

News Release

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Hurricane Irene puts Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company staff on alert

Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company, Neenah, Wis. – Hurricane Irene is expected to hit the coast of North Carolina Saturday and continue to move up the East Coast over the weekend. Jewelers with businesses on the path of Hurricane Irene should be prepared, and Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company can help.

“With a hurricane like Irene, you never know what to expect,” says Jeff Mills, vice president of Commercial Lines for Jewelers Mutual. “Our concern, first and foremost, is the personal safety of the residents in the path of Hurricane Irene.

“We had disaster response teams on site shortly after Hurricane Katrina hit in 2005,” Mills says. “We learned that being prepared is one of the best things you can do for yourself and for your business.”

Jewelers Mutual offers several resources that jewelers can use to prepare for a potential catastrophe. In fact, the Hurricane Preparedness Guide is available for download to all jewelers. Visit JewelersMutual.com, click on the Security & Safety link on the homepage and follow the Catastrophe Preparedness link on the left side.

If you are on the path of Hurricane Irene, your personal safety and the safety of your family and friends comes first. Here are some tips to help keep you and your loved ones safe and secure during the storm:

- Make sure your cell phone is charged.
- Give both your staff and local law enforcement your cell phone number.
- Learn safe routes inland.
- Comply with evacuation orders. Evacuate the facility in a timely manner to safeguard all employees.
- If evacuating, leave early, during daylight hours when possible.
- Notify business neighbors and family members of your evacuation plans.
- Set the alarm.
- Move to a safe area before you are cut off by floodwater.
- Have extra cash with you.

Jewelers Mutual staff are available 24 hours a day to assist policyholders who have questions or need to report claims. Contact them at **800-558-6411** and follow the emergency instructions.

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*[Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company](http://www.jewelersmutual.com) is the only company specializing exclusively in jewelry insurance in the United States and Canada. The American Gem Society and Jewelers of America exclusively endorse Jewelers Mutual. Its continued A+ Superior rating from A.M. Best reflects the company's strong financial position. Jewelers Mutual was founded in 1913 in Neenah, Wis., by jewelers who needed affordable insurance. Today, Jewelers Mutual insures manufacturers, repair businesses, craftsmen, custom designers, retailers, artisans, appraisers, wholesalers, bench jewelers, and individuals, in the United States and Canada. More than 10,000 commercial policyholders trust Jewelers Mutual to insure their jewelry businesses, and 200,000 individual policyholders carry \$3 billion in personal insurance coverage. Visit the Jewelers Mutual Web site at www.jewelersmutual.com. **Logos, photos, and graphics are available in the newsroom at [JewelersMutual.com](http://www.jewelersmutual.com).***

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