

## **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

The most likely emergency here in PKS is a **HURRICANE**. Every family should have its own preparedness plans well known to all family members and their summer visitors. There are many publications available to help you prepare for any emergency. Several of these will be available at Town Hall from June to October.

If the county and Bogue Banks community determine that the island must be evacuated, you will be informed by your Emergency Management Block Captain, and the Police Department will cruise the town making the announcement with their loudspeaker. Keep tuned to local radio and television stations for updated weather information and advisories.

All PKS residents must leave the island by way of the Atlantic Beach bridge. Keep automobile fuel tanks at least half full. There will no doubt be long lines at gas stations. Know where you will go for the duration of the emergency.

There are many things to do before you leave your home that are listed in the literature. Several very important items are:

- Turn off your propane gas at the tank outside.
- Put all loose objects from porches, decks and lawns inside.
- Fill bathtubs and containers with water.
- Check your food supply. (You may need to bring food back with you that does not need refrigeration or cooking.)
- Make sure your travel bags have everything you will need for several days. (Medication, cash, credit cards, and books)

If anyone in your family will need to be transported by the PKS Emergency Medical Service Squad you must inform the squad or Town Hall so they can be put on the list of residents who need special help in the event of evacuation. Should you decide to stay in your home, you will be asked to give the name and telephone number of your closest relative not in the emergency area. You will be requested to stay in your home until notified by police of the "all clear" in your area. You may be called upon to assist in the recovery activities.

Remember that telephone and other means of communication will be critical in an emergency watch or warning situation. Use them only to inform a relative or friend that you are leaving your home and where you are going. A 911 call may be waiting to use the line.

If you plan to install plywood or other protection to your home in an emergency, please check your design with The Chief Code Enforcement Official. Shutters with inadequate anchorage may be torn loose, becoming projectiles, and do more harm than good.

Do not attempt to return to your home until you are sure your part of town has been declared safe for entering. Keep tuned to local radio and television stations to learn when you can return.