When We Got Handed Gatorade

We Danced In The Fucking Street

All the things you needed to know that you never wanted to know.
A Survivors Survival Guide
With love from two Hurricane Michael survivors—
Stacy Gregory and Michelle Matlock
Panama City, FL

On October 10, 2018, Hurricane Michael slammed into the FL Panhandle as a Category 5 storm. It left a trail of devastation in parts of Central and South-Eastern North America. At least 72 people lost their lives. Hundreds of thousands of people lost their homes—either through damage or disaster gentrification. This zine is by survivors for survivors. Written, compiled on a sunny afternoon on the front porch of the homes that Stacy and Michelle have fought to stay in against landlord and city intimidation and threats. If laughter is healing—this zine is medicine!†

(Michelle would like you to know that all the curse words came from Stacy.)
Before
WHAT TO DO

- TAKE PHOTOS:
GET PHOTOS OF THE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF
YOUR HOME AND ANY VEHICLES YOU
MAY HAVE. BE SURE TO DATE
THEM. THIS WILL HELP FACILITATE
YOUR CASE WITH THE INSURANCE
COMPANIES FOR DAMAGE ASSISTANCE.

- DOWNLOAD HELPFUL APPS:
GAS FINDING AND MAPPING APPS.

All the things you used
as landmarks, they're
gone. You can't tell
where jack shit is any
more. Street signs are
gone... I couldn't tell
where the trees ended
and the street began.
Driving down roads you've
driven on for years and
you're getting lost.

SHOPPING LIST

- WATER (EASY TO PREPARE MEALS)
- NON-PERISHABLES
- INSTANT COFFEE
- BATTERIES (WOODEN WATCHES)
- ZIPLOCK BAGS (SMALL GRILLS)
- PLASTIC SILVERWARE
- RICE (EASY TO LOOK WITH THAT SATIETY)
- BABY WIPES
- HAND SANITIZER
- CHEAP GLOVES
- POP TOP CAN OF FOOD
- SUGAR
- CLEAN RUBBER BOOTS
- GATORADE (CUCUMBER FLAVOR)
- BLEACH
- GAS
- CARDS
- FLASHLIGHTS
- HOUSE CLEANING SUPPLIES
- CHARCOL

"IF I GET ONE MORE JAR OF PEANUT BUTTER IM GONNA FUCKIN' KILL SOMEONE"
Important tips

1. Keep plastic water bottles out of direct sunlight.
2. Tarps and cover water out doors.
3. Have clean dry socks on hand.
4. Fungal infections are common after flooding.
5. Get items that are multi-purpose. Ex: Ziplock bags can store and keep things dry like parks and food. Ensure soaps, cleaners are sealed in separate bags to avoid cross contamination.
6. It's hard not to be hungry. Don't be shy about sharing food with your neighbors. It's scary to give away your food but everyone will need to be sharing. They'll share their food with you too.
7. Help fill up on your phone. On your phone can help you locate gas and map out open and closed roads.
8. Phones can be charged in your vehicle with a solar charger.
9. Check with local restaurants immediately before/after the storm as they often will be trying to get rid of perishable foods that won't keep w/o power.

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Having a calendar will help you keep track of days that you need to relay to the insurance company as well as town halls, etc.

Don't stock up on frozen foods! Have plenty of ready to eat items. Vitamin C is good to have to stave off sickness. Fruits and veggies are healthy, easy, quick!

“Get a fucking battery operated radio and shut up about it.” Food shares, resource sites and other helpful info will be broadcast on local stations.

(And don't forget to stop using your flashlight when your electricity comes back on.)
Price gouging has been the thing that hurt us the most. Electric and gas costs went up and landlords raised the rent in a lot of places. 700 dollars rent in some places, scared to 1300 dollars in places. Stacy's fucking law! No price gouging.

The storm may not be the only disaster you face. The Red Cross came too late and left too soon. And for people who stayed in their homes and lost their roofs, the Army Core of Engineers will tar p your roof. But landlords wanting to evict people denied the permission they needed to do so.

Landlords turned into dirty bastards. Here, I never expected my landlord to come to my home and throw me out. What landlords have done to the people here is fucking disgusting.

When the landlords had the Post Office open for PEMA checks! They were intentionally slow, aid for the people.

City Gov. will likely be holding town hall meetings to get to those meetings if you can. As the desires of developers are prioritized. Disaster. Raise your voice.

Expect disaster. Expect nature.

After the hurricane, landlords mass-evicted residents of public housing. They went so far as to threaten to board up windows of residents fighting to stay in their homes. They went with police escorts to the post office and instructed them to stop delivering mail to people resisting eviction.
WHAT WHAT WHAT
HELPS HEALS

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE TREATS!
GETTING A TREAT IS A TREAT,
I GOT A DANISH - IT MADE ME FEEL LIKE "I THINK WE ARE REALLY LIVING NOW! LIKE, WOW, THERE IS A ROAD TO RECOVERY"
HERE. IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS YOU DON'T EVEN THINK OF THAT ENCOURAGING...
IT WAS BEING GOOD EVEN A DANISH... EVEN IF YOU DON'T EAT THE SHIT.

LISTENING TO THE RADIO BROKE THE ISOLATION WE ACTUALLY HEARD MUSIC AND PEOPLE TALKING.

ITEM LIST FOR SELF-CARE PACKS:
- PLEASE INCLUDE: PAPER/PEN/CRAYONS/TISSUES
- DRY SOCKS/TAPE/COFFEE/TEA
- HAVING A SMALL PAD AND PEN TO WRITE YOUR THOUGHTS DOWN HELPED TO GET OUT A LOT OF FEELINGS
- LAVENDER MESSAGES OR ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE KIDS
- COLORING BOOKS/SMALL TOYS
- MAGNETS/SHARPENERS