

SAFETY AFTER THE STORM

Safety does not stop after the storm has passed. Everyone should be aware of the many dangers that might exist after bad weather has moved out of the area.

-Remain calm and locate your emergency supply kit containing essential first aid materials, blankets, and bottled water. Visit the American Red Cross webpage at www.redcross.org for a complete list of items for your supply kit.

-Promptly treat any injuries you or your family suffered during the event.

-Check neighbors for injuries. Call for medical assistance. Do not move seriously injured people, unless they are in immediate danger of further injury.

-Wear sturdy shoes or boots, long sleeves, and gloves when inspecting your home or business for damage or when handling debris. Be aware of exposed nails, broken glass, and weakened trees and tree limbs.

-Do not light matches, burn candles, or turn on electrical switches if you suspect damage to your home or business. Any of these actions can ignite fires. Use a flashlight or battery powered lantern.

-Do not touch downed powerlines or objects in contact with downed powerlines. Keep children and pets a safe distance away. Report electrical hazards to the police and the utility company.

-If there is frayed wiring or sparks, or an odor of something burning, shut off the electrical system at the main circuit breaker.

-If you smell gas or suspect a leak, turn off the main gas valve, open all windows, and leave the house immediately. Notify the gas company and the police or fire departments. Do not do anything that could cause a spark. Do not return to the house until you are told it is safe to do so.

-Clean up or rope off dangerous areas.

-Remember to care for pets after a disaster has occurred.

