



Purpose

The National Guard (NG) Emergency Management (EM) program is responsible for all activities and operations related to preparing for, mitigating the potential effect of, preventing, responding to, and recovering from all multi-agency and/or multi-jurisdictional emergencies on or impacting NG installations nationwide. The NG EM Program functions within an all-hazards environment consisting of all natural, technological (man-made), and terrorism hazards.

Vision

To provide the NG EM services when and where they are needed with the joint and interagency capacity necessary to effectively and efficiently protect the NG community and mission capabilities from all hazards.

Mission

To provide integrated and comprehensive NG EM services necessary to protect our community and mission capabilities from all hazards in a cost effective, implementable, and sustainable manner through resiliency.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KNOW

**EMERGENCY
Fire-Police-Ambulance
911**

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LA National Guard Joint Operation
Center 888-278-8748

GOHSEP 225-925-7500

American Red Cross
1-800-RED-CROSS

Federal Emergency Management
Agency 1-800-621-FEMA

National Poison Control Center
1-800-222-1222

National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-7233



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Well, spring is here and with it comes the chance of severe weather. March and April are two of our most deadly times for tornadoes and June starts hurricane season in Louisiana.

With all of that in mind, this month our bulletin will focus on evacuation, shelter and sheltering-in-place.

In the event of an emergency, emergency management organizations have plans and procedures to direct personnel to evacuate or take some form of shelter. For nonessential and nonemergency personnel, the preference is generally evacuation. In specific instances, evacuation or moving to a civilian shelter or designated place is more dangerous than remaining where you are, such as with short or no-notice emergencies including hazardous materials events. In these instances, you may be directed to shelter-in-place.

I hope you find this information useful. Always Remember “Be Prepared”.

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LANG EM WEB Page:
<http://geauxguard.la.gov/resources/emergency-management/>





EVACUATION

In the event of an emergency, local emergency management organizations have plans and procedures to direct evacuation or direct movement of personnel and family members to safe havens, civilian shelters or shelter in place. Installation procedures provide the means to warn personnel on the installation. Additional procedures for personnel off base are provided to installations overseas where the local government may not have the required capabilities.



Hurricane Contraflow 8/31/2008

If advance warning and other circumstances permit, the preference for nonessential and nonemergency personnel is evacuation, wherein the endangered population is directed to leave the threatened area using specified routes and transportation methods.

Prepare Strong

The National Guard encourages all personnel to maintain a basic level of preparedness of all potential hazards.

You are encouraged to get an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan and be informed about what might happen.

It is your responsibility to understand the mass warning system at your installation and, when notified, be prepared for the following:

- **Evacuation**
- Moving to civilian shelter
- Moving to a designated safe haven
- Temporarily sheltering-in-place



Evacuation procedures identify the available transportation networks and their capabilities, especially the carrying capacity of proposed evacuation routes and existing or potential bottlenecks caused either by traffic or natural occurrences, such as rising waters. It is important to keep in mind that destructive weather, earthquakes and other hazards may limit or completely eliminate some transportation methods, especially bridges, ferries, tunnels and mass transit systems. During certain emergencies—especially those involving flooding, high winds, multiple aftershocks or volcanic eruption—emergency public information

broadcasts may include prohibitions on using travel trailers, campers, motor homes, buses, motorcycles, bicycles and boats.



EVACUATION (Continued)

After evacuating, all members of the Army community must be accounted for to ensure the safety of the community and the distribution of support services and public assistance. If the scale of the evacuation makes assembly impractical, look for electronic “rally points” (phone number, Web site) to be established.

How to Prepare

Safe and effective evacuation requires planning ahead—there may be no advance warning. Plan to use the primary evacuation route recommended by your county or installation, but identify alternative evacuation routes in advance and gather appropriate maps to take along in your emergency supply kit. If you don't have access to a vehicle, make other arrangements ahead of time. Depending on regulations at the remote safe haven or civilian shelter, pets may have to be left behind. Identify locations that will accept your pet in the event of an emergency. Service animals are always permitted inside civilian shelters. Plan how you will care for your animals, microchip or tag pets clearly and make a small pet emergency supply kit. Include food, water, leash, medicine, vet documents, a photograph of your pet and a small toy. Remember when an emergency occurs pets may become frightened. Allow extra time to secure your pet. When making your plan, also consider any additional special needs specific to your family.



Hurricane Rita Traffic Houston Texas

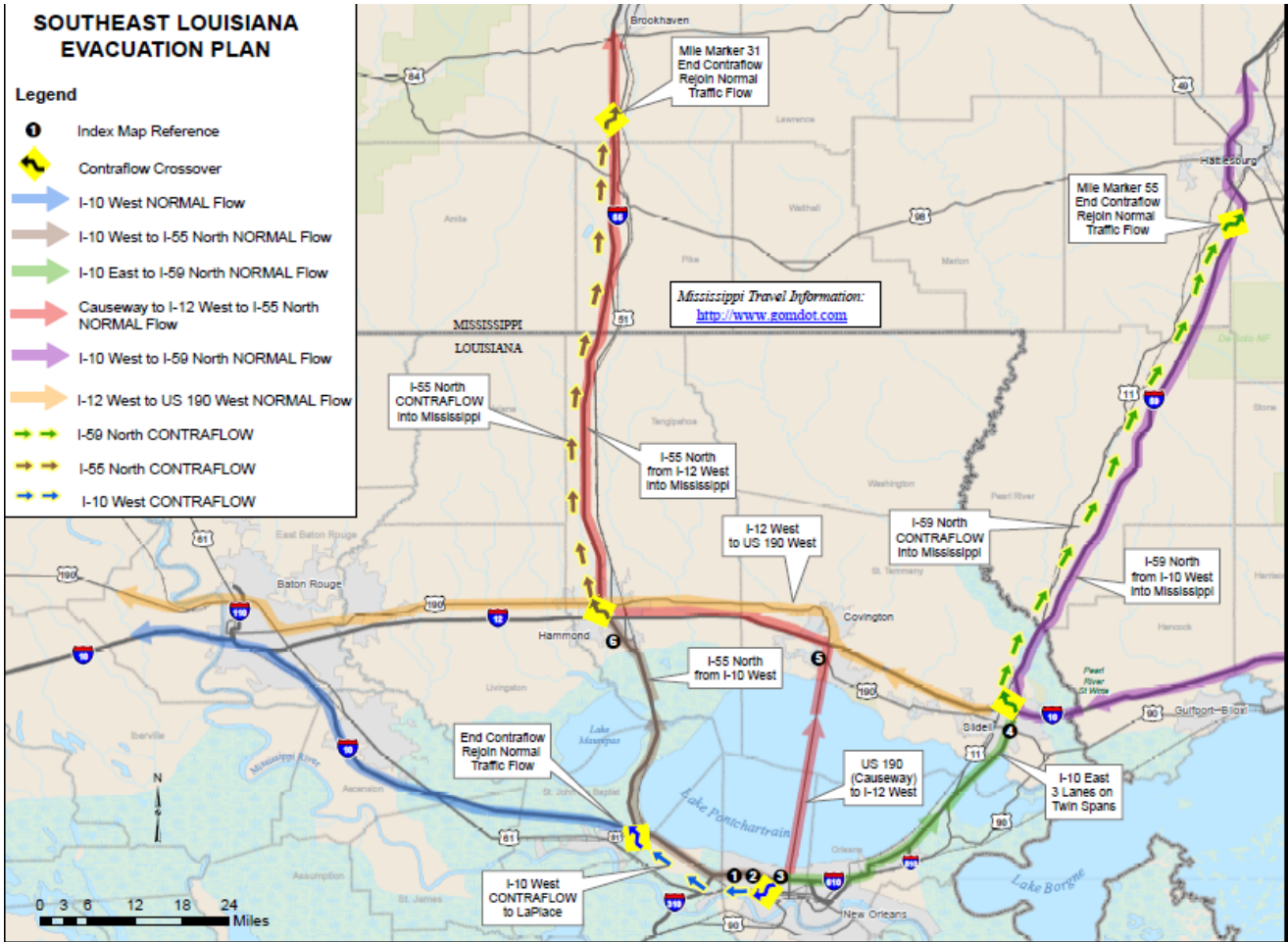
Actions to Take During an Evacuation

- Plan to take one car to reduce congestion and delay.
- Keep a full tank of gas—power outages or congestion could make refueling challenging.
- Gather your emergency supply kit, adequate for at least three days.
- Wear sturdy shoes and clothing, such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts and a cap.
- Close and lock all doors and windows.
- Unplug nonessential electrical equipment. Leave freezers and refrigerators plugged in unless there is a risk of flooding.
- Listen to a battery-powered radio or TV to follow local evacuation instructions.
- Leave the hazard area when directed to avoid being trapped or stranded.
- Let others know or post a note as to where you are going.
- Follow the recommended evacuation routes and zones; shortcuts may be blocked.
- Stay alert for damaged or missing roads, bridges and structures.
- Stay away from downed power lines.
- Once you are in a safe place, report to your command if you are military or government civilian personnel or a member of the selective reserves.

Where to Find Additional Information

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)—
<https://www.ready.gov/evacuating-yourself-and-your-family>
- Occupational Safety & Health Administration—
<https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/evacuation/evac.html>
- Ready Army — www.ready.army.mil







CIVILIAN SHELTERS

In the event of an emergency, local emergency management organizations have plans and procedures to direct evacuation or movement to shelters. When time permits, the preferred protective strategy for nonessential and nonemergency personnel is evacuation, but in emergencies with only a moderate warning time, installation authorities may direct people to local, state or host-nation shelters.

Shelters

A shelter is a publicly identified, certified, supplied, staffed and insured mass care facility where endangered people can find temporary protection for a limited time. The National Guard does not develop, maintain and operate certified shelters. Instead, the National Guard and installations coordinate shelter needs with appropriate state, local, host-nation and private agencies. The American Red Cross is the principal U.S. resource for development, management and operation of certified shelters.

Certified shelters within the local community are preferred over safe haven facilities on an installation. Plans are coordinated with local authorities and may include provision for food, water, medicines and security. If you are directed to take shelter in a mass care facility operated by a disaster relief organization, there are a few things you should know:

- Even though mass care shelters often provide water, food, medicine and basic sanitary facilities, you should plan to take an **emergency supply kit** with you.
- Alcoholic beverages, weapons and smoking are prohibited in all shelters. Ask in advance if your local shelter allows pets.
- Mass care facilities can involve living with many people in close proximity, so it is important to cooperate with local shelter managers and others assisting them.

How to Prepare

Authorities may direct post-event evacuation or movement to long-term shelters, remote safe havens or a designated place away from the affected area. No matter which type or size of mass care facility you move to—

- It is vital to **get in advance and take along an emergency supply kit** that can sustain your family for at least three days.



American Red Cross continues to help victims of the Colorado and Montana wildfires.



Red Cross established this shelter at the National Guard Armory the night of the severe storms and tornado. [-fema.gov](http://fema.gov)



How to Prepare (Continued)

- A **family emergency plan**, including an emergency communication procedure, will prepare you to cope with possible separation of family members.
- Once you are in a safe place, **report to your command** if you are military or government civilian personnel or a member of the selective reserves.

Where to Find Additional Information

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)—
 - <https://www.ready.gov/shelter>
 - <https://www.fema.gov/safe-rooms>
 - <https://www.fema.gov/residential-safe-rooms>
 - <https://www.fema.gov/fema-p-320-taking-shelter-storm-building-safe-room-your-home-or-small-business>
- American Red Cross — <http://www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery/find-an-open-shelter>
- Ready Army—www.ready.army.mil



American Red Cross Emergency Shelter



American Red Cross Shelter
Volunteers providing blankets

It's up to you. Prepare Strong, Get an emergency supply kit with enough supplies for at least three days, make an emergency plan with your family and be informed about what might happen.





SHELTERING-IN-PLACE

In the event of an emergency, local emergency management organizations have plans and procedures to direct personnel to evacuate or take some form of shelter. For nonessential and nonemergency personnel, the preference is generally evacuation. In specific instances, evacuation or moving to a civilian shelter or designated place is more dangerous than remaining where you are, such as with short- or no-notice emergencies including hazardous materials events. **In these instances, you may be directed to shelter-in-place.**



Sheltering-in-place means to take temporary protection in a structure or vehicle—typically your workplace or residence—that is not certified, insured or staffed for emergency conditions. Installation procedures designate which responsible party or office will order personnel to shelter-in-place and for how long the order is expected to be in effect. Remember, **preparing your residence is your own responsibility.**

How to Prepare

- Have an emergency supply kit ready.
- Know how to turn off your heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems without damaging the components.
- Know how to close and secure doors, windows, vents and other exterior openings quickly.
- Identify potential interior space for sheltering-in-place.

How You Will Be Notified

Any of the following emergency warning procedures may alert you to shelter-in-place:

- A voice announcing system using exterior (Giant Voice) and interior speakers or sirens
- Automated Community Notification Systems for sending recorded voice messages or text
- Emergency Alert System (EAS) broadcasts on the radio or TV
- Residential route alerting—messages announced from vehicles with loudspeakers

Shelter in Place in Four Easy Steps

If there is an outdoor release of hazardous chemicals that may contaminate the outside air or a tornado siren has been sounded, please do the following:



Seek refuge inside a building and remain there.



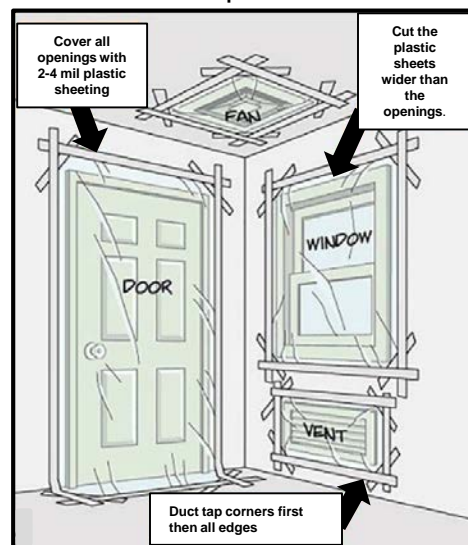
Ventilation systems will be turned off.



Keep tuned to media, if possible.



Wait for "all clear" from officials.





SHELTERING-IN-PLACE (Continued)

Actions to Take When Temporarily Sheltering-in-Place

- Whether you are at home, work or elsewhere, there may be situations when it's simply best to stay where you are and avoid any uncertainty outside.
- There may be circumstances when staying put and creating a barrier between yourself and potentially contaminated air outside, a process known as "sealing the room," is a matter of survival.
- Use common sense and available information to assess the situation and determine if there is immediate danger. If you see large amounts of debris in the air, or if local authorities say the air is badly contaminated, you may want to take this kind of action.
- The process used to seal the room is considered a temporary protective measure to create a barrier between you and potentially contaminated air outside. It is a type of sheltering in place that requires preplanning.
 - Bring your family and pets inside.
 - Lock doors, close windows, air vents and fireplace dampers.
 - Turn off fans, air conditioning and forced air heating systems.
 - Take your emergency supply kit unless you have reason to believe it has been contaminated.
 - Go into an interior room with few windows, if possible.
 - Seal all windows, doors and air vents with 2-4 mil.-thick plastic sheeting and duct tape. Consider measuring and cutting the sheeting in advance to save time.
 - Cut the plastic sheeting several inches wider than the openings and label each sheet.
 - Duct tape plastic at corners first and then tape down all edges.
 - Be prepared to improvise and use what you have on hand to seal gaps so that you create a barrier between yourself and any contamination.
 - Local authorities may not immediately be able to provide information on what is happening and what you should do. However, you should watch TV, listen to the radio or check the Internet often for official news and instructions as they become available.

If you use medical equipment, consider having back-up equipment stored at your evacuation location or places where you spend a lot of time.



Google™ your county's name with the word "alert" following it to see if your county has an emergency alert system. Sign up for e-mail and text messaging emergency notifications.

Where to Find Additional Information

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
<https://www.ready.gov/shelter>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
<http://emergency.cdc.gov/preparedness/shelter/>
- Occupational Safety & Health Administration
<https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/evacuation/shelterinplace.html>
- Ready Army — www.ready.army.mil

