

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS NEWSLETTER



DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY

Resilient Fairfax Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan: Public Comment Open

Resilient Fairfax is a program to help Fairfax County become more resilient to changing conditions and climate change-related hazards such as extreme heat, severe storms, and flooding. The draft Resilient Fairfax Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan will be available for public review and comment from May 16, 2022 until June 15, 2022.



Link: <https://engage.fairfaxcounty.gov/resilientfairfax>

Prepare Your Pets for Emergencies, They Are Part of Your Family!

June is Pet Preparedness Month! Don't forget about your pets when you are developing your emergency plan. If local officials ask you to evacuate, that means your pet should evacuate too. If you can't get back to your house, plan for a trusted friend or neighbor who can help your pet.

Just as you do with your family's emergency supply kit, make a kit for your pet too! Review your kits regularly to ensure that their contents, especially food and medicine, are not expired.

PET EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Food (don't forget treats!) ✓ Water ✓ Bowls for food/water ✓ Medications and vet records ✓ First aid kit ✓ Leash, and collar with ID ✓ Microchip info ✓ Medical records ✓ Cleaning products (dog waste bags, litter box, paper towels, trash bags) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Picture of you and your pet ✓ Crate or pet carrier ✓ Familiar bed/blanket and a toy ✓ Can opener (if needed) ✓ Pet-friendly hotels/boarding facilities ✓ Specialty supplies for small animals/birds/reptiles if needed (heating pad, dietary supplements, etc)
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Lastly, make sure you have the important paperwork for your pet, including any medical records or important instructions on how to take care of your pet in case they end up with a family member, friend, or even at a shelter during an emergency. Ensure your animals are wearing collars with up-to-date identification. You can also ask your vet about microchipping your pets to ensure they make it back to you if you are separated.

Department of Emergency Management and Security's Pet preparedness video: https://youtu.be/m-2sII_Mj7M

Summer Travel

For many of us, summertime usually means vacation and traveling (YAY!). Don't forget to plan!



- Regular maintenance such as tune-ups, oil changes, battery checks, tire rotations, and A/C checks go a long way toward preventing breakdowns.
- Have an emergency roadside kit (remember it is summer). Emergency kits should include basic supplies that are tailored to every person's need. You will need additional supplies if you are traveling with children, seniors, individuals with access and functional needs, or pets.
- Check the weather and sign up for local emergency alerts to the area you are visiting so you can stay in the know while you are there.

Emergency kit checklist: [Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Guide](#)

Virginia's Evacuation Zones: [Virginia Know Your Zone \(arcgis.com\)](http://arcgis.com)

Why Do Hurricanes Have Names? Hurricane Season is June 1st – November 30th!

Storms are named from lists made years in advance from the National Hurricane Center. The lists are maintained and updated by an international committee at the World Meteorological Organization.

The committee may choose to retire a name if a storm is so deadly or costly that the future use of its name for a different storm would be "inappropriate for reasons of sensitivity," the organization says. So far, 94 names have been retired from the Atlantic basin list since 1953.

Be ready for hurricane season. Determine your personal hurricane risk, find out if you live in an evacuation zone, and review and update your insurance policies. You can also make a list of items to replenish hurricane emergency supplies and start thinking about how you will prepare your home for the coming hurricane season.



Resources:

- Hurricane Hazard Page in the CERG: [Hurricanes/Tropical Storms | Emergency \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cerg/hurricanes-tropical-storms-emergency)
- NOAA Hurricane Info: [National Hurricane Center \(noaa.gov\)](https://www.noaa.gov/hurricane)
- Hurricane Names: [Tropical Cyclone Names \(noaa.gov\)](https://www.noaa.gov/hurricane-names)

Fairfax County Internal Snow After Action Meeting

Last month the Training and Exercise Division conducted a Countywide Winter Weather After Action Meeting (AAM). The AAM is used to highlight successes and identify potential areas of improvement. Ten county agencies attended and discussed the preparedness and response of the four snow events the county had with accumulations exceeding 3 inches. Overall, our snow season was minimal, and the county was able to meet the operational goals for snow removal. A few areas of improvement in preparedness activities were identified and will be worked on prior to next year's winter weather season.

Extreme Heat and What You Should Know

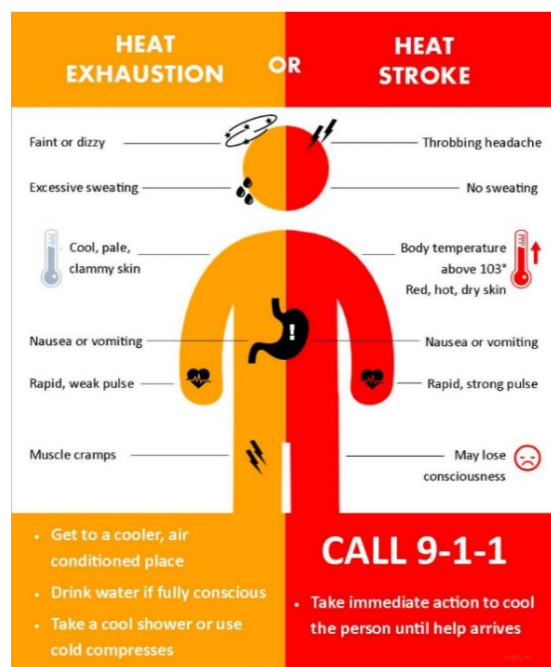
Extreme heat – especially coupled with high humidity – can be deadly, slowing evaporation and thus requiring the body to work harder to moderate its core temperature. Overexposure to heat and/or overexertion (too much exercise or effort) can trigger a heat-related illnesses.

How can I prepare for the warm weather to avoid heat related illnesses?

- Stay indoors as much as possible and limit exposure to heat and sun.
- Drink plenty of water or electrolyte sports drinks.
- Avoid strenuous work during the warmest part of the day.
- Use a buddy system when working in extreme heat, have a phone handy, and take frequent breaks.

What can you do if you feel woozy, overheated, or unwell? Take action immediately!

- Stop any strenuous activity.
- Get somewhere cool.
- Drink something if you can.
- Cool your skin by taking a cold bath or holding anything cold against your body.
- Call someone for help or call 911!



Extreme Heat Hazard Page in the CERG: [Extreme Heat | Emergency \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cerg/extreme-heat-emergency)