**MAIN POINT(S) / KEY MESSAGES:**

1) Hurricanes are not just a threat to coastal communities. High winds, heavy rainfall, tornadoes, and flooding can occur anywhere in NH.

2) Be Prepared. Know what to do and have the things you need to stay safe.

3) Learn what to do before, during and after a hurricane at ReadyNH.gov.

**NOTES:**

1. **Take Steps to be Prepared**
   1. Have a kit – enough food, water and medicine for everyone in your household for a minimum of three days. Don’t forget your pets.
   2. Have a plan – have needed contact information, know your evacuation route or alternative location, and a plan of action for emergencies.
   3. Stay Informed – sign up NH Alerts, your local emergency alert notification system, and monitor news and weather for current conditions.
   4. All this information and templates are available on ReadyNH.gov.
   5. Follow NHHSEM on Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram for current information and updates.
2. **Take Action Before A Hurricane**
   1. Hurricanes cause heavy rains that can cause extensive flood damage in coastal and inland areas. Everyone is at risk and should consider flood insurance protection.
   2. Monitor local radio or television for official emergency information and instructions.
   3. Tie down or bring in any objects that could be blown around by winds.
   4. Board up or cover windows.
   5. Know your potential risk for flooding and your evacuation route - if advised to evacuate, do so immediately.
   6. Be sure to have emergency supplies on hand – aside from your emergency kit, any additional water needs and flashlights and batteries for lighting should a power outage occur.
3. **Be Safe During A Hurricane**
   1. Monitor local radio or television for official emergency information and instructions and conditions.
   2. Stay away from windows and glass doors. Secure and brace external doors.
   3. If conditions warrant, take refuge in a safe room – a small, interior room on the lowest level.
   4. Report any power outages to your utility company.
4. **Be Safe After A Hurricane**
   1. Monitor local radio or television for official emergency information and instructions and conditions.
   2. If you evacuated, return home only when officials say it is safe.
   3. Drive only if necessary, and avoid flooded roads and washed out bridges.
   4. Stay away from downed power lines and inform authorities or your utility company.
   5. Inspect your home for damage and take pictures of any damage for insurance purposes.

**Important Language to Know:**

* Hurricane: A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind (using the US 1-minute average) is 74 mph (64 knots) or more.
* Hurricane Warning: An announcement that sustained winds of 64 knots (74 mph or 119 km/hr) or higher are expected somewhere within the specified area in association with a tropical, subtropical, or post-tropical cyclone.
* Hurricane Watch: An announcement that sustained winds of 64 knots (74 mph or 119 km/hr) or higher are possible within the specified area in association with a tropical, subtropical, or post-tropical cyclone.

**COMMUNITY SPECIFIC INFORMATION:**