

Statewide Independent Living Council

APRIL 2024
Chicago

This presentation has been prepared for

APRIL

Chicago, Illinois 2024

Are YOU Ready?

Emergency and Disaster



EMERGENCIES and DISASTERS

- They happened in the past.
- They could happen today.
- They **WILL** happen in the future.

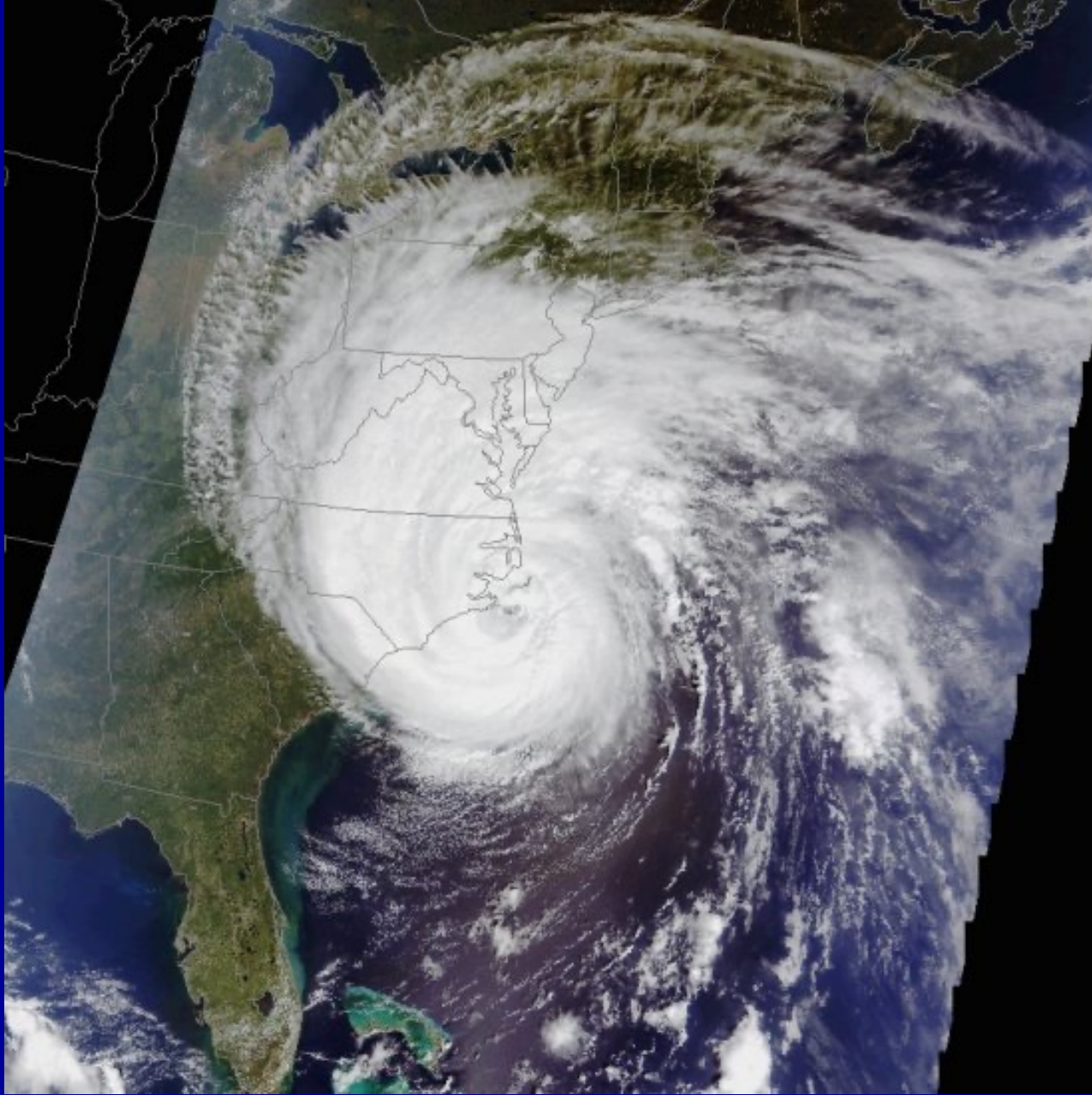


Image of
Hurricane Isabel in 2003

Common hazards in The United States

These will vary somewhat depending upon which part of the country you live.

Some of these hazards are:

We must prepare for...

Hurricanes / Tornadoes

Flash Floods / Flooding

Chemical spills

Highway

Rail

Wildfires

Winter Storms

Earthquakes

Pandemic

Civil Insurrection

Volcanic Eruption

NATURAL DISASTERS



Tornado



Drought



Earthquake



Flood



Windstorm



Avalanche



Volcano



Forest fire



Tsunami



Sandstorm



Hurricane



Dust storm



Snowstorm



Thunderstorm



Hailstorm



Sinkhole

General Emergency Preparedness

This means things you need to do NOW to prepare for any type of emergency.

Shelter and Evacuation Concerns

How will you get out?

Drive yourself?

Bus service?

Para-transit?

Friends / family?



This family wasn't prepared

YOU must
take the
responsibility
for your and
your family's
safety



Some of the concerns already being addressed
include:

Warning and Notification

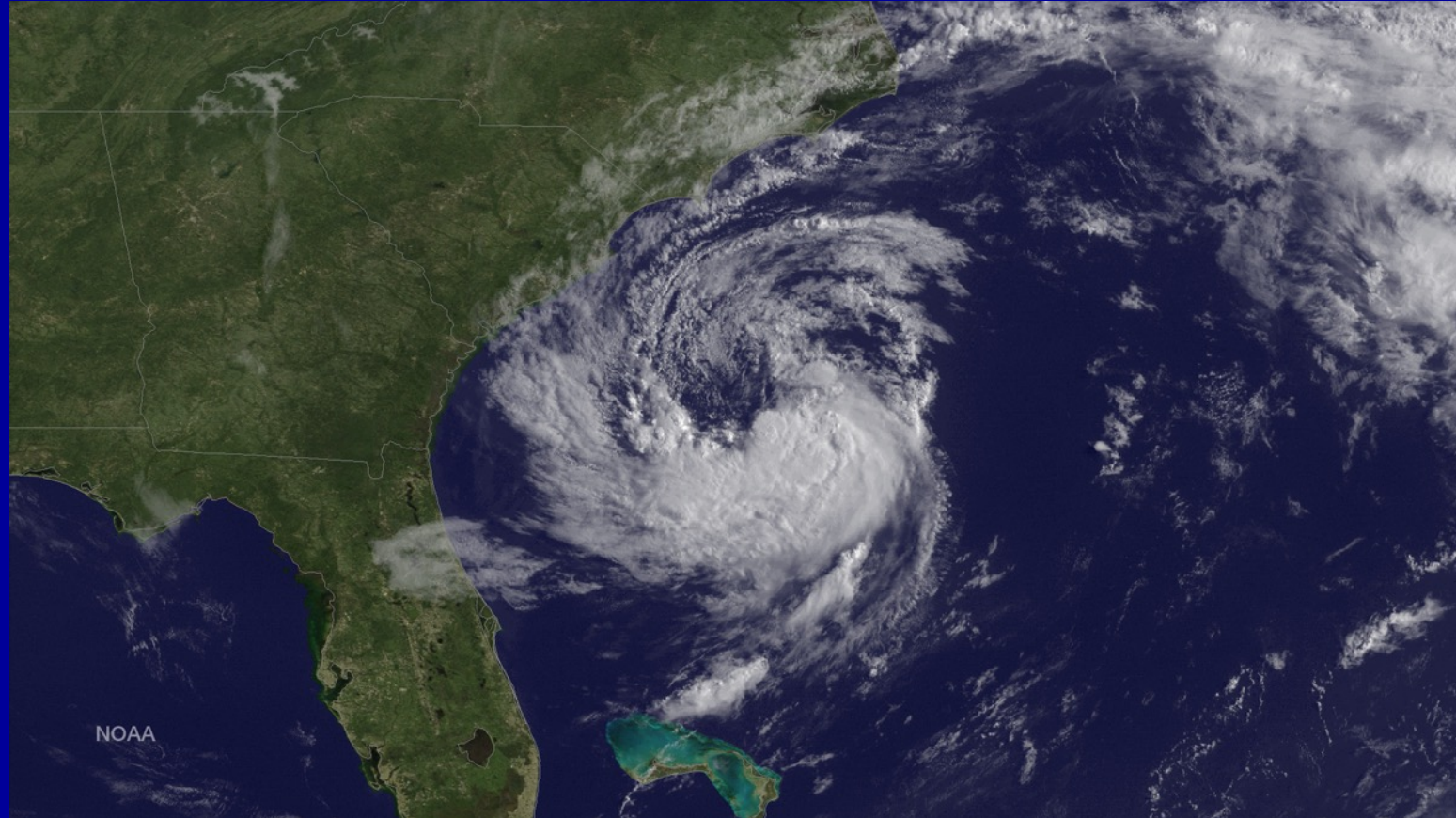
Communication Access

Interpreters for shelters and news
conferences

In-Shelter Communications

Service Animals

The 2024 Hurricane season is June 1 – Oct 30





Some states have a greater risk of WILDFIRES.
They can happen anywhere.



Sinkholes

Wildfires and Hurricanes have
elements in common...

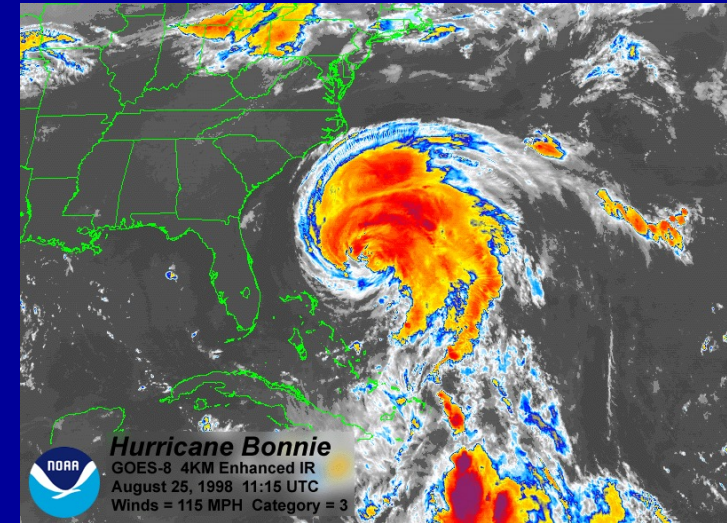


Flooding and wildfires can affect areas miles away from the source.

1. WARNING times

Neither are surprises

We have warnings – often days ahead of the impact phase



2. They can affect huge areas of land

These are not local disasters, but can impact hundreds of square miles and numerous states at the same time.

3. Both can trigger other problems:

Widespread
Evacuation / Shelters
Damaged homes,
neighborhoods, and
businesses



4. Economic Impact

Widespread disasters can destroy the economic base of one – or many – communities, and affect the lives of **THOUSANDS** of people and families.



5. Infra-structure damage

Roads, bridges, power lines, and water treatment systems may all be severely damaged or destroyed.



6. Recovery Time

Full recovery from a major storm or other events may take YEARS.



Hurricanes are not the only threat

Winter Storms may also present unique challenges to our normal routines. Like hurricanes, they are not “surprises” and offer some lead and some preparation time.

But, many people do not heed the warning.

Winter Storm Damage

They can disrupt electricity, transportation, and businesses.



People die because they think

“It can’t happen to ME”.

GET READY!

TORNADO

In the South, the season for Tornados is,
basically, **SPRING: MARCH – APRIL – MAY**
But they can and do occur in every month of the
year.



ONLY occur during severe thunderstorms.

May occur with very little warning

Can be small or HUGE

MAKE A PLAN

You may need to rely on your OWN resources for at least several days.

Bottom line:

Your safety and well-being is YOUR responsibility

Your safety – Your responsibility

In a widespread situation, you may need to rely on your OWN resources for at least several days.

Bottom line:

Your safety and well-being is **your** hands.

Warning and Notifications

How do YOU receive warnings?

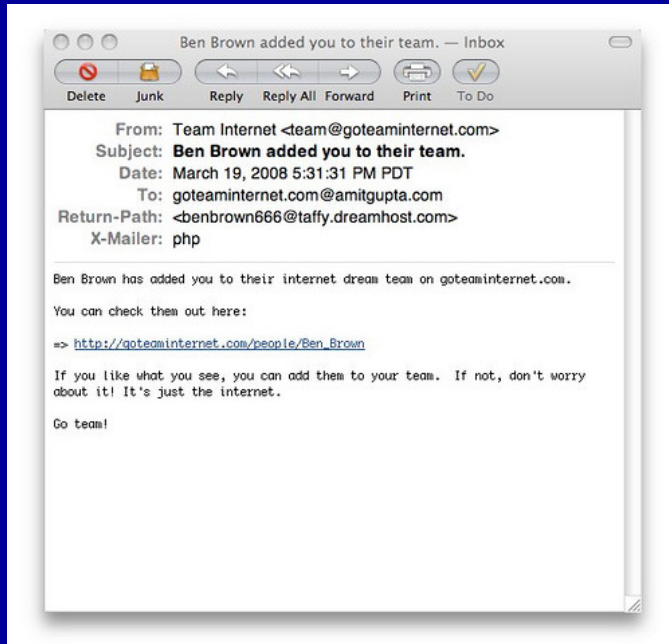
Text or email message alerts?

TV or Radio news bulletins?

Friends or family?



Many of us rely on Email or Text alerts



Do you subscribe to a reliable weather service?

In a widespread power outage, how will you keep your phone charged?

Make a Plan

For yourself

For your Family



Warning

How will you receive the warning?

Check in with local 9-1-1 Center

Tell them your needs for
communication and alerting

Contact LOCAL Emergency
Management Office

How can you find your family?

Meeting Place

Near Home

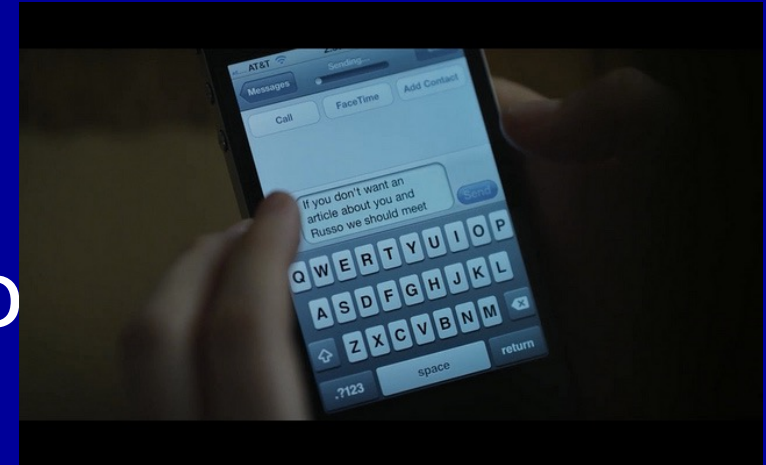
Away from Home

Establish CONTACT POINTS in case
you are separated from family

CONTACT POINT

Use a Telephone / Text number of a family member or friend who lives away from the local area.

Serves as a common “check in” point for all family members if separated during crisis period. Keep contact information current.



READY TO GO “ Kit

“What you need depends upon YOUR needs.

Different challenges require different supplies, but there are some basics...



Some “To-Go” Kit items:

- Flashlights / Batteries / Chargers and cords
- Drinking Water (1 gal per person/day)
- Medicines / Prescriptions
- First Aid Kit
- Portable Radio / TV (Caption-capable)
- Non-perishable Foods

More items:

- Can openers
- Paper plates / bowls
- utensils / scissors / knives
- Paper / cloth towels
- Disinfectants / Lysol
- Waterless hand soap
- Trash bags
- Toilet Paper



Still more... (it's a big kit)

Disinfectants / Water Treatment

Bedding (blankets, pillows)

Extra **seasonal** clothing

Cash \$\$\$\$

Gloves (latex and work gloves)

Shoes / Boots

5

Must-Have



SURVIVAL KIT ITEMS

www.SurvivalSherpa.wordpress.com

Other supplies

Prescription and PTC medicines /
Vitamins

Post cards / stamps

Pens / pencils / Note Cards /
Notebooks / Books / Games

List of Important phone / contact
numbers & email addresses

Shelter-In-Place

The “To-Go” Kit could be your Stay-Home Kit if for some reason you are unable to evacuate to a shelter or other housing.

You will need the same supplies for at least 3 days.

Roads could be impassable and electricity could be out.

Sheltering In-Place

If you have an outdoor grill, be sure that you have plenty of propane or charcoal.

Kerosene heaters made for indoors with plenty of fuel.

Cook perishable foods first.

For those with food concerns or allergies

Gathering your own foods may be a better option than pre-packaged meals.

Suggested: V-8 juice
Dried fruits
Shelf-stable milk
Canned tuna or chicken
Canned baked beans
(Don't forget the can opener)

Keep your supplies fresh

Rotate Emergency supplies with fresh supplies.

Rotate fresh **batteries** for flashlights, **hearing aids**, etc...

Don't forget **CHARGERS**.

There will be a LOT of time to fill....

Whether at home without electricity, or in a shelter, life without our usual entertainment can become boring very quickly.

Interesting books, games, puzzles, etc... can go a long way to keeping yourself – and children – occupied. Check Goodwill and Thrift stores.

Keep a written list of phone numbers in your kit:

Family Members

Local Utilities

Doctors

Pharmacy

Bank / Credit Union Account numbers

Your special needs are your responsibility

If you have specialized needs, be sure you have enough.

If wheelchair dependent, have tire repair kit, heavy gloves, and extra batteries / charger.

Insulin / needles

Oxygen – keep a good supply on hand

Where to keep your supplies

A good place to store these items is an old suitcase with wheels or plastic bins.

Look for them at thrift stores and Goodwill.



Insurance papers and documentation

Do you have photos of your home's contents in a safe place – for insurance purposes?

When did you last update your homeowner's insurance?



Take Pictures of your home every year

A quick way to inventory your home is to stand in the center of each room and take a photo of each wall. Then, create a file, and send the file to yourself and to your emergency contact.



Things to think about...

Information about medicines

You should also have your medical service providers and pharmacy numbers quickly available.

Copies of your prescriptions or photos of the labels will also be helpful.



Keep supplies for service animals and pets

Dry Pet Food

Water

Bedding / Crates

Leashes / Harnesses / Collar / ID tags

Pet Medical Records

Be Aware and PREPARE

During certain “seasons”, the probability increases, so be prepared.
Planning ahead just might save your life.

For more information, check out these websites

- <https://www.vaemergency.gov>
- <https://ready.gov>
- <https://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/READYNPM>
- <http://www.accessibleemergencyinfo.com/>

Questions? Comments?



Your Information and Phone
number

“The Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH) promotes accessible communication so that persons who are Deaf and hard of hearing may fully participate in programs, services and opportunities throughout the Commonwealth”

END