

## Hurricane Sandy

Emergency managers have been keeping a close eye on Sandy. Even if Sandy only makes a “close pass” it will likely be impactful to the New England region with strong winds that would effect trees causing widespread power outages, storm surge, and coastal flooding.

If you have not done so already, it is important to ensure you:

- Check your family’s emergency supply kit– make certain you have food, water, medications, and other necessities to sustain you, your family and family pets for at least 72 hours.

- Keep up to date with local conditions– follow TV and radio reports from your area, or visit [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov) (<http://mobile.weather.gov> on your phone) for the latest forecast.

- Remember food safety– power outages and flooding may happen as a result of a tropical storm or hurricane, so have a plan for keeping food safe. Have a cooler on hand to keep food cold, and group food together in the freezer so it stays cold longer.

- Have an adequate communication plan - be sure friends and family know how to contact you. Teach family members how to use text messaging as text messages can often get around network disruptions when a phone call can’t get through.

Keep in mind, hurricanes bring heavy rains, storm surges, and possible flooding events. Avoid walking or driving through any flooded areas – it takes only six inches of fast-moving flood water to knock over an adult and two feet to move a vehicle. Remember: Turn Around, Don’t Drown!

For those who may be in the path of Sandy, you can get hurricane safety tips right on your phone by downloading these useful apps:

- FEMA – Android, Apple, Blackberry
- American Red Cross “Hurricane” app – Android, Apple

*David A. Berardesca*

*Fire Chief*

*Town of Hamden*

*(203) 407-5880 - Office*

*(203) 407-5885 - Fax*

[dberardesca@hamden.com](mailto:dberardesca@hamden.com)