

# Why a CD?

## Easy to Use

The CD (compact disk) is basically a storage device. It can hold any kind of files (Word documents, Power Point slide shows, Excel spread sheets, HTML Web pages, PDF files, JPEG pictures, MP3 audio files, etc.). These can be organized and presented in any manner. To the end user the quarterly CD will look and act in three ways

- 1) Like a Web site that can be surfed as any other web site online. Therefore the user can use the navigation buttons to investigate the many legs of the CD.
- 2) Like a Wikipedia [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com) (free online encyclopedia) This has short articles that are linked to related short articles within the CD and with links to related web sites
- 3) Like a very comprehensive index that is arranged as a detailed outline. Then a person can explore the options from this perspective and open the documents that way. This is like looking for a book in the library or bookstore. A person can then find similar items grouped together. They can go to the section of interest and locate what they would not have found from the other methods.

By reading the files from a CD there is zero download time, unlike from web connection by a phone line.

We can configure it so that many of the files can be copied to the hard drive for future use.

The CD can go into a laptop computer. It can be taken to the evacuee shelters plus rebuilding areas. We will provide links to where to buy solar battery rechargers for the laptops going to areas without power.

## Communication Potential of each CD

One CD contains 700 megabytes of storage space.

Here is an idea of how much potential that includes.

- One CD = 700 Megabytes (meg)
- One CD = 444 floppy disks @ 1.4 meg each
- One CD = 91,000 pages of text
  - or
  - 8,500 full color, full page, top quality pictures
  - or
  - 19 hours of MP3 audio voice files
- One CD = a shelf of books
- One CD = an encyclopedia with hundreds of hotlinks within the dynamic document
- One CD = seven huge Web sites (with lots of room to spare)
- One CD = a huge wiki (see Wikipedia [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com))

## Economic to Make and Distribute

When produced in large quantities the price of a CD can be very low.

A CD can be easily mailed. So it can go anywhere the postal carrier goes.

Bundles of CDs can be sent to those serving the evacuees and those rebuilding. On the CD can be plenty of information, instruction and inspiration for the workers. Plus on the same CD can be resources for those that were impacted by the hurricane. There will be permission to make copies for free distribution.