

### **EVACUATION**

Branford residents should be prepared to evacuate their homes, workplace, schools or any other location when notified by town officials to do so. Delays in evacuation could result in personal injury or becoming trapped in your vehicle.

It is most important that all Branford residents plan where they and their family (including elderly relatives living in the area) intend on evacuat-

Whether you choose to evacuate out of the Branford area (to family, friend or hotel in another town) or to utilize a Branford operated shelter, families must pre-plan evacuation routes. When pre-planning evacuation routes, you must consider the following: (Map provided on reverse)

- 1. Plan a primary and secondary route using as many main thoroughfares as possible.
- 2. Plan primary and secondary routes to all of your sheltering options. Reminder—Branford officials may activate only the primary shelter (Murphy School) or others as needed.
- 3. Depending on the emergency (hurricane v. winter storm) different routes will be used depending on terrain (hills) and potential flooding (hurricanes).

### HOW WILL YOU BE NOTIFIED?

Branford residents will be notified using the **B-Informed** Emergency Notification System. Residents should register for emergency alerts by going to the following websites

- ⇒ www.branford-ct.gov
- ⇒ www.branfordpolice.com

and clicking on the B-Informed Sign Up button.



### **SHELTERS**

It is well recognized that local, state and federal officials will develop community sheltering locations, however most families would prefer to shelter with family or friends outside of the affected area. It is recommended that the minimum distance away from Branford that your family should seek shelter is 15 miles. In the case of a hurricane, the location should be north of Long Island Sound. If this is the primary choice of your family, agreements with the hosting family or friends should be in place well in advance. If you are unable to arrange for a sheltering location outside of Branford, you and you family may evacuate to a town operated shelter (listed below).

If needed, shelters are opened and operated with the assistance of the American Red Cross (ARC). It is important for all Branford residents to remember, not all shelters will be opened unless needed. Therefore, to determine which shelters are open, refer to the <u>"HOW WILL YOU BE</u> NOTIFIED?" guidelines.

### BRANFORD SHELTER LOCATIONS

Mary T. Murphy School Primary Shelter 14 Brushy Plain Rd. (# 1 on Map) Alternate Shelter Branford Recreation Center 46 Church St. (#2 on Map) Alternate Shelter John B. Sliney School 23 Eades St. (#3 on Map) Alternate Shelter Walsh Intermediate School 185 Damascus Rd. (#4 on Map)

Alternate Shelter Branford High School 185 East Main St. (#5 on Map) What to Bring to Shelters? Sleeping bags, bed rolls and pillows

Items in Disaster Kit including change of cloths Essential toiletries, towels, medications, etc.

Games, cards, toys for children House pets must have cages, leash and all other supplies including food.

What NOT to Bring to Shelters! Sick or injured persons requiring specialized care— medical facilities should be used.

### FAMILY DISASTER PLAN

Where will you be when disaster strikes? How will you find each other? Families should be prepared for all hazards that could affect their area. Branford Office of Emergency Management urges all families to develop a family disaster plan.

- ☐ Develop an out-of-state contact that all family members can contact if separated.
  - Determine evacuation routes
- Know shelter locations
- Make arraignments for pets Know how to shut off utilities
- Store 3 day supply of non-perishable food Store 3 gals. of water per day per person
- for a 3 day minimum.

### FAMILY DISASTER KITS

Assemble kits in easy to carry packs or bags.

- □ Basic first aid kit
- Battery operated radio, flashlight & spare batteries.
- Copies of all important paperwork (insurance plans—deeds etc.)
- Prescription medications for 3 days
- Special items for infants, elderly or disabled family members.
- Credit cards, cash and spare car keys

## WEATHER ADVISORIES

A TROPICAL STORM WATCH is issued whenever Tropical Storm conditions are possible in a specified area of the Watch, usually within 36 hours.

TROPICAL STORM WARNING is issued whenever Tropical Storm conditions are expected in the specified area of the Warning, usually within 24 hours.

A HURRICANE WATCH is issued whenever Hurricane conditions are possible in the specified area of the Watch, usually within 36 hours. During a Hurricane Watch, prepare to take immediate action to protect your family and property in case a Hurricane Warning is issued.

A HURRICANE WARNING is issued whenever Hurricane conditions are expected in the specified area of the Warning, usually within 24 hours.

# **PREPAREDNESS**

Because of its location, Branford is susceptible to a number of potential natural or manmade disasters. These include; hurricanes, winter storms, flash floods, tornados and hazardous material incidents.

Being prepared for emergencies is crucial when at home, work or school.

Disaster can strike quickly and without warning. It can force you to evacuate your neighborhood, workplace, school or can confine you to any one of these places. Although, local officials will be on the scene during and after a disaster, they cannot reach everyone right away. Therefore, the best way to insure your family's safety is to be prepared for a disaster.

This guide is intended to assist you with:

- Family planning information including developing Family Disaster Plans and Family Disaster Kits
- Developing safe evacuation plans and evacuation routes to all shelters
- Branford shelter locations and what items should be taken to shelters.
- How Branford residents will be notified П when and where to evacuate
- Hurricane Advisory Information
- Other information sources

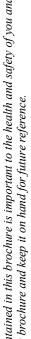
# OTHER INFORMATION SOURCES

- http://www.ready.gov
- http://www.fema.gov
- http://www.cdc.gov  $\Rightarrow$
- http://www.ct.gov/demhs/  $\Rightarrow$
- http://www.nhc.noaa.gov http://www.weather.com  $\Rightarrow$
- http://www.redcross.org  $\Rightarrow$
- http://www.branford-ct.gov  $\Rightarrow$
- http://www.branfordpolice.com
- http://www.branfordfire.com

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to the health and safety of you and your family during the time of an Branford Resident: The information contained in this brochure is importan gency. Please take the time to review this brochure and keep it on hand for fi

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# BRANFORD

EVACUATION ઢ SHELTERING GUIDE



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