

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

Safe Room Planning

Identifying a Safe Room in your home or business can help provide an optional place for emergency refuge during the next hurricane, tropical storm or other hazard. Hurricane Shelters, though numerous and located in public schools throughout Oahu can be hot, crowded and often uncomfortable for senior citizens and those with disabilities. **In addition all of your emergency supplies must be brought with you.** If you have a large family including pets this can be quite an undertaking.

In Hawaii before beginning the Safe Room identification process you must find out if your home is in a hurricane evacuation zone or an area prone to flooding. Hurricane/Tsunami evacuation zone maps can be found in your white pages telephone directory or by visiting our website at www.oahuDEM.org and entering your address into the Tsunami Map Viewer box. **If you are in a hurricane/tsunami evacuation zone or flood prone area you should not consider a Safe Room.**

Every home or business should have a Safe Room located in a large interior walk-in closet, bathroom or hallway.

The Safe Room should be in the interior of the structure, as close to the center as possible and have no outside walls - including the wall to the garage or windows. You want to place as much protection as you can between yourself and hurricane forces outside the structure.

The Safe Room should be large enough to store emergency supplies as well as fit all family members and pets. Also, the more walls surrounding the Safe Room, the better. In two-story structures, a location near the stairwell may be the strongest point.

Arrange the Safe Room so it has space for emergency supplies and bedding for comfort.

Prior to hurricane season consider hardening your Safe Room by having the door replaced or reinforced. Additional structural hardening can be applied to walls and ceilings. Visit the FEMA website www.Ready.gov for more information and plans on constructing a Safe Room.

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

City and County of Honolulu

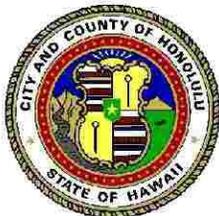
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Plan and Prepare Now for the Next Disaster

Learn – Educate yourself on disasters that can affect you and your Family.

Plan – Create and exercise a Family Disaster Plan. Locate a secondary meeting place and designate an off island contact.

Individual, Family and Business Disaster Planning – Disaster planning is everyone's business. Carefully review this information and take the time today to discuss preparedness planning with family, friends and co-workers.

Develop a 7-Day Disaster Supplies Kit

Your disaster supplies kit should contain enough of the following items to last for 7-days:

- **Water** - One gallon of water per person per day for seven days for drinking and sanitation
- **Food** - Non-perishable food that does not require cooking. Popular local foods such as spam, corned beef and vienna sausages
- **Eating Utensils** – Plates, mess kits, forks and chop sticks. Don't forget a non-electric can opener for canned foods
- **Radio** - Battery-powered or hand crank radio with NOAA Weather alert
- **Light** - Flashlight and or a portable fluorescent light
- **Spare batteries** - Check annually
- **First Aid** – Get a good kit and consider enrolling in a certified first aid course
- **Whistle** – Important for signaling for help. A whistle carries much farther than the human voice and uses less energy than yelling
- **Dust Mask** – Helps to filter contaminated air
- **Sanitation** - Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- **Tools** - Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities, duct tape
- **Maps** - Local area maps
- **Prescription** – Special medications and glasses
- **Baby** - Infant Formula and diapers
- **Pets** - Pet food and extra water for your pet

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