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News Release

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MAY 25-31 VIRGINIA'S HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS SALES TAX HOLIDAY

NEW KENT VIRGINIA, APRIL 28, 2009: Preparing your family for hurricanes and other emergencies can get rather costly. In 2007, Virginia legislators approved a Hurricane Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday that consumers can take advantage of this year May 25 through May 31.

Items that can be used as part of an emergency supply kit to protect your home will be exempt from Virginia sales tax. Portable generators and generator power cords as well as inverters and inverter power cables that have a sales price of \$1,000 will qualify for the sales tax holiday. In addition, the following items must have a sales price of \$60 or less:

- Artificial ice, blue ice, ice packs and reusable ice
- Batteries (excluding automobile or boat batteries) such as AAA, AA, C and D sizes, 6-volt, 9-volt or cell phone batteries

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- Any battery-powered light sources, including flashlights, lanterns and glow sticks - no candles
- Tarpaulins, plastic sheeting, plastic drop cloths and other flexible waterproof sheeting
- Bungee cords and rope
- Ground anchor systems or tie down kits
- Ratchet straps
- Duct tape
- Carbon monoxide detectors
- Smoke detectors
- Fire extinguishers

For a complete list of tax-exempt items and price caps, visit the Virginia Department of Taxation's website:

www.tax.virginia.gov/salestaxholiday.

Customers may also use manufacturer's coupons to lower the price of an item so that it will qualify for the \$60 or \$1,000 price cap.

For detailed information about how to prepare your family or business for hurricanes and other emergencies, visit

www.ReadyVirginia.gov.

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