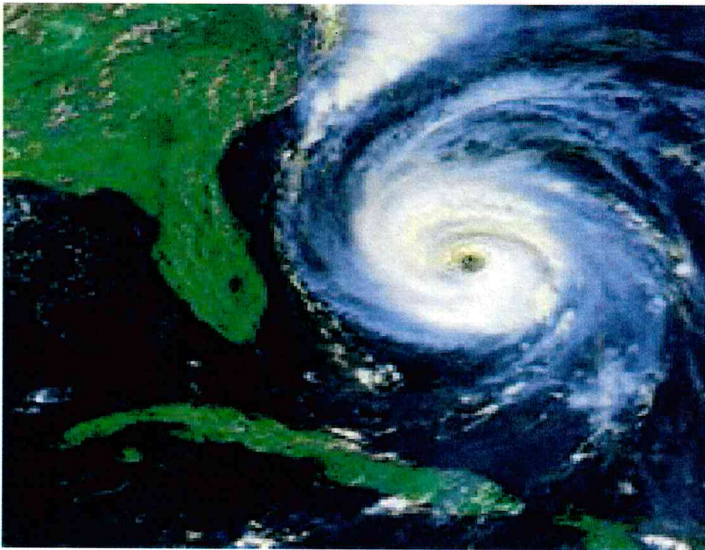


# *veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States*



## *Disaster Relief Program*



2016-2017

## **DISASTER OPERATING PROCEDURES**

**PURPOSE:** This Department Disaster Operating Procedure manual is a requirement for all VFW Districts and Posts to follow during a disaster situation. The intent of the DOP is to ensure that information pertinent to a given disaster condition is coordinated and shared among VFW State, Districts and Posts.

**SCOPE:** The DOP is structured to give, upon notification of a disaster within a VFW District, operating instructions to coordinate assets and to implement and distribute assistance where needed within a given area of devastation.

**DEFINITION:** A disaster is an occurrence such as: *hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, earthquake, fire, explosion or other situations* that cause human suffering or creates human needs that the victims cannot alleviate without assistance.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Hurricane season is upon us. In preparation for this time of year and using past years experience for guidelines, the Department of Florida has made some revisions in its DISASTER RELIEF PROGRAM.

To be better prepared and to react properly during an emergency, will take an effort from all of the Posts in Florida. It is imperative that information on the availability of relief efforts to our members and to the people who live in the area of our Posts be coordinated. In this effort, we are asking each Post Commander to first appoint a Post Coordinator for Disaster Relief and secondly to summarize the availability of the Post to handle Disaster situations.

Included in this booklet are:

1. A copy of the Post Disaster Checklist form which lists the equipment and areas of responsibility available at each post. Included are the numbers of people each Post can house, feed and/or sleep. Also, list the equipment such as power generators and other emergency equipment such as cell phones, 4-wheel drive transportation, etc.
2. A copy of the Department Disaster Relief Assistance Form by which claims for financial or other aid can be requested from the Department of Florida.

The Department of Florida Disaster Relief Committee should be up-dated each year to facilitate the Department's Disaster Relief coordination with F.E.M.A. and the proposed State of Florida Disaster Relief Agency.

3. A summary of the Department of Florida Disaster Relief Plan outlining the duties of each Post, each District and the Department.

Please review these documents and submit the names of each Post Coordinator and each Post Disaster Checklist to:

Michael "Mike" Farley, Chairman  
Dept. of Florida Disaster Relief Program  
4135 – 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue East  
Parrish, FL 34219  
Phone: 941/479-4750  
Email: farho56@yahoo.com



The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Florida, several years ago developed a program to aid our Posts in Florida who suffered consequences from natural disasters such as Hurricanes. The severity of the storms attacking our state during 2004 and 2005 has caused us to review our program and make revisions where necessary.

Many of our VFW Posts have been required to house and feed members, relief workers and local citizens during some of these hurricanes. Others have had electrical power shut downs and thus suffered perishable material losses.

The VFW Department of Florida Disaster Relief Program has now been changed to not only offer financial help to those members who suffer losses to their dwellings but also to aid those Posts who offer shelter and food to those who have lost their housing, temporarily or permanently.

The Disaster Relief Program, will offer a maximum of \$500.00 to those VFW member home owners who permanently lose their home due to these disasters. The program also offers a maximum of \$300.00 to those members who temporarily lose the use of their home due to these disasters. In addition, the program will now aid VFW Posts who house and serve food to local members and citizens who have temporarily lost their homes, or power due to these disasters. This aid will come in the form of a Department grant of up to \$500.00 for these facilities for the purpose of purchasing power generators for their Posts. The use of these generators will allow the facilities to continue near normal operation using generated power for lighting, refrigeration and cooking.

Each District Commander is responsible for providing advice to each of his or her Posts and for reporting all disaster situations to the Department Chairman of Disaster Relief.



## **HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS**

### **Phase 1 – Preseason Hurricane Preparedness**

- Identify a place of shelter during a hurricane. Know what wind speeds your shelter can withstand and if you are in a flood plain. Determine if your shelter could be affected by a storm surge. If so, what category would it take to affect it.
- Have a means to board up the windows in your shelter. This could be shutters or plywood for example.
- Check to see if trees could topple onto your shelter if the winds are strong enough. Cut away dead branches.
- Plan an evacuation route and a secondary route if the first one is blocked. Identify relatives or another place to stay if you must leave home.
- Have maps of your evacuation route.
- Have a radio with new batteries to receive news bulletins. Have a NOAA weather radio in case the power goes out.
- Check your flashlights.
- Identify any prescription medications that you may need to take with you.
- Identify a means to purify water such as water purification tablets. Have some on hand in case pure water is not available for a prolonged period of time.
- Buy a portable generator if possible.
- Buy a chain saw if possible.

### **Phase 2 – Hurricane Watch**

- Complete actions steps in Phase 1.
- Board up or close shutters on your windows. DO NOT use tape. This offers no protection and wastes time!
- Stock up on non-perishable food items.
- Have three (3) days of drinking water and means to purify water ready.
- Round up any medications and toiletries that you may need.
- Have important papers gathered such as insurance information. Have a plastic bag to seal papers in.
- Make sure that your vehicle has a full tank of gas. In a power outage gas may become scarce.
- Gather necessary clothing, blankets and bedding.
- Evacuate if told to do so by local government officials.

### **Phase 3 – Hurricane Warning**

- All preparations should have been completed by this time. If you are still not at your evacuation point, check expected weather conditions to see if you can still get there without endangering your life. Weather conditions can change very quickly at this point and become dangerous. Do not get stranded in your car!
- Take along all necessary items described in preparedness plans 1 and 2.
- Be careful not to venture outside if strong winds diminish very quickly. It is possible that the eye of the hurricane has passed over. Winds will pick up very quickly from the opposite direction in a short period of time.
- Do not cross flooded roadways. Water can sweep a vehicle away very easily. Find another route.
- Turn off electricity and gas if told to do so by local authorities.

# **HURRICANE CATEGORIES**

## **CATEGORY 1 HURRICANE**

- Winds 74-95 mph (64-82 kt or 119-152 km/hr). Storm surge generally 4-5 ft. above normal. No real damage to building structures. Damage primarily to unanchored mobile homes, shrubbery, and trees. Some damage to poorly constructed signs. Also, some coastal road flooding and minor pier damage.

## **CATEGORY 2 HURRICANE**

- Winds 96-110 mph (83-95 kt or 154-177 km/hr). Storm surge generally 6-8 ft. above normal. Some roofing material, door, and window damage of buildings. Considerable damage to shrubbery and trees and some trees blown down. Considerable damage to mobile homes, poorly constructed signs and piers. Coastal and low-lying escape routes flood 2-4 hours before arrival of the hurricane center. Small craft in unprotected anchorages break moorings.

## **CATEGORY 3 HURRICANE**

- Winds 111-130 mph (96-113 kt or 178-209 km/hr). Storm surge generally 9-12 ft. above normal. Some structural damage to small residences and utility buildings with a minor amount of curtainwall failures. Damage to shrubbery and trees with foliage blown off trees and large trees blown down. Mobile home and poorly constructed signs are destroyed. Low-lying escape routes are cut by rising water 3-5 hours before arrival of the center of the hurricane. Flooding near the coast destroys smaller structures with larger structures damaged by battering from floating debris. Terrain continuously lower than 5 ft. above mean sea level may be flooded inland 8 miles (13 km) or more. Evacuation of low-lying residences with several blocks of the shoreline may be required.

## **CATEGORY 4 HURRICANE**

- Winds 131-155 mph (114-135kt or 210-249 km/hr). Storm surge generally 13-18 ft. above normal. More extensive curtainwall failures with some complete roof structure failures on small residences. Shrubs, trees, and all signs are blown down. Complete destruction of mobile homes. Extensive damage to doors and windows. Low-lying escape routes may be cut by rising water 3-5 hours before arrival of the center of the hurricane. Major damage to lower floors of structures near the shore. Terrain lower than 10 ft above sea level may be flooded requiring massive evacuation of residential areas as far inland as 6 miles (10 km).



## **CATEGORY 5 HURRICANE**

- Winds greater than 155 mph (135 kt or 249 km/hr). Storm surge generally greater than 18 ft. above normal. Complete roof failure on many residences and industrial buildings. Some complete building failures with small utility buildings blown over or away. All shrubs, trees and signs blown down. Complete destruction of mobile homes. Severe and extensive window and door damage. Low-lying escape routes are cut by rising water 3-5 hours before arrival of the center of the hurricane. Major damage to lower floors of all structures located less than 15 ft. above sea level and within 500 yards of the shoreline. Massive evacuation of residential areas on low ground within 5-10 miles (8-16 km) of the shoreline may be required.

## ***Severe Weather***

Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, and Lightning - Nature's most violent storms.

Thunderstorms affect relatively small areas when compared with hurricanes and winter storms. The typical thunderstorm is 15 miles in diameter and lasts an average of 30 minutes. Despite their small size, ALL thunderstorms are dangerous! Of the estimated 100,000 thunderstorms that occur each year in the United States, about 10 percent are classified as severe.

**Tornadoes** - Although tornadoes occur in many parts of the world, they are found most frequently in the United States.....

- A tornado is a violently rotating column of air extending from a thunderstorm to the ground.
- Tornadoes cause an average of 70 fatalities and 1,500 injuries in the U.S. each year..
- The strongest tornadoes have rotating winds of more than 250 mph.
- Tornadoes can be one mile wide and stay on the ground over 50 miles.
- Tornadoes may appear nearly transparent until dust and debris are picked up or a cloud forms within the funnel. The average tornado moves from southwest to northeast, but tornadoes have been known to move in any direction.
- The average forward speed is 30 mph but may vary from nearly stationary to 70 mph.
- Waterspouts are tornadoes which form over warm water. They can move onshore and cause damage to coastal areas.



## **Lightning...**

- Causes an average of about 60 fatalities and 300 injuries each year.
- Lightning occurs in all thunderstorms; each year lightning strikes the United States 25 million times.
- The energy from one lightning flash could light a 100-watt light bulb for more than 3 months.

- Most lightning fatalities and injuries occur when people are caught outdoors in the summer months during the afternoon and evening.
- Lightning can occur from cloud-to-cloud, within a cloud, cloud-to-ground, or cloud-to-air.
- Many fires in the western United States and Alaska are started by lightning.
- The air near a lightning strike is heated to 50,000°F--hotter than the surface of the sun!
- The rapid heating and cooling of the air near the lightning channel causes a shock wave that results in thunder.
- When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors! - NWS lightning safety site helps you learn more about lightning risks and how to protect yourself, your loved ones and your belongings.

### **Straight-line Winds...**

- Straight-line winds are responsible for most thunderstorm wind damage.
- Winds can exceed 100 mph!
- One type of straight-line wind, the downburst, is a small area of rapidly descending air beneath a thunderstorm
- A downburst can cause damage equivalent to a strong tornado and can be extremely dangerous to aviation.
- A "dry microburst" is a downburst that occurs with little or no rain. These destructive winds are most common in the western United States

### **Flash Flooding...**

- Is the #1 cause of deaths associated with thunderstorms...more than 140 fatalities each year
- Most flash flood fatalities occur at night and most victims are people who become trapped in automobiles.
- Six inches of fast-moving water can knock you off your feet; a depth of two feet will cause most vehicles to float.



## Hail...

- Strong rising currents of air within a storm, called updrafts, carry water droplets to a height where freezing occurs.
- Ice particles grow in size, becoming too heavy to be supported by the updraft, and fall to the ground.
- Causes more than \$1 billion in damage to property and crops each year.
- Large stones fall at speeds faster than 100 mph.



Multiple lightning strokes observed during night-time thunderstorm.

The **National Severe Storms Laboratory** is one of NOAA's internationally known research laboratories, leading the way in investigations of all aspects of severe weather. Headquartered in Norman OK, the people of NSSL, in partnership with the National Weather Service, are dedicated to improving severe weather warnings and forecasts in order to save lives and reduce property damage.

Severe weather research conducted at NSSL has led to substantial improvements in severe and hazardous weather forecasting resulting in increased warning lead times to the public. NSSL scientists are exploring new ways to improve our understanding of the causes of severe weather and ways to use weather information to assist National Weather Service forecasters, as well as federal, university and private sector partners.

The **Storm Prediction Center (SPC)** is part of the National Weather Service (NWS) and the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP). The mission of the SPC is to provide timely and accurate forecasts and watches for severe thunderstorms and tornadoes over the contiguous United States. The SPC also monitors heavy rain, heavy snow, and fire weather events across the U.S. and issues specific products for those hazards.

**Weather Forecast Offices** of NOAA's National Weather Service issue local Severe Thunderstorm, Tornado and Flash Flood warnings. Severe thunderstorm, tornado, and flash flood warnings are passed to local radio and television stations and are broadcast over local NOAA Weather Radio stations serving the warned areas. These warnings are also relayed to local emergency management and public safety officials who can activate local warning systems to alert communities.

## **NOAA Weather Radio is the best means to receive warnings from the National Weather Service.**

The National Weather Service continuously broadcasts warnings and forecasts that can be received by NOAA Weather Radios, which are sold in many stores. The average range is 40 miles, depending on topography. Purchase a radio that has a battery back-up and a Specific Area Message Encoder feature, which automatically alerts you when a watch or warning is issued for your county or parish.

When conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop, a severe thunderstorm or tornado **WATCH** is issued. Weather Service personnel use information from weather radar, spotters, and other sources to issue severe thunderstorm and tornado **WARNINGS** for areas where severe weather is imminent. Severe thunderstorm and tornado warnings are passed to local radio and television stations and are broadcast over local NOAA Weather Radio stations serving the warned areas. These warnings are also relayed to local emergency management and public safety officials who can activate local warning systems to alert communities. If a tornado warning is issued for your area or the sky becomes threatening, move to your pre-designated place of safety.

Check with your local National Weather Service office or visit the Internet site to determine if your county is covered by [NOAA Weather Radio](#). National Weather Service watches and warnings are also available on the Internet by selecting your [local National Weather Service office](#) at or by going to the [National Weather Service Home Page](#).

### **Terms to know:**

**Tornado** - A violently rotating column of air, usually pendant to a cumulonimbus, with circulation reaching the ground. It nearly always starts as a funnel cloud and may be accompanied by a loud roaring noise. On a local scale, it is the most destructive of all atmospheric phenomena

**Severe Thunderstorm** - A thunderstorm that produces a tornado, winds of at least 58 mph (50 knots), and/or hail at least 1 inch in diameter. Structural wind damage may imply the occurrence of a severe thunderstorm.

**Flash Flood** - A flood which is caused by heavy or excessive rainfall in a short period of time, generally less than 6 hours. Also, at times a dam failure can cause a flash flood, depending on the type of dam and time period during which the break occurs.

**Tornado Watch:** Tornadoes are possible in your area. Remain alert for approaching storms. Know what counties or parishes are in the watch area by listening to NOAA Weather Radio or your local radio/television outlets.

**Severe Thunderstorm Watch:** Tells you when and where severe thunderstorms are likely to occur. Watch the sky and stay tuned to know when warnings are issued.

**Flash Flood Watch** - Issued to indicate current or developing hydrologic conditions that are favorable for flash flooding in and close to the watch area, but the occurrence is neither certain or imminent.

**Tornado Warning:** A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar.

**Severe Thunderstorm Warning:** Issued when severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property to those in the path of the storm.

**Flash Flood Warning** - Issued to inform the public, emergency management, and other cooperating agencies that flash flooding is in progress, imminent, or highly likely.



# **DISASTER PREPARDNESS/RELIEF COMMITTEE**

Under the direction of Department Headquarters, the Director will be responsible to implement disaster relief procedures in the designated area with the assistance of the Deputy Director and the area coordinators. The Director will have full operations control in the implementation of the disaster procedures. The Director will coordinate disaster activities in the affected areas through each coordinator appointed by the Department Commander. All cross District requests will be coordinated through the Director of Disaster Preparedness/Relief.

## **CHAIRMAN**

Michael "Mike" Farley (9226)  
4135 – 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue East, Parrish, FL 34219  
Phone: 941/479-4750      Email: [farho56@yahoo.com](mailto:farho56@yahoo.com)

## **ASSISTANT CHAIRMAN**

William "Bill" Polverari (10097)  
1732 Beach Parkway West, Cape Coral, FL 33914  
Phone: 419/509-5376      Email: [bpolverari@hotmail.com](mailto:bpolverari@hotmail.com)

## **AREA COORDINATORS**

### **NORTH WEST AREA (DISTRICTS 1,2, & 17)**

Edward Campbell (4407)  
9000 Deer Lane, Navarre, FL 32566  
Phone: 850/684-1866      Email: [edmorris1@aol.com](mailto:edmorris1@aol.com)

### **ASSISTANT**

Ronnie D. Holladay (4407)  
5303 Woodlake Trace, Gulf Breeze, FL 32563  
Phone: 850/934-3083      Email: [rholladay1960@hotmail.com](mailto:rholladay1960@hotmail.com)

### **NORTH EAST AREA (DISTRICTS 6,14,19 & 22)**

Andrew Fisher (4250)  
3661 Strawberry Lane, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168  
Phone: 386/566-8671      Email: [ajfisher2001@yahoo.com](mailto:ajfisher2001@yahoo.com)

### **ASSISTANT**

Carl Yochelson (5968)  
537 Coppitt Drive South, Orange Park, FL 32073  
Phone: 904/631-4461      Email: [cyoch@bellsouth.net](mailto:cyoch@bellsouth.net)

**CENTRAL WEST AREA (DISTRICTS 7, 9, 12 & 21)**

George Samsen (10093)

3432 State Road 580 Lot 450, Safety Harbor, FL 34695

Phone: 727/214-7451

Email: [georgesamsen5@gmail.com](mailto:georgesamsen5@gmail.com)

**CENTRAL EAST AREA (DISTRICTS 4 & 18)**

John Henry (5405)

405 Lillian Drive, Fern Park, FL 32730

Phone: 407/327-3151 Email: [smith78.jj@gmail.com](mailto:smith78.jj@gmail.com)

**ASSISTANT**

John Henry (5405)

405 Lillian Drive, Fern Park, Florida 32730

Phone: 407/830-9340

Email: [ficharm@yahoo.com](mailto:ficharm@yahoo.com)

**SOUTH WEST AREA (DISTRICTS 10 & 13)**

Joe Cooper (9226)

6710 – 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue East Lot 272, Palmetto, FL 34221

Phone: 941/737-8867

Email: [diver\\_34221@yahoo.com](mailto:diver_34221@yahoo.com)

**ASSISTANT**

Dale Mangione (10097)

9720 Pineapple Preserve Court, Fort Myers, FL 33908

Phone: 239/823-7210

Email: [dalemangione1@yahoo.com](mailto:dalemangione1@yahoo.com)

**SOUTH EAST AREA (DISTRICTS 3,5 & 11)**

Derald Ortloff (4127)

510 NW 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Homestead, FL 33030

Phone: 305/878-2454

Email: [derald.ortloff@gmail.com](mailto:derald.ortloff@gmail.com)

**ASSISTANT**

Gary Pirtle (1966)

1101 River Reach Drive #115, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33315

Phone: 305/926-1273

Email: [jmb5848@hotmail.com](mailto:jmb5848@hotmail.com)

**ASSISTANT CHAIRMAN (VFW AUXILIARY)**

Ray "Scott" Carpenter (Aux 4254)

3221 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE, Naples, FL 34120

Phone: 239/280-6402

Email: [scarpenter961@gmail.com](mailto:scarpenter961@gmail.com)

## **POST COMMANDER**

Each Post Commander will:

- 1) Appoint a Post Disaster Coordinator
- 2) Maintain direct communications with the District Commander.

## **POST DISASTER COORDINATORS**

Each Post Disaster Coordinator will:

- 1) Create and maintain a roster of member's names, addresses and phone numbers.
- 2) Establish a system to communicate with your members in time of a disaster.
- 3) Make available to your members copies of the Disaster Relief Assistance form.
- 4) Upon implementation of a disaster situation, retain operational control of all disaster assets available at the Post.
- 5) Maintain direct access to the District Disaster Coordinator.
- 6) Maintain a Post Disaster Checklist, one copy of which must be forwarded to the District Coordinator and Department Headquarters.

## **DISTRICT COMMANDERS**

The District Commanders must either accept responsibility for coordinating Disaster Relief at the District level or appoint a District Officer as District Disaster Relief Chairman.

The District Commander or his/her representative must assure that each Post Commander in the district appoint a Disaster Relief Coordinator.

## **DISTRICT DISASTER RELIEF CHAIRMAN**

The District Coordinator must maintain a close working relationship with Posts in the District to ensure that each coordinator has completed their duties and the Department Disaster Relief Chairman to assure expedient action on all disaster activities and assure that aid both financial or otherwise be transferred in an orderly manner.



## DISASTER RELIEF FUNDS

Funding available from the Department of Florida for Disaster Relief will become available following approval by the Department Commander, the Department Quartermaster and the Chairman of the Department Disaster Relief Program.

The Department Chairman of Disaster Relief, along with the six Florida Area Vice Chairman for Disaster Relief will be responsible for coordinating the distribution of available funds with the District Commanders and Post Disaster Relief Coordinators.

Financial aid will, in most cases be distributed either directly through the office of the Department Quartermaster, or by the opening of a two signature checking account with the Department Chairman of Disaster Relief and the specified District Commander as signatories, through an established bank. A complete Disaster Relief Assistance Form must be completed and submitted to the Department Relief Chairman, or his representative and/or the Department Quartermaster. Upon review and acceptance, money will be distributed.

Any monies authorized by VFW Department Headquarters for distribution to qualified Veterans and/or their families must be receipted for, after proper I.D. (a current paid VFW or Auxiliary Membership card or life Membership card and their drivers license or voter registration card showing their local address.) Verification of ID will be done by the Department Relief Chairman or a designated representative.

The priorities for the dispersal of Department funds will consider:

1. **HOUSING:** A maximum of \$500.00 may be expended for qualified members who have permanently lost their dwelling places. Or a maximum of \$300.00 for qualified members who have temporarily lost their dwelling places.
2. **DISASTER AID TO OTHERS:** Funding will be established to aid VFW Posts who house and/or feed the local citizens who have become removed from their dwellings due to the emergency. It is also imperative that Florida VFW Posts review their insurance policies in order to determine whether physical damage to the facilities is covered.

3. **LOSS OF FOOD:** Any loss of perishable food due to electrical outage is not covered under this policy.

### **OTHER FORMS**

Included in this package are forms to be used to help each Post list what emergency equipment is available and what may be lacking.

Also, a form by which Disaster Relief Funding can be requested from the Department is included.

## **POST RESPONSIBILITIES IN PREPARING FOR A DISASTER**

The Post Disaster Coordinator should organize the Post Disaster Team according to the skills of members and the equipment required.

Member skills required are people with medical or nursing backgrounds, those with 4-wheel drive vehicles, those who have cooking and meal preparing experience, those with cell phones for communication. A listing of all emergency agencies in the area such as Police, Fire Department, and Hospitals should be prepared. Several members should be trained to operate a power generator if the Post has one available. Those Posts which may become shelters during emergencies should have such a generator.

Equipment required to house victims of a disaster are listed below:

Beds with blankets

Food for at least several days-preferable non-perishable

Paper plates and plastic utensils

Fuel for the power generator

Flashlights and batteries

A manual can opener

Radio

First Aid Kit

Entertainment – Games, Cards Etc.

Listing such as above should be provided to our members so that they can prepare their homes for these emergencies.

While not all Florida VFW Posts are equipped to become shelters during disasters, other ways that we have, and can in the future, help is by taking up collections of money, non-perishable foods and clothing to take or send to Posts in areas where disasters have occurred.

One Note: the Red Cross has advised the Department of Florida that the most precious gift is money. Their claim is that much food and clothing remains unclaimed and must be disposed of following a Disaster.



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES**

**DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA  
543 NE SANCHEZ AVE.  
OCALA, FLORIDA 34470  
(352) 622-5126 FAX: (352) 622-3869**

**DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE FORM**

**FULL NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip)

**PHONE NO:** \_\_ (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**SOCIAL SECURITY NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VFW MEMBERSHIP NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**POST NO:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DISTRICT NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Briefly describe the type of assistance needed in the space below:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK NO:** \_\_\_\_\_ **AMOUNT:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE OF RECIPIENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Office Use Only:**

**CHECK DISTRIBUTED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITION OR TITLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**POWER GENERATOR APPLICATION FORM**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

POST: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Did the Post suffer damage in the current hurricane season Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Did the Post lose power in the current hurricane season Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If so, how long was power out \_\_\_\_\_

If the Post remained open during any of the hurricanes, did the Post offer:

Shelter Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, # of people sheltered during emergencies: \_\_\_\_\_

# of people fed during emergencies: \_\_\_\_\_

If approved, does the Post want to apply for a rebate if the Post purchases of generator?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Will the Post consent to remain open during an emergency and provide food and shelter for VFW members and/or members of the community?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

---

Signature of District Commander certifying the information above is correct.

---

Signature of Post Commander certifying the above information is correct.

Mail completed application to Department of Florida, VFW, 543 NE Sanchez Ave, Ocala, FL 34470 or email to [statehq@flvfw.org](mailto:statehq@flvfw.org)

## **POWER GENERATOR REBATE**

The VFW Department of Florida is establishing a new addition to our Disaster Relief Policy by which the Department will provide an amount of funding toward the purchase of Power Generators by the individual Posts which provide **SHELTER, SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS AND FOOD** to members and local residents during Disaster situations such as Hurricanes. This new policy will offer a rebate to the individual Posts which may require Auxiliary Power Generation to carry out these functions. The Department will rebate an amount equal to 50% of the cost of a Power Generator provided the Generator costs total between \$500.00 and \$1,000.00. **DEPARTMENT MINIMUM REBATE LIMIT IS \$250.00, AND DEPARTMENT MAXIMUM REBATE LIMIT IS \$500.00.**

The VFW Department of Florida Disaster Relief Policy already provides an amount of financial aid to those members who have lost their homes due to a disaster or to those who may be required to rent a hotel or motel room while their homes are repaired. However, one area where our Posts suffered losses during the recent Hurricanes, which were not covered by the Department Policy or by many Post's insurance policies, was the costly losses of food items in Post freezers and refrigerators caused by power outages which hindered our Disaster Relief efforts.

This new Policy will apply only to Power Generators within the price range of \$500.00 to \$1,000.00 considering the theory that a generator with a rating below 5000 running watts (cost about \$500.00 retail) will be too small to be of much assistance to our Posts which shelter the public during emergencies, and generators with ratings about 8000+ running watts take us into the very expensive commercial type units.

To apply for this rebate, each Post must complete a Department of Florida Disaster Relief application to the Department Quartermaster Benny Bachand. Upon review and acceptance, a Post will be authorized to purchase a generator that will qualify for a rebate.

Listed below for you use are estimates of the running watts required for some of the equipment in our typical Posts.

### **EQUIPMENT**

### **RUNNING WATTS**

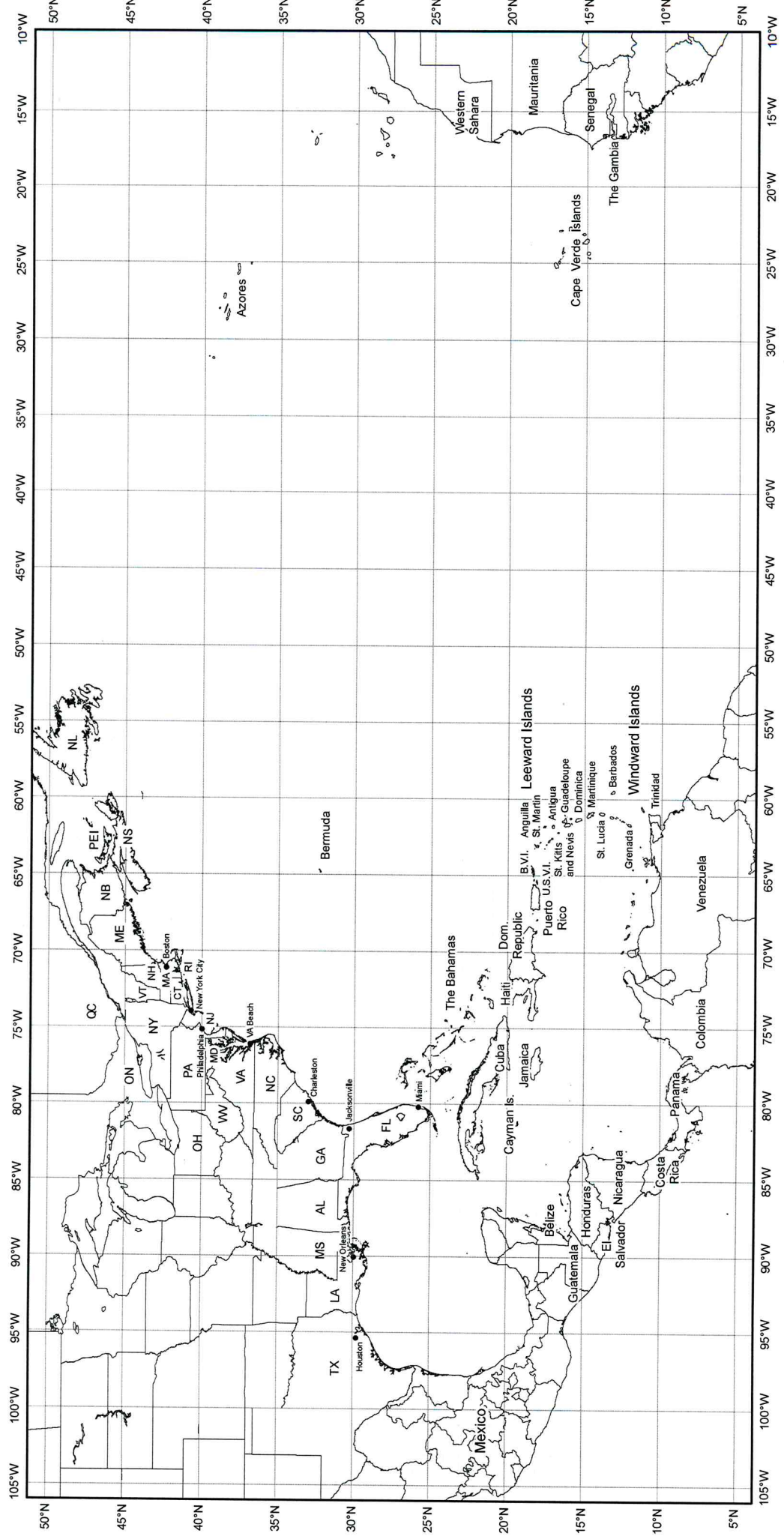
Light Bulbs	60 watts
Refrigerator/Freezer	700 watts
Micro Wave Oven	625 watts
Electric Stove	2100 watts
Coffee Makers	1000 watts
Color TV 27"	500 watts
Copy Machine	1600 watts
Central A/C	3800 watts
Furnace Blower	800 watts





# Atlantic Basin Hurricane Tracking Chart

## National Hurricane Center, Miami, Florida



**DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA  
DISASTER SERVICES**

**COMMANDER AND OPERATIONAL CONTROL NOTES**