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities*
- *Can opener*
- *Local maps*
- *Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger*
- *Medications*
- *Supplies for pets*

Family Emergency Plan

- *Identify an out-of town contact. It may be easier to make a long-distance phone call than to call across town, so an out-of-town contact may be in a better position to communicate among separated family members.*



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- *Be sure every member of your family knows the phone number and has a cell phone, coins, or a prepaid phone card to call the emergency contact. If you have a cell phone, program that person(s) as "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) in your phone. If you are in an accident, emergency personnel will often check your ICE listings in order to get a hold of someone you know. Make sure to tell your family and friends that you've listed them as emergency contacts.*
- *Teach family members how to use text messaging. Text messages can often get around network disruptions when a phone call might not be able to get through.*
- *Subscribe to alert services. Many communities/states now have systems that will send instant text alerts or e-mails to let you know about severe weather, road closings, local emergencies, etc. In Connecticut, go to www.ct.gov/ctalert to register for alerts.*

Additional preparedness information, including a mobile "Hurricane App" can be found on the American Red Cross website [://www.redcross.org/prepare/](http://www.redcross.org/prepare/).

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