

Important Numbers for Emergency Evacuation Information

Citizen's Information Line.....Local (863) 401-2234
Toll Free (866) 661-0228
American Red Cross.....(863) 294-5941

Radio: Primary Emergency Broadcast System Stations

WONN.....1230 AM
WPCV.....97.5 FM
Traveler's Information System (Western Polk County).....1610 AM

Television (Consult television listings for local station):

Polk Government Television (PGTV).....Comcast 5; BrightHouse 622; Verizon Fios 20

www.polkfire.net



PLAN AHEAD!

It is important that ALL residents have an evacuation plan in place. Make your evacuation decision early! Although Polk County is not in a coastal area, high winds and localized flooding present hazards. Persons who are considered particularly vulnerable to these threats are those that:

- Have special needs (especially those dependent on electricity-operated medical/life support equipment)
- Live alone and need transportation
- Live in mobile homes
- Live in low areas

Watches & Warnings

A hurricane **WATCH** indicates hurricane conditions possible within 48 hours. This watch should trigger your disaster plan!

A hurricane **WARNING** indicates hurricane conditions expected within 36 hours. Once this warning has been issued, you should be completing protective actions and deciding the safest location to be during the storm.

Listen to local television and radio stations and stay informed about changing weather conditions.



HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

for people with SPECIAL NEEDS

For more information or to register:

**Polk County
Emergency Management**
1890 Jim Keene Blvd.
Winter Haven, FL 33880
(863) 298-7027



What is the Special Needs Program?

The Special Needs Program provides shelter and/or transportation for those who need assistance with physical or non-acute medical conditions and must evacuate during emergency conditions. It is specifically for people who have **no other** transportation or shelter options and need local government assistance.

Is it right for you?

Follow these steps to find out:

- ✓ Discuss your medical/health condition with your physician to determine what essential needs you require
- ✓ Pre-determine your evacuation destination such as a friend's or relative's house, motel/hotel or emergency shelter
- ✓ Arrange for your specific special needs and care at your pre-determined destination (i.e. medication, health care, diet, etc.)
- ✓ Arrange for your transportation needs with a neighbor, friend, relative, church or volunteer organization
- ✓ If you cannot secure transportation and/or require special needs and care, and have no other alternative, register with the Special Needs Program of Polk County Emergency Management

If you are dependent on oxygen or electrical power:

- ✓ Acquire an extra supply of oxygen and store properly
- ✓ Acquire extra batteries and make sure they are fully charged
- ✓ Make arrangements for early evacuation to a public shelter, special needs shelter, nursing home or hospital
- ✓ Only medical assist animals are permitted in shelters
- ✓ Make arrangements for boarding your pets
- ✓ Check with local officials for recommendations on sheltering your pets



Checklist of Items to Bring:

- Personal and medical identification
- Daily prescription/non-prescription medicines for three (3) days
- Health items: medical equipment, oxygen, eye glasses, hearing aids, prostheses, special dietary foods, etc.
- Two (2) changes of clothing
- Blanket/pillow
- Personal hygiene items: toothbrush and toothpaste, deodorant, soap, disposable underwear, etc.