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Hurricane Awareness Week: Be Prepared

During Hurricane Awareness Week 2012 the Central Pacific Hurricane Center will share a series of statements regarding tropical cyclones and their various threats to the State of Hawaii. Today's topic: Be prepared.

Start getting prepared now for hurricane season, and stay prepared throughout the year. Getting ready is as simple as recognizing hazards, gathering information, developing a plan, putting together a kit, and preparing your home. Take it one step at a time and before you know it, you will be ready.

- Gathering Information: Find the latest info on tropical cyclone hazards in Hawaii by going to the NWS Honolulu's preparedness page as well as www.getreadyhawaii.org.
- **Developing a Plan:** Answer questions like who do you contact? Where is the nearest shelter? Where is our family/business meeting place? Where do I find information? Where are our escape routes?
- Disaster Kit: Have enough non-perishable food and water for you and yours for at least 7 days. Keep 10 days worth of medication on hand, and make copies of important documents. Have what you need to survive without power, while staying comfortable. http://www.prh.noaa.gov/cphc/HAW/supply_kit.php
- Prepare Your Home: Reinforce your roof with hurricane clips and protect your windows with shutters and/or plywood. Pick up and store loose items in and around your home.
 For more great ideas check out:
 - http://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/sites/seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/files/publications/web_homeownershandbook_0.pdf

Other great sources of information include your county and state Civil Defense or Emergency Management agency, FEMA, and other organizations. A series of preparedness workshops will occur this year around the state. Please consider attending one to learn more. http://www.prh.noaa.gov/hnl/pages/examples/Hazard Workshops 2012.pdf