



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Wendy Voliva
volivaw@portsmouthva.gov

City of Portsmouth Officials Issue Voluntary Evacuation for Low-Lying Areas

Portsmouth, VA – In preparation of the severe weather conditions by Hurricane Irene, the City of Portsmouth has declared a local declaration of emergency.

Citizens in low-lying areas of the City, prone to flooding, are encouraged to consider voluntary evacuation at this time. City officials will continue to monitor the weather patterns and the ongoing conditions as the storm draws closer. Stay tuned to local media outlets for additional information on shelter facilities to be announced Friday with an anticipated opening time of 7pm.

The City also recommends that all Portsmouth residents:

- Discuss your family's plans for disaster.
- Have an emergency supply kit of food, medications, water, first-aid kit, battery-powered radio, flashlights, batteries, sleeping bags, blankets, etc.
- Identify an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as a family contact. Make sure everyone in the family knows the name, address and phone number of the family contact.
- Make provisions for pets in case of evacuation, as they may not be allowed in public shelters.
- Identify alternative shelters, such as the homes of other family members or friends.
- Listen to local radio and television stations for the most up-to-date information.



Emergency preparedness information is available on the city's website at:
www.portsmouthva.gov

For up-to-date storm information, follow us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/#!/portsmouth.virginia> and (757) 398-0682, or visit
www.portsmouthva.gov for online assistance.

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