

# Emergency/Disaster Checklist

## Pre- Emergency/Disaster Checklist:

Take the time to review and implement this list – it could be a lifesaver.

- Take an inventory of your belongings, complete with photos, descriptions, and serial numbers. Items to list are TVs, stereos, cameras, sports equipment, jewelry, silver, computers, art work or anything of value.
- Know where the shut off valves are in your residence, review in this Tenant Reference Guide, "Getting to know your residence".
- Keep copies of important papers stored in a safety deposit box.
- Make sure your renters insurance is current at all times.
- Discuss with your family or other residents what emergency procedures you will use and post them in the kitchen, office area, etc.
- Plan escape routes in the event of fire and inform every resident of the routes, including children.
- Teach children how to use 911 or call for other services.
- Always maintain a reserve of bottled water/drinks and non-perishable foods in your residence.
- Have a portable radio with plenty of extra batteries and the right kind for the radio.
- Have two or more flashlights with the extra batteries and for the right kind the flashlight.
- Fill a clean bathtub with water for flushing and/or boiling.
- Have an adequate first aid kit and replace items when necessary.
- Keep your cellular phone charged.

## Use this list when an emergency/disaster occurs:

- A gas leak is possible during an emergency/disaster, immediately turn off the gas valve.
- Keep your car in the driveway (not garage), if it is practical, for any necessary evacuation.
- Call 9-1-1 only to access help and NOT to learn news.
- Call Salefish when it is practical, but remember we are not an emergency service. Many repairs will have to wait until the emergency/disaster passes.
- Only call people when necessary and have an emergency contact outside your area who can notify other people.
- Limit use of the telephones during emergencies/disaster to avoid overloading the circuits.
- Unplug or turn off major lights and appliances - such as space heaters, washers, dryers, computers, TVs, etc. Several appliances coming back on at the same time may overload circuits or hot appliances may come on while you are away or asleep causing fire hazards.
- Leave a single light on to alert you that power is restored.
- Limit cell phone usage or use your car to charge batteries.
- If you have to call emergency services, be calm, state your problem, and be patient. Emergency services will be overloaded.
- If you have standing water in a room, do not enter if the electricity is on; try to wait for a professional.
- Do not vacuum wet floors or carpets unless you have the right equipment for water removal. Using a normal vacuum is dangerous with water.
- Only open freezers and refrigerators when necessary to avoid losing food as long as you can.
- Conserve water and food when disaster occurs.
- If you are in a car when power lines fall, remain in the car until you can get help or you are certain that it is safe to do so; then jump clear of the car, not touching any metal.