



FALL 2024

Emergency Preparedness

[www.myrtlebeachfire.com/emergency-preparedness](http://www.myrtlebeachfire.com/emergency-preparedness)

# NEWSLETTER

## SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

### Are you disaster ready?

The first step in disaster preparedness is assessing your risks. Consider potential threats such as extreme temperatures, severe storms, flooding, wildfires, earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes, active assailants, and even public health crises. Once you understand potential disaster emergencies you may face, you can make a plan to weather the impacts they could cause, such as prolonged power outages, communication interruptions, property damages, inaccessible roadways and services, and health and environmental concerns.



### Emergency preparedness is a family affair.

The threat of disaster can be scary for anyone, but the key to reducing fear and anxiety is preparedness. Discuss your emergency plans with the whole family and ensure everyone knows what to expect should disaster strike. [Ready.gov/kids](http://Ready.gov/kids) offers emergency preparedness resources for kids and families. **Ready Kids**

### PREPARED FAMILIES ARE RESILIENT FAMILIES.

Every home should have an emergency supply kit to sustain your family for a minimum of 3 to 5 days. Tailor your kit to your family's specific needs, considering young children, medical issues, disabilities, and other individual requirements. For guidance on building an emergency supply kit to fit your family's needs, visit [ready.gov/kit](http://ready.gov/kit).



### Kids Corner Activity

Can you find the emergency supplies hidden in this picture?

- Flashlight
- Batteries
- Food
- Bottle
- Pet Supplies
- Radio
- Diapers
- Water
- Blanket

Hey Pedro, let me show you what items we need for the storm!



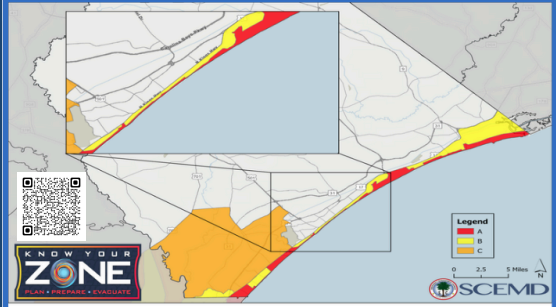
## Evacuation vs. Sheltering in Place

Some emergency situations require sheltering in place, while others may require an evacuation plan. Sheltering in place means moving to the safest location during times of exterior danger, such as tornadoes or an active assailant. Some evacuations can be rapid, like in the event of a fire, or more long-term, like ahead of a hurricane. Whether at home, work, or school, discussing pre-determined locations to shelter in or evacuate to can save lives when seconds count. These discussions should include:

- Practicing exit strategies and identifying a meeting location for rapid evacuation.
- Identifying the safest interior locations for seeking shelter.
- Pre-planning long-term evacuations by determining routes, locations, and what you will take with you.

Keep a go-bag prepped for evacuation. In it, be sure to include vital documents like proof of residency, birth certificates, pet immunization records, and insurance policies. For more information on what to take during evacuation, visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org).

### Hurricane Evacuation Zones



[Interactive Know Your Zone Map - Horry County SC.Gov](http://Interactive Know Your Zone Map - Horry County SC.Gov)

Along our coast, evacuation zones are predetermined and communicated in color coded areas identified as Zones A, B, and C. Be sure to know if you live in one of these zones so that you are ready to take required action when an evacuation is ordered. To Know Your Zone, click the link or scan the QR Code to search your address on the interactive map.

These evacuation zones pertain only to storm surge potential. During tropical weather related events, storm surge is the rise of water above the normal tide. These zones are the most impacted by the dangers of storm surge.



### Don't forget about us!

Emergency plans should account for the needs of everyone in your home, including any pets you may have. When making emergency plans and building supply kits, it is important to consider the needs of your pets as well. For more guidance on preparing for disaster with pets, visit:

[humanesociety.org/resources/petdisasterpreparedness](http://humanesociety.org/resources/petdisasterpreparedness)

### Stay connected! Stay informed!

Ensure you have multiple ways to receive alerts. Keep a NOAA weather radio in your emergency supply kit to promptly receive lifesaving weather alerts. Check your cellular device settings to ensure your government emergency alert notifications are toggled on. Follow reputable sources on social media platforms and stay tuned to your trusted news outlets.

For alerts that concern the City of Myrtle Beach, subscribe to

**MB Alerts**

powered by:



When time is of the essence, it is vital that community members receive emergent information in the language they understand best.

MB Alerts can auto-translate messages issued by the City of Myrtle Beach. To utilize this feature, log into your account settings to select your preferred language.



**Click or scan to take our Emergency Preparedness Survey**

designed to help us better educate and promote resilience among the Myrtle Beach community.

