Updated *Homeowner's Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards* now available online

After withstanding Hurricane Iselle which caused widespread destruction to parts of Hawai‘i Island, and now bracing for potential impacts from Hurricane Ana, homeowners in Hawai‘i are all too familiar with the importance of preparing their homes prior to a storm hitting our shores.

The *Homeowner's Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards*, published by the University of Hawai‘i Sea Grant College Program, provides detailed information on how to prepare your home for a hurricane and other natural hazards including earthquakes, tsunamis, and floods. It was recently updated to include four new appendices that address installing storm panel screws, reroofing, securing photovoltaic systems, and ways to get involved with community resilience efforts.

In addition, Hurricane Iselle information has been added including lessons learned regarding emergency supplies, evacuation planning, and wind damage on roofs from less than hurricane strength winds.

Shelly Kunishige, spokesperson for Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, said, "Iselle taught us that tropical storms can cause considerable damage. The public should review their plans and prepare emergency supplies. The handbook will help people with guidance on measures to protect their lives and property."

Dennis Hwang, lead author of the handbook, added "Families should know where they will stay, either a hurricane evacuation shelter, their house if it is strong and outside high risk flood zones, or a friends or relatives house that meets these criteria. If measures have been created to protect the house, such as shutters, a partial deployment could begin as Ana is monitored so that there is ample time to finish well before strong winds that may arrive."

Due to an overwhelming response from the public, all printed copies of the handbook have been distributed. It is available for free online and can be downloaded from the University of Hawai‘i Sea Grant College Program bookstore:


Thanks to generous support from the State of Hawaii Department of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency Building Science Branch, as well as many other partners, funding was made available to re-print the updated handbook. The printed copies should be available in less than a month. Visit the University of Hawai‘i Sea Grant College Program website for the latest updates and announcements: [http://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu](http://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu), or like us on Facebook: facebook.com/UHSeaGrant to receive the most up-to-date information.

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