

HURRICANE PROTECTION FOR FAMILY TREASURES

Provided through the courtesy of Piney Point Village

Hurricanes. We know how to live through them. We know that most of them are not quite as bad as the news media tells us. But we know enough to take precautions so we, our families, our pets, and our homes weather the storm safely. But what about our family treasures? What about those things you would be heartbroken to return home and find ruined beyond repair, missing entirely, or soaked and muddy? Family photographs, key documents, books you love, special textiles—these are the kinds of things that are so much a part of our lives that we often don't even think of them...until it's too late.

To help our residents avoid that kind of heartbreak, we researched the topic of preserving and protecting our family treasures on the internet and found some excellent websites.

* <http://www.heritagepreservation.org/programs/TFHurricanePub.htm>

This website contains links to many disaster resources for the public. The Heritage Emergency National Task Force is co-sponsored by Heritage Preservation and FEMA.

* <http://www.loc.gov/preserv/familytreasures/index.html>

This has superb information on preparing, protecting, and preserving your family treasures.

* <http://www.loc.gov/preserv/familytreasures/ftpreserv.html> Here's what to do after an emergency hits and worse has come to worst. Invaluable information, some from the Library of Congress. For example, who would have thought to freeze water-soaked books and papers to prevent worse damage and that bane of our climate—mold and mildew?

* <http://www.loc.gov/preserv/familytreasures/ftprepare.html>

This page contains excellent information on the planning that's necessary to care for your family treasures in the face of a disaster like a hurricane. Storage, insurance, and emergency plans—all are covered here.

* <http://www.heritagepreservation.org/programs/Save%20Treasures%20Right%20Way.htm>

Here you'll find general practical advice on what to do to save your treasures.

* <http://www.heritagepreservation.org/programs/Essential%20Records%20for%20Families.pdf>

Excellent information on identifying key records you need to take with you if you flee from a storm, which ones are essential to grab-and-go, which ones are high-risk records or irreplaceable.

I hope you will find this helpful. I know I certainly intend to put it to good use!

Karey Bresenhan

Mayor, Piney Point Village

This information has been provided to you courtesy of Piney Point Village and with the permission of the Heritage Emergency National Task Force. You are welcome to share it with family, friends, and neighbors, reprint it in newsletters, or post it on private websites, so long as proper credit is given to the Task Force.