



Gloucester Department of Community Engagement

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Tuesday, May 8, 2019

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“Know Your Zone” and Other Preparedness Info

The first week of May is Hurricane Preparedness Week as the Atlantic hurricane season officially begins June 1st and lasts until November 30th. Being prepared is the key to protecting your home, your family and possibly lives.

For guidance, the Virginia Department of Emergency Management has a Hurricane Preparedness Guide which is available at www.vaemergency.gov and www.ready.gov also offers a “Plan Ahead for Disaster” guide. The guides cover the three key actions everyone should be aware of: (1) be informed (2) plan ahead and (3) take action!

The “Know Your Zone” initiative is the identification of evacuation zones to help citizens know whether they should evacuate in an emergency or shelter at home, based on their physical street address and the nature of the emergency event. Evacuation zones are designated A through D and, in the event of a hurricane or other tropical storm, residents of one or more zones may be directed to evacuate depending on tides, storm intensity, path, and other factors. When a serious storm is expected to threaten or impact Virginia’s coastal regions, state and local emergency agencies will work with local news media outlets, as well as social media channels, that will then broadcast and publish evacuation directives to the public. Visit www.KnowYourZoneVA.org to enter your address into VDEM’s map and find out. Learn your zone and commit it to memory.

For local information or assistance, please contact the Gloucester Department of Emergency Management at 804-693-1390.

