



Hurricane Relief Patch Program

INTRODUCTION

This year, girls and their families who live on Florida's Gulf Coast experienced the effects of Hurricane Irma. Though the damage could have been much worse, girls learned about the impact of hurricanes on individuals, families, and communities.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- ❖ Gain an understanding about natural disasters
- ❖ How to best prepare for them in the future
- ❖ Express how you used your Girl Scout skills to weather the storm

TO EARN THIS PATCH

Girls must complete the following requirements to earn this patch. This patch may only be earned once and can be purchased at the Girl Scout Shop at the council headquarters in Sarasota.

DISCOVER

- ❖ Learn what makes a storm a hurricane. What causes a hurricane and what time of year do most of these storms occur?
- ❖ What is the difference between a hurricane "watch" and a "warning"? To which should you pay most attention? How many categories are there for hurricanes? What wind speeds are associated with each category?
- ❖ How does the National Weather Service choose the name of a hurricane? What names are on this year's list?
- ❖ What does FEMA stand for and what are their duties?

CONNECT

- ❖ List several ways your family, friends, and neighbors can help secure and protect your property while preparing for a storm.
- ❖ Create an evacuation plan for you and your family and include a list of names and phone numbers of people you may need to check in with during a hurricane.
- ❖ Make a disaster kit for you and your family.

TAKE ACTION

- ❖ Choose a way that you will or already have helped those impacted by Hurricane Irma:
 - ◆ Donate hurricane preparedness kits to a local shelter.
 - ◆ Lend a hand cleaning up your home or community.
 - ◆ Make a list of four agencies or groups that you can join to assist in the relief efforts.
 - ◆ If there are items needed by victims of the storm, plan a service project to collect the supplies and deliver them.
 - ◆ Write a story or poem, or draw a picture that tells how you worked with others during Hurricane Irma to weather the storm.

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