







Police/Sheriff



Fire Department



Ambulance

**HELP US HELP YOU!**



- \* Make sure everyone knows how to DIAL 9-1-1.
- \* Have children practice with an adult.
- \* Know which town/township you live in and give this vital information to the dispatcher.
- \* Post emergency phone numbers by every phone. Install them in your cell phones.
- \* Make sure that your house or apartment number is easily visible - both day and night!
- \* Install smoke & carbon monoxide detectors, at least one on every level. Test them monthly!

*\*NOTE: During an emergency, it may be difficult to get in touch with family in your area. Know the address and phone numbers of at least two other relatives outside the area!*

**EMERGENCY INFO:**

Give this information to the Emergency Dispatcher. Remember to Remain Calm!

This Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

This Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(HOUSE #) (STREET) (TOWN)

Cross street: \_\_\_\_\_ Landmarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason You're Calling: \_\_\_\_\_  
(FIRE, MEDICAL EMERGENCY, POSSIBLE BREAK-IN, LOST CHILD, ETC.)

Mom's Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Oil/Fuel: \_\_\_\_\_

Dad's Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Gas: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_ Electric: \_\_\_\_\_

Doctor: \_\_\_\_\_ Water: \_\_\_\_\_

Doctor: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Poison Control Center: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**KNOW WHAT TO DO!**

There are many kinds of disasters as well as many people that are trained to help you and the ones you love should a disaster occur.



You may have seen news stories on TV that show people during a natural disaster. Hurricanes, floods, severe storms, blizzards, tornados, and wildfires are all types of disasters.

You may have wondered what you would do if a disaster occurred in your area. *The answer is simple... BE PREPARED!*

Just because you prepare for a disaster doesn't mean that one will or won't happen. Being prepared means that you will have the supplies handy, phone numbers available, and know where to go and what to do, should a disaster occur. This requires family planning and storing the needed supplies.

**PARENTS:** Please sit down with your children and help them to understand the concept of a disaster. A natural disaster is a hurricane, tornado, flood, earthquake, blizzard or wildfire that could happen, depending on what part of the country you live in. These disasters may damage homes and cars, cut off utilities such as water, electric and telephones.



Explain to them that while nature is very beautiful, it is also very powerful! Help them to recognize the warning signs of disasters that may happen in your area.

Knowing what to do will make it easier to get help and handle an emergency.

**KNOWING WHAT TO DO CAN SAVE YOU!**



## WILDFIRE FACTS!

Wildfires are a big danger to people that live near forests, open prairie land, mountains or wooded areas. They occur on every continent except Antarctica! Other names for wildfires are forest-fires and brush-fires. Some of these fires are caused by lightning strikes, but four-out-of-five forest fires are man-made! Tossed cigarettes, matches, fireworks and camp-fires that have not been fully extinguished are the main causes.

"Water-Witch" airplane

Contact 9-1-1, your local fire department or the park service if you notice an unattended camp-fire!



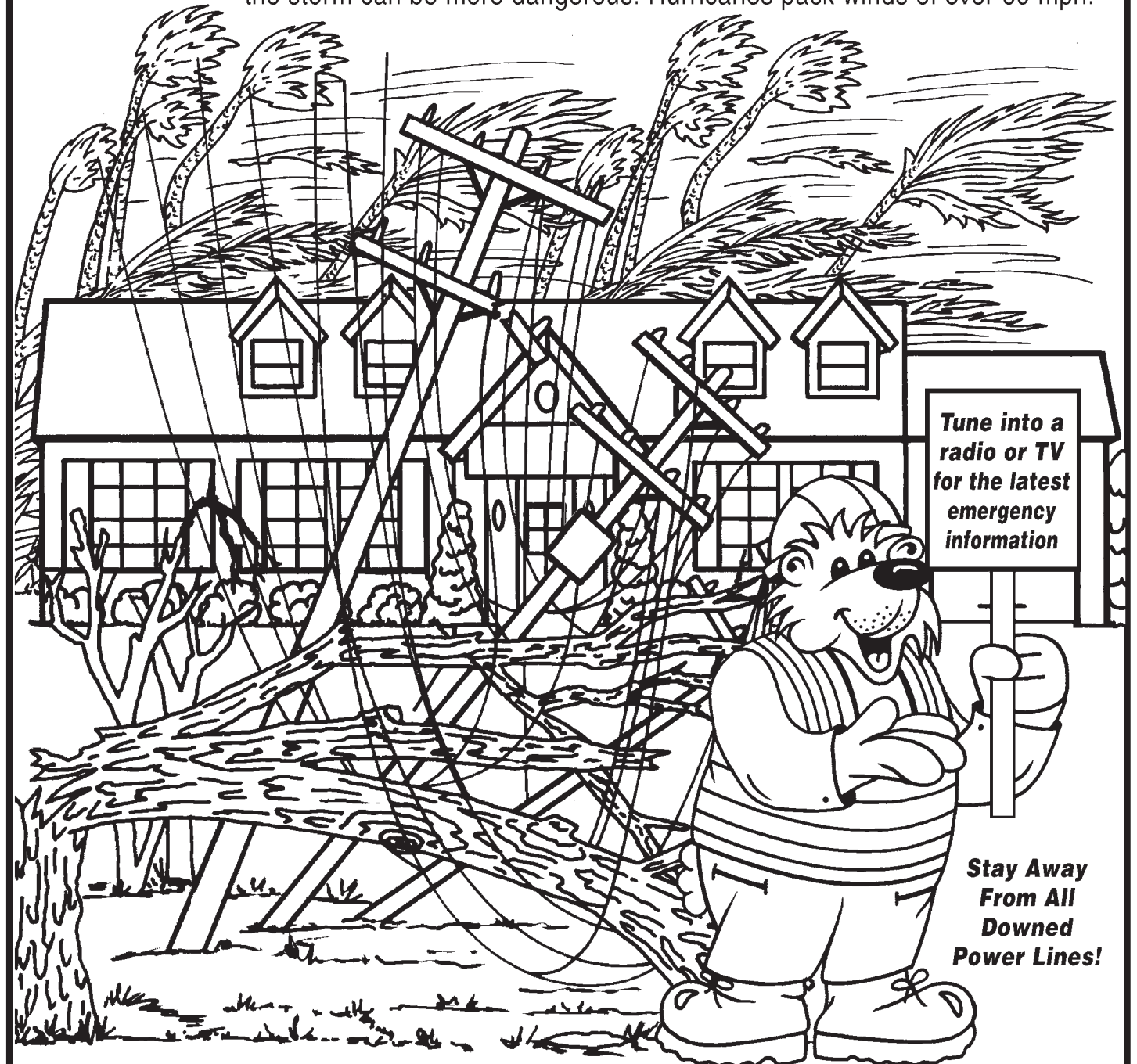
**NEVER PLAY WITH MATCHES & LIGHTERS!**

### WILDFIRE SAFETY TIPS: If You're Told To Evacuate - Don't Wait!

Wildfires move very fast, especially if there are strong winds to spread them. They can do a lot of damage in very little time to both nature and homes. If you are ever near a wildfire and you are told to evacuate - *Don't Hesitate*. Know two evacuation routes ahead of time. Gather your family, your pets and your emergency go-bags and **EVACUATE!** Have an out of area contact in case you are separated.

## HURRICANE FACTS!

Hurricanes are large tropical storms that can form along the eastern Pacific Ocean, the Caribbean Sea, the Gulf of Mexico and the south Atlantic Ocean. They swirl in a counter-clockwise spiral. In the center of this spiral is a 20-30 mile wide calm area. This is called the "eye of the storm". Don't go outside at any time, even during the calm. After the "eye" passes, the second part of the storm can be more dangerous! Hurricanes pack winds of over 60 mph.



Tune into a radio or TV for the latest emergency information

Stay Away From All Downed Power Lines!

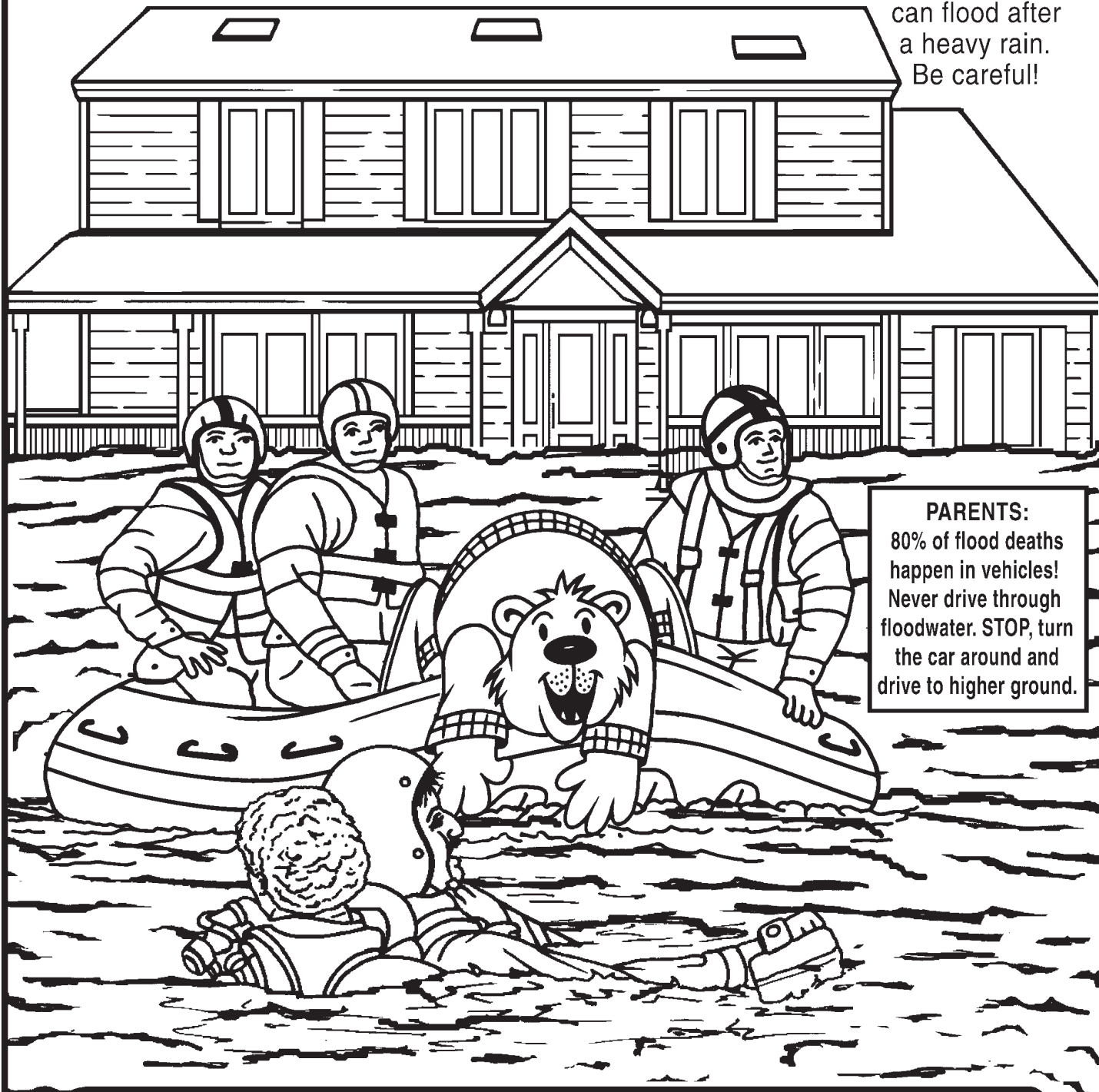
### HURRICANE SAFETY TIPS: Find A Safe Place To Take Cover!

Strong winds are not the only dangers during a hurricane. Storm surges, flooding, hail and flying debris and even tornados can make a hurricane deadly. If you're not told to evacuate, the safest place in your home is an interior room, away from any windows. Board up windows before the storm hits. This will keep you safe from breaking glass. If you're told to evacuate, **GO!** Everyone should have an evacuation kit ready at all times. Know at least two ways to get to your shelter - both on foot and by car. Listen to the radio.



## BAD STORM & FLOOD FACTS!

Flooding is the most common natural disaster in the United States! Tropical storms, hurricanes, tornados and tsunamis can all cause heavy rains that quickly overwhelm the ground and drainage systems. Melting snow and spring rains make rivers run high. Know the area you live in and the areas that flood. Even small streams and creeks can flood after a heavy rain. Be careful!

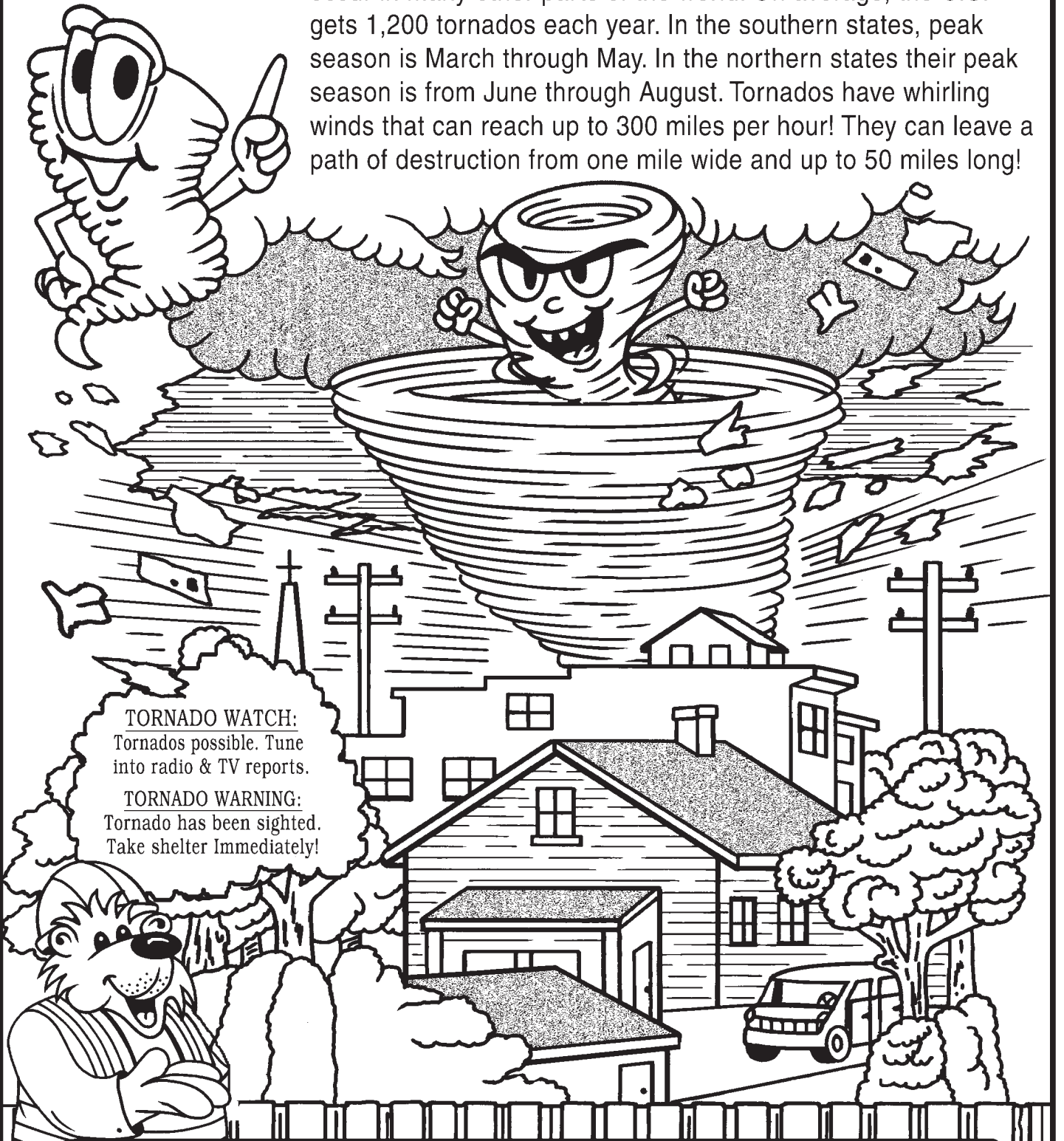


### FLOOD SAFETY TIPS: Never Assume The Water Is Shallow!

If you come up to a flooded area, STOP! Turn around and go back. The flood waters may still be rising and the water may get high - too high to safely walk through - very quickly. Never try to walk, swim, run or dive into the water, because flood waters can move very fast. If you are in a car, get out of the area and move to higher ground. Less than six inches of flood water can knock you off your feet. Just two feet of flood water will float a car, even an SUV! Eating or drinking anything that is in the water may make you sick!

## TORNADO FACTS!

Most tornados occur in the United States, although they can occur in many other parts of the world. On average, the U.S. gets 1,200 tornados each year. In the southern states, peak season is March through May. In the northern states their peak season is from June through August. Tornados have whirling winds that can reach up to 300 miles per hour! They can leave a path of destruction from one mile wide and up to 50 miles long!



### TORNADO SAFETY TIPS: Go To A Shelter Immediately!

If A Tornado Warning Is Issued, Take Shelter Immediately! Stay away from windows, doors and outside walls. **HOUSE/SMALL BUILDING:** Go to the basement, storm cellar or a central room on the lowest level. **MOBILE HOME:** Go to a storm shelter. **PUBLIC BUILDING:** Go to the shelter area or an interior hallway on the lowest level. **IN A CAR:** Get out and go to a shelter or a nearby building. **OPEN AREA:** lie down in a nearby ditch or ravine. Cover your head with your hands. Stay away from bridges and overpasses.

# EARTHQUAKE FACTS!

An earthquake is a sudden shaking of the earth caused by a shifting of the rock beneath the earth's surface. Earthquakes can cause major damage to buildings and bridges. They can also cause explosions, fires and landslides, as well as downed power and telephone lines.

**HAVE A MEETING PLACE** for your family to reunite after an earthquake!

**Tune into a radio or TV** for the latest emergency information

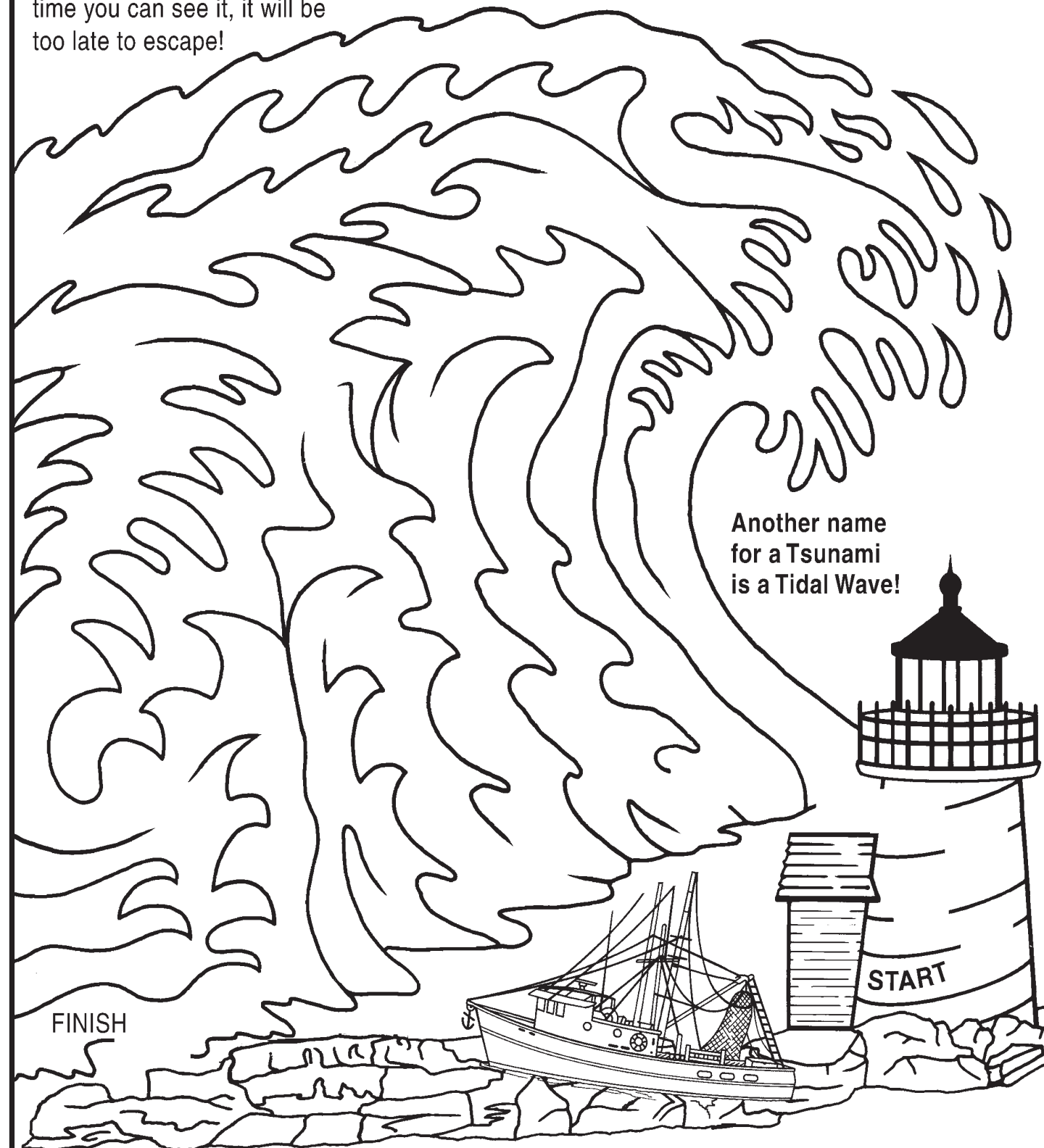


## EARTHQUAKE SAFETY TIPS: Find A Safe Place To Take Cover!

If you're **INSIDE A BUILDING** when an earthquake hits... **STAY THERE!** Stay away from windows, bookcases or anything that could fall on you. Hide underneath a table, between couches or crouch low in a corner of a room. If you are **OUTSIDE OR IN A CAR:** stay where you are, unless you are near power lines, bridges, overpasses or anything that could fall on you. **AFTER THE QUAKE:** Do not enter a building unless you are told that it is sturdy and safe. Aftershocks are common and can cause more damage.

# T'SUNAMI FACTS!

Earthquakes can cause huge ocean waves. These massive waves can travel long distances over the water until they crash into coastal areas. If you live near a coastline and there is a major earthquake, even if it seems far away, you should stay tuned to the radio and TV for tsunami warnings. **NEVER** stay to watch for a tsunami! By the time you can see it, it will be too late to escape!



**T'SUNAMI SAFETY TIPS:** Move Away Get To Higher Ground As Fast As You Can!



# WHO AM I?

1) \_\_\_\_\_  
 In the U.S., nine or more of us develop off the Gulf and Atlantic coastlines each year.  
 If I occur on the west coast of the U.S., I am called a typhoon.  
 Every one of us has a name and an eye! Weather planes fly into our "eye" to check us out.  
 I pack strong winds of 70 mph, that can gust up to 220 mph!  
 My winds can uproot trees and my rains can cause flooding.



2) \_\_\_\_\_  
 I am a spiral of wind that travels about 180 mph and I sweep up almost everything in sight.  
 My winds are so loud that I sound as loud as a passing freight train!  
 People hide from us in "Fraidy closets", in their basements or storm cellars.  
 I am set off by giant thunder clouds called super cells. Storm-chasers like to hunt us!  
 I am most common in the Midwest from May through July.



3) \_\_\_\_\_  
 I occur in warmer weather, and bring heavy rains that can cause flash floods.  
 I also bring lightening, strong winds and sometimes hail!  
 I make loud, scary noises and cause bright flashes of light.  
 I am actually caused by the clash of positive and negative energy  
 At any given time, there are up to 180 of us occurring all over the earth!



4) \_\_\_\_\_  
 The earth's crust is divided into about 20 fragments called tectonic plates.  
 The movement of these plates really "sets me off!"  
 Although I do not weigh anything, scientists measure me on a Richter Scale.  
 I only last a few minutes, but the damage I cause can last many years.  
 If I do occur, it's the earth's "fault".

5) \_\_\_\_\_  
 I occur only in the colder months, unless you live in Alaska or other Arctic regions.  
 I can bring winds, snow sleet and freezing rain. I sometimes cause a blizzard!  
 If I'm really bad, you'll have to "dig your way out"!



6) \_\_\_\_\_  
 When wooded areas become very dry, I can be "sparked" into action.  
 I am often out of control, consuming everything in sight.  
 I love wind, but I hate snow and rain.  
 Although people are afraid of me, they are usually my "maker".  
 Cigarettes, campfires, matches, fireworks and lightening are my "cause".

7) \_\_\_\_\_  
 I can occur in a "flash" during a thunderstorm, hurricane or tornado.  
 I am wet, but you shouldn't swim in me. You should never drink from me  
 or eat any food that I may carry along. It could make you sick.  
 I can make streams, brooks, rivers and lakes dangerously wide, deep and fast moving.

## SCRAMBLED WORD LIST

CIHRUNERA  
 OROTNDAE  
 HQERUATAEK  
 DHNTREU TMROS  
 TWRIEN MSROT  
 OFDLOS  
 FDIRWLIE



**SAFE-T-BEAR** says "Everyone should have their own "DISASTER GO PACKS"! Ready ... Set ... Go Get Your Supplies!"

**PARENTS!** Explain to your family why emergency "Go Packs" are needed. Have some fun by letting each member pick out their own bag!

**DISASTER "GO PACK" CONTENTS: ALWAYS HAVE THEM READY TO GO!**

- Copies of important information: insurance cards, photo IDs, driver's license, proof of address, etc.
- Extra set of car and house keys. Contact & meeting place information & a small regional map.
- Credit & ATM cards. Cash, especially in small denominations. Have at least \$50-\$100 on hand.
- Bottled water & non-perishable food: energy or granola bars, cereal, canned meat & instant soup
- Battery or wind-up AM/FM radio • Flashlights & Batteries (LED flashlights last 10 times longer)!
- First-aid kit • Child care supplies or other special care items • Emergency whistle
- A list of the medications that each member of your family takes, why they take them & their dosages.
- Medication information and other essential medical items. • Copies of all prescriptions and spare eyeglasses!



## YOUR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT:

You should have 3 - 7 days of emergency supplies for your family. Just like each person's "GO PACK", this Emergency Kit should be gathered **NOW**, not during an emergency! Place everything in an easy to carry, water tight, plastic container. Store this in an easy to reach place so that you can get to it

quickly should you ever need it! During some emergencies, you will be told to remain in your home, possibly without power or water. During other emergencies, you may be told to take your "GO BAGS" and emergency supplies and evacuate to a shelter.

**If you're told to go to a shelter, don't hesitate, EVACUATE!**



- One gallon of drinking water/person/day
- Non-perishable, ready-to-eat canned foods & manual can opener
- Battery-operated or wind-up AM/FM radio • Fire extinguisher-ABC type
- Iodine tablets or one quart of unscented bleach for disinfecting water (ONLY if told to go by health officials) and an eyedropper to add bleach
- Pet supplies: food, leash, toys and treats. Gauze for a muzzle if needed
- Cell phone/ mobile device with extra charged batteries or solar charger
- Child care supplies • Blankets • Sleeping Bags • Pillows
- First aid kit • Over-the-counter medications • Hand wipes or gel
- Flashlight • Extra batteries • Potassium iodide (Anti-Radiation) Pills

## SANITATION SUPPLIES:

Have at least a weeks worth of sanitation supplies for every member of your family.

- Large plastic trash bags for waste & tarps
- Plastic bags cut for rain ponchos
- Bar soap & liquid detergent & wash rags
- shampoo, toothpaste & toothbrushes
- Toilet paper, baby-wipes & towels
- Shampoo and hair brushes







# ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

**The First Rule In A Natural Disaster Is To TAKE SHELTER IMMEDIATELY!**  
**If told to leave your home or other area, DON'T HESITATE - EVACUATE!**

## KNOW YOUR AREA & KNOW WHERE TO GO!



- If you are new to the area, find out what kinds of natural disasters are common to your area. Get information from your local government offices or the Red Cross. Learn how to best prepare for each kind of disaster. Find out where the nearest shelter is.
- What kind of disaster warning signals are used in your area. TV, radio channels, sirens, horns, flags are all warning signals.
- If you have animals, find local hospitals, veterinarians or grooming salons or breeders that may be able to take your pets in.
- If you have a boat, be prepared to use double lines or even where to move them if they need to be in a safer location.
- Find out the disaster plans in your children's schools, daycare centers and your workplace for special plans.

## CREATE A FAMILY DISASTER PLAN



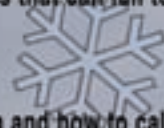
- Learn what natural disasters are common to your area. Read and talk about what your family should do in each case.
- Pick two places for your family to meet. The first should be nearby (front lawn by a tree) in case of a sudden emergency, such as a fire. The second should be outside your neighborhood, in case a natural disaster won't let you return right away. Everyone must know this address and phone number! Store it in your head, not just your phone! Phones may not be charged.
- Ask an out-of-state friend to be a "family contact". During emergencies, phone lines may be down in your area. It is often easier to call long distance. Tell your entire family to call them if they can't get in touch with you.



## HAVE A HOME HAZARD HUNT

- Tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, blizzards and high winds, each of these storms can take common household objects and turn them into flying projectiles! Bookcases can fall over, Heavy objects or glass ornaments can fall from high shelves.
- Contact your local fire department to learn about fire hazards in your home. Have practice fire drills regularly.
- Go from room to room every year and look for and fix potential hazards. Securely fasten objects that can fall to the wall.

## THINGS TO KNOW... LONG BEFORE YOU NEED TO GO!



- Post emergency phone numbers by every phone and in your cell phones.
- Teach children when and how to call 9-1-1 and other emergency numbers.
- Take first aid and CPR courses at your local fire department, hospital or Red Cross.
- Stock emergency supplies and have a To Go bag packed.
- Find the safest spots in your home for every kind of disaster.
- Know two ways out of every room.
- Have working fire extinguishers and know how to use them.
- Have working smoke & carbon monoxide detectors.

## NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS



You would be worried if you couldn't make it home to evacuate with your children. Well, many of your neighbors will be worrying about the same things: family, pets, homes. Team Up! Make plans with your neighbors to help children or an elderly parent in case you can't be home. If you're a member of a Neighborhood Watch or similar organization, introduce disaster preparedness as a new discussion and drill. Learn to work together until disaster relief arrives.

## PET EVACUATION



- DO NOT leave your pets behind unless finding them would risk your safety!
- Have ID tags or have your pets microchipped by a veterinarian.
- Shelters do not allow pets! Have a list of pet shelters, hotels or friends near the area you will be evacuating to.
- Have a Pet Evacuation Kit ready at all times with a leash, pet carrier, food, water and bowls, a litter box, medication, and veterinary records. Animals get frightened too. Have a muzzle to avoid nips or bites.