A FEW HELPFUL TIPS
Flood Season is fast approaching

- **Floodvents** must allow floodwaters to flow freely. Screens, louvers, or other covers that allow flood waters to flow freely into the enclosed area may be placed over the openings to keep out vermin and weather. But solid covers that do not allow flood waters to flow freely are in violation and may affect you and the City from receiving Flood Insurance. Remove solid covers, styrofoam or other materials from vents. Smart Vent information is available at City Hall.
- **Lowest Elevation of Machinery or Equipment** Service equipment for a building that is below the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) has to be elevated or designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding. This includes equipment such as, but not limited to, furnaces, hot water heaters, washers, dryers, air conditioners, etc.
- **A Flood Plain Development Permit** is required by the FEMA Code of Federal Regulations for such activities as new construction, reconstruction, rebuilding, placement of manufactured homes, placement of small outbuildings, fences, clearing of trees and other vegetation, placement of driveway culverts or bridges, long term storage of equipment and materials or any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate such as dredging, drilling, excavation, filling, grading, logging, mining, or paving. The Flood Plain Development Permit requirement is intended to allow the City of Vernonia to monitor activities located in Flood Plain Management Area. Application for a Flood Plain Development Permit is a SEPARATE process from the building permit application process.
- **If you are not elevated: BUY FLOOD INSURANCE!**
- **Avoid storing these products** in areas likely to flood:
  - *Fiberglass or Cellulose insulation
  - *Cork, or corkboard
  - *Gasoline, motor oil, weed killer, pesticide, lye, drain cleaners
  - *Linoleum, particle board plywood, chipboard, fiberboard, paperboard, strawboard, masonite paneling
  - *Wallboard, drywall, gypsum, wallpaper

It's never too early to prepare! Prepare a 72 hour Preparedness Kit for your home and car. Visit the Take 5 to Survive website at http://www.take5tosurvive.com/for additional information including a step-by-step plan to put your emergency kit together.