

## Sheltering in Place: Hurricane

- Prepare by securing or putting away all loose items outside your house. Hurricane winds exert enormous force.
- Unless your car needs gas anyway, don't bother filling up—where are you going to go? Do make sure you have sufficient prescription medication for you and your pets.
- You need food and water for three days at least. You may have that already, if you don't mind eating tuna fish and cereal for three days. Fill your bathtub for toilet flushing water. Boiled, it could be used for drinking in a pinch.
- Fill with water some big pots on top of your stove. If you have a gas stove, make sure you know how to light it if the power is out. If your stove is electric, think of using the grill, if you have gas for that.
- Close and lock all doors and windows. Locking is preferred since it generally ensures that the door or window is shut tight.
- Stay away from large panes of glass when possible. Close the drapes and curtains. You may peek.
- Close the fireplace flue if it is not in use.
- Keep pets indoors.
- If you have livestock, shelter them, also. Provide them with stored feed and water from a covered source.
- Stay in the room with the fewest windows and doors.
- Take your Family Disaster Kit with you. (See MEMA link)
- Continue to monitor your Emergency Alert Station and other media for official messages and instructions.
- Stay inside until officials say otherwise. When the winds subside, if your power is out, check for downed power lines. Assume they are live—don't touch them, don't enter a car that has one touching it, don't drive over one

Report power outages and downed lines directly by phone to  
Eversource: 1 800 592 2000

They immediately plug that information into their computer system, graphically showing them how wide-spread the problem is, and starting a work order for you.

Public safety officials in the town have access to that information throughout the storm, and if your computer worked, so would you (see MEMA website).

Unless the outage is an immediate hazard to your life and health, do not call the Communications Center. Call Eversource.