



LET'S TALK FIRE SAFETY

Valdosta Fire Department

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Get Ready! Preparing Your Community For A Disaster

Disaster Facts:

Between 2000 and 2012, natural disasters caused \$1.7 trillion in damage and affected 2.9 billion people.

Over 1/2 of the victims of both Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Sandy were senior citizens over the age of 65.

Today, more than ever, first responders and local residents must work together to prepare their cities and towns for disaster.

Recent disasters have taught us that no single preparedness tool is more important than a plan: an understanding of what to do, where to go, and how to survive in a disaster.

Severe weather and storms can cause power outages and restoring power can take time.

Local Statistics

In 2016, VFD responded to 50 reported severe weather and natural disaster calls.—When hurricanes and tornadoes strike in our area, VFD can respond to well over 100 calls in a single day.



Safety Tips

- Keep your emergency supplies kit, including water, ID, stored in an easily accessible, waterproof place.
- Stay away from downed power lines.

- If advised to do so, please evacuate your home and go to local shelters ahead of a disaster strike.
- Do not return home until local authorities say it is safe to do so.

Always Remember

- Stay informed of weather conditions.
- Check on neighbors or anyone who may need assistance.
- Conserve energy to help reduce the threat of a power outage.
- Be prepared to cook outside.
- Back up computer files regularly.
- Keep cars fueled up.

National Fire Protection Association

<http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/resources/education-programs/community-tool-kits/preparing-your-community-for-a-disaster>

Solve the Fire Wuzzles

WUZZLES are word puzzles consisting of combinations of words, letters, figures or symbols positioned to create disguised words, phrases, names, places, sayings, etc.

For example, the solution to NOON GOOD is "Good afternoon" and LINE READ LINE is "Read between the lines."

AGENT	DUMPS
AGENT	O
	W
	N

Answers to last month's wuzzles are box office and cornerstone.

Fire Safety Quiz

- All earthquakes can be predicted.
 - True
 - False
- Hurricanes usually form in _____ areas of the world.
 - desert
 - mountainous
 - tropical
 - forest

Answers to last month's quiz are 1. A. & 2. D.

If you want to see the sunshine, you have to weather the storm. — Frank Lane

Federal Disaster Aid Phone Numbers

Small Business Administration 1(800) 488-5323 Social Security Administration 1(800) 772-1213 Department of Veteran's Affairs 1(800) 827-1000 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Telephone Registration 1(800) 462-9029 TDD: 1(800) 462-7585 Internal Revenue Service 1(800) 829-1040 TDD: 1(800) 852-5711

Rather than just an extreme natural event such as a hurricane, a flood or an earthquake, a natural disaster is characterized by a great deal of damage and/or loss of life.

Have a fire safety question you would like for the Fire Department to answer? Please contact Ms. Tangela Rowe at 229-333-1835 or you can send an email to: valdostafire@valdostacity.com



Freddie D. Broome, Fire Chief