



NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
February 10, 2010**

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Orange County High School Shelter Remains Open

Orange County, VA – Orange County will continue to provide a shelter at Orange County High School overnight, Wednesday, February 10, 2010, and through 10:00 a.m. tomorrow Thursday, February 11, 2010. Emergency personnel will re-evaluate the situation tomorrow to see whether the demand and current weather situation require that the shelter remain open. Orange County continues to receive the assistance of the National Guard for law enforcement, fire and medical emergencies. The telephone number to call for assistance during daytime hours is 540-672-1900. For assistance during nighttime hours, dial 540-717-3396.

- Public shelters are a last resort and provide basic necessities such as food, water and a small amount of space for your family to stay. Most shelters do not provide items such as cots, bedding or items for infants or those who have special medical needs. Relief organizations may provide some of these items after the storm has passed, but you should be prepared to provide these supplies for your family until help arrives.
- Listen for local, up-to-date information. Emergency officials will provide information about open shelters through local media. Shelters can fill quickly, and officials will open new shelters as needed.
- Before you leave, bring your pets inside and make sure they have food and water.
- Things to take to the shelter:
 - A three-day supply of water and non-perishable food items, i.e. bottled water, peanut butter, canned tuna, crackers, granola bars, and any special dietary foods.
 - A three-day supply of special items for any elderly, disabled or infant members of your household
 - Copies of important documents, such as insurance policies and birth certificates that will help you claim assistance after the disaster
 - Blankets, pillows, linens and something to sleep on, such as a cot, air mattress or cushion
- Smoking, alcoholic beverages and weapons are not allowed in shelters.

Animals will not be allowed at Orange County High School. Dogs will be received at the Orange County Animal Shelter, and it is recommended that cats be left at home with a supply of litter, food, water and warm bedding. The Animal Shelter will be receiving animals Wednesday, February 10, 2010, but please call ahead if you plan to bring your dog to the shelter. The number for the Animal Shelter is 540-672-1124.

Please try to make sheltering plans before nightfall due to road conditions worsening at night.

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