

LA National Guard Emergency Management Bulletin

## June 2020 Volume FY20 Issue 9



#### 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 multijurisdictional 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 terroristic 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

LANG EM WEB PAGE:

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.

http://geauxguard.la.gov/resources/emergency-management/



#### IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KNOW

EMERGENCY Fire-Police-Ambulance 911

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| GWLC EM Manager        |                |
| christopher.a.letendre | e.nfg@mail.mil |
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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

June has arrived and with it come much warmer weather and the start of the Atlantic Hurricane Season. The federal government expects a busy hurricane season for the Atlantic Basin, with six to 10 hurricanes forming. The announcement comes against the backdrop of the coronavirus, which will almost certainly impact evacuations and shelter from approaching storms. **Overall, the National Oceanic and** Atmospheric Administration said 13 to 19 names storms will develop. This number includes tropical storms, which contain wind speeds of 39 mph or higher. Storms become hurricanes when winds reach 74 mph. Of the predicted six to 10 hurricanes, three could be major, packing wind speeds of 111 mph or higher.

What matters is we are expecting another above-normal season and now is the time to prepare. If predictions hold true, it will be a record fifth consecutive year of above-normal activity. Make your plans now.

The best time to prepare is before the event happens. Always Remember, "Be Prepared". Protect What Matters



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# **2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season Fast Facts**

## Facts:

The 2020 Atlantic <u>hurricane season</u> runs from June 1 to November 30. The areas covered include the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea.

The National Weather Service defines a hurricane as a <u>"tropical cyclone with</u> <u>maximum sustained winds of 74 mph</u> (64 knots) or higher."

Hurricanes are <u>rated according to</u> <u>intensityof sustained winds on</u> <u>the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane</u> Wind Scale.

The 1-5 scale estimates potential property damage.

A Category 3 or higher is considered a major hurricane.

The National Hurricane Center advises preparedness:

• A hurricane watch indicates the possibility that a region could experience hurricane conditions within 48 hours.

• A hurricane warning indicates that sustained winds of at least 74 mph are expected within 36 hours.

# September 1998 August 31, 2005 -IISC

# Predictions

Part of Mississippi Gulf Coast before and after Katrina.

April 2, 2020 - The <u>Colorado State</u> <u>University Tropical Meteorology Project team predicts</u> an above-average Atlantic hurricane season. The team forecasts 16 named storms, including eight hurricanes.







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## 2020 Atlantic Storm Names

<u>Hurricane names are pulled from six rotating lists</u> maintained and updated by the World Meteorological Organization. Storm names are retired only when those storms are particularly deadly or costly.

#### Pronunciation Guide

Tropical Storm ArthurMay 16, 2020 - Tropical Storm Arthurforms about 190 miles east-northeast of CapeCanaveral, Florida.BerthaFayJosephineNanaSally

| Bertha    | гау     | Josephine | Nana     | Sally |
|-----------|---------|-----------|----------|-------|
| Cristobal | Gonzalo | Kyle      | Omar     | Teddy |
| Dolly     | Hanna   | Laura     | Paulette |       |
| Edouard   | Isaias  | Marco     | Rene     |       |

## "Multiple climate factors indicate above-normal activity is most likely"





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# How to Prepare for a Hurricane

Hurricanes are massive storm systems that form over ocean water and often move toward land. Threats from hurricanes include high winds, heavy rainfall, storm surge, coastal and inland flooding, rip currents, and tornadoes. The heavy winds of hurricanes can cause damage or destroy homes, buildings, and roads, as well as cause power, water , and gas outages. These effects can injure or kill people, disrupt transportation, and pollute drinking water. Hurricanes cause deaths and injuries primarily from drowning, wind, and wind-borne debris. The impact from hurricanes can extend from the coast to several hundred miles inland. To find your risk, visit FEMA's "Know Your Risk Map." Be better prepared for this hurricane season, and learn more at <u>ready.gov/prepare</u>.

# **Now/Prepare**

**Sign up** for local alerts and warnings. Monitor local news and weather reports.

**Prepare to evacuate** by testing your emergency communication plan(s), learning evacuation routes, having a place to stay, and packing a "go bag".

#### Stock emergency supplies.

Protect your property by installing sewer backflow valves, anchoring fuel tanks, reviewing insurance policies, and cataloging belongings.

**Collect and safeguard** critical financial, medical, educational, and legal documents and records.

# **During/Prepare**

**Follow guidance** from local authorities.

**If advised to evacuate,** grab your "go bag" and leave immediately.

For protection from high winds, stay away from windows and seek shelter on the lowest level in an interior room.

Move to higher ground if there is flooding or a flood warning.

**Turn Around Don't Drown.** Never walk or drive on flooded roads or through water.

**Call 9-1-1** if you are in life-threatening danger.

# After/Be Safe

Return to the area only after authorities say it is safe to do so. Do not enter damaged buildings until they are inspected by qualified professionals.

**Never walk or drive** on flooded roads or through floodwaters.

**Look out** for downed or unstable trees, poles, and power lines.

**Do not remove heavy debris** by yourself. Wear gloves and sturdy, thicksoled shoes to protect your hands and feet.

**Do not drink tap water** unless authorities say it is safe.



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#### Now/ Prepare for a Hurricane

# **STAY INFORMED: EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS**

You can receive alerts and warning directly from the National Weather Service for all hazards with a NOAA Weather Radio (NWR). Some radio receivers are designed to work with external notification devices for the people who are deaf or hard of hearing. For more information on NWR receivers, visit

nws.noaa.gov.nwr/info/nwrrcvr.html.

Sign up for emergency alerts and notifications that your community may offer. Download Be Smart. Know your Alerts and Warnings for a summary of notifications at ready.gov/prepare.



## WATCHES AND WARNINGS

The National Weather Service (NWS), part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administrations (NOAA), issues alerts when weather conditions make hurricanes more likely. Know the terms used to describe changing conditions and be prepared to take appropriate action.



**Tropical Storm or Hurricane Advisory** – The NWS issues an Advisory when it expects conditions to cause significant inconveniences that may be hazardous. If caution is used, these situations should not be life-threatening.

ADVISORY



**Tropical Storm or Hurricane Watch** – The NWS issues an Watch when a tropical storm or hurricane is possible within 48 hours. Tune in to NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards, local radio, TV, or other news sources for more information. Monitor alerts, check your emergency supplies, and gather any items you may need if you lose power.



**Tropical Storm or Hurricane Warning** – The NWS issues a Warning when it expects a tropical storm or hurricane within 36 hours. During a Warning, complete your storm preparations, and immediately leave the threatened area if directed to do so by local officials.



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#### Now/ Prepare for a Hurricane

#### **PLAN FOR EVACUATION**

If the danger is significant, state or local government officials may issue an evacuation notice. You can do the following to be better prepared.

Learn your community's evacuation plan and identify several posted routes to leave the area.

\* Evacuation routes:

Department of

FEMA app at

vour Hurricane

of this guide.

vou.

Check with your state's

Transportation or Office of

Emergency Management

website to find routes near

location: To find a shelter

\* Emergency shelter

near you, download the

fema.gov/mobile-app.

Once you determine your

Preparedness Checklist,

which is located at the end

Make a plan for your pet.

To learn more, go to

ready.gov/animals.

evacuation route and shelter

location, write them down on

#### WHAT YOU NEED TO BE READY

#### \* Plan for your entire

**household** including children, people with disabilities, access and functional needs, and pets.

\* Keep your gas tank at least halffull at all times. Maintain basic emergency supplies (e.g., snacks, bottled water, first aid kit, flashlight, flares, jumper cables and other tools, a wool blanket, and a change of clothes) in your vehicle.

\* Pick an out-of-state contact everyone can call to check-in and report their status.

\* Know where you will meet up if you are separated and where you will stay.

\* Pack a "go bag" including items you need to take with your if you evacuate. A "go bag" should be easy to carry and kept in a place where you can grab it quickly.





#### CREATE YOUR FAMILY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PLAN

Your Family may not be together when a hurricane occurs, so it is important to know how to contact one another and how to get back together.

Keep important numbers written down in your wallet in case you cannot access the contact list on your phone. Landline and cellular phone systems are often overwhelmed following a disaster, so you may need to use text messages and social media. Designate an out-of-town contact who can help your household reconnect. Be sure to practice your plan with your Family. Get more information by downloading Be Smart Create Your Family **Emergency Communication Plan** or visit ready.gov/make-a-plan.

Write down any important phone numbers on your Hurricane Preparedness Checklist so you can access them easily.



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#### Now/ Prepare for a Hurricane EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

You can build your supplies over time by adding a few items each week or month. Gather in advance the necessary supplies and items you will need to stay safe after the hurricane passes and as you start to recover. Stock food items that do not need refrigeration and will last. Regularly replace items like water, food, medications, and batteries that go bad over time.

For a complete list of emergency supplies, visit ready.gov/prepare and then check them off your Hurricane Preparedness Checklist once you add them to your emergency kit.



#### **EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION**

Make sure you have everything you'll need to get in touch with your Family either through cellular phones or email.

#### MEDICAL NEEDS

Be equipped to tend to any current or unexpected medical conditions your Family may have.

#### **CRITICAL DOCUMENTS**

Place any important documents in a waterproof container to help keep them dry and easily assessable.

#### TOOLS AND SAFETY ITEMS

Small items like matches, flashlights, a multipurpose tool, and a whistle can make a huge difference for your Family while weathering the storm.

#### **FOOD/SUPPLIES**

Have at least a three-day supply of nonperishable food and water for your Family. Remember to pack anything specific to your Family's needs.

#### **HYGIENE AND SANITATION**

Practicing good hygiene can stop the spread of bacteria and infectious disease.

#### **PROTECTIVE GEAR**

Protect yourself by packing warm clothes and blankets to prevent hypothermia. Don't forget protective footwear and glover too.

#### **COMFORT & PRICELESS ITEMS**

You may be away from your home for an extended period and your property may be damaged. Grab any items that are irreplaceable or may provide comfort to your Family, especially your children.

Ask yourself, "What would I need for myself and my Family if a hurricane struck?" Add any of these specific items to your Hurricane Preparedness Checklist.



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#### Now/ Prepare for a Hurricane

# TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY AGAINST WIND AND WATER DAMAGE

Planning and preparing before a hurricane strikes can help you manage the impact of high winds and floodwaters. Take the steps outlined below to keep you and your Family safe when protecting your home and property. If you are a renter, talk with your landlord or property manager about the steps you can take together to protect yourself, you Family, your home, and you property.

#### Wind

**High winds:** The best way to reduce the risk of damage to a structure from hurricane winds is to reinforce or strengthen the building including doors, windows, walls, and roofs. The best way to protect yourself is to consider either constructing a safe room that meets FEMA criteria or a storm shelter that meets ICC 500 criteria.

**Wind-borne debris**: Bring loose, lightweight objects (e.g., patio furniture, garbage cans and bicycles) inside; anchor objects that would be unsafe to bring inside (e.g., gas grills and propane tanks); and trim or remove trees close enough to fall on buildings.

#### Flood

There are steps that you or your property owner can take now to make your home or business more flood resistant. Some improvements are simple and inexpensive; others require m ore of an investment. As your budget allows, take these steps to protect your property from flood damage and manage your risks.

\* Keep gutters and drains free of debris.

\* Install a water and sump pumps with batter backup.

\* Install "check valves" in sewer lines to prevent floodwater from Backing up into your drains.
\* Stockpile emergency protective materials such as plywood, plastic sheeting, and sandbags.
\* Elevate the heating system furnace), water heater, and

electric panel if susceptible to flooding.

\* Waterproof the basement.
\* In areas with repetitive flooding, consider elevating the building.



#### **FLOOD INSURANCE**

Most property insurance policies do not cover flood losses, so you will need to purchase separate flood insurance if your property is at risk for flooding. Talk to your insurance agent about buying flood insurance. Flood insurance is available from homeowners, renters, and business owners through the National Flood Insurance Program in participating communities. Keep in mind that a policy purchased today will take 30 days to go into effect, so act now! Learn how to financially protect yourself from flood damage by visiting <u>FloodSmart.gov</u>. Find your flood risk at <u>msc.fema.gov/portal</u>.



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#### **During/** Survive a Hurricane

# DECIDING TO STAY OR GO

If authorities advise on order you to evacuate, grab your "go bag" and leave immediately. If you are not in a mandatory evacuation zone, you may decide to leave the area, you may need to move to higher ground, or you may choose to stay in your home. If you decide to stay home, remember that even if the high winds and floodwaters do not reach your home, you may lose power and water, and you may not be able to leave your home for several days if the roads are impassable.



#### IF YOU ARE IN AN AREA WHERE AUTHORITIES ADVISE OR <u>ORDER</u> YOU TO EVACUATE:

## TAKE ACTION IMMEDIATELY TO EVACUATE!



Grab your "go bag" and leave immediately. Follow posted evacuation routes and do not try to take shortcuts because they may be blocked. Stick to designated evacuation routes. For localized information:

- Evacuation routes: Check with your state's Department of Transportation or Office of Emergency Management website to find routes near your.
- Emergency shelter location: To find a shelter near you, check the FEMA mobile app: <u>fema.gov/mobile-app</u>.
   Don't Forget: Write down you evacuation route and shelter information on your Hurricane Preparedness Checklist.

#### IF YOU ARE IN AN AREA WITHOUT AN EVACUATION NOTICE:



If you are in an area that is flooding (e.g., on the coast, on a floodplain, near a river, or on an island waterway), move to a location on higher ground before floodwaters reach you.



Stay indoors and away from windows and glass doors. If you are in a temporary structure, safely move to a sturdy building and go to a windowless room on the lowest level that is not likely to flood.



Never use a generator, gasoline powered equipment and tools, grill, camp stove, or charcoal burning device inside or in any partially enclosed area. Keep these devices outside and at least 20 feet from doors, windows, and vents..



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#### After/Be Safe POST-DISASTER TIPS TO STAY SAFE

If you've evacuated the area, wait for public officials to say It is safe before returning. Each year, a significant Number of people are injured or killed while cleaning up after a hurricane. As you begin cleanup, keep these safety tips in mind.



#### STAY SAFE

**Do not wade in floodwaters**, which can contain debris like broken glass, metal, dead animals, sewage, gasoline, oil, and downed power lines.

**Do not enter a building until it has been inspected** for damage to the electrical system, gas lines, septic systems, and water lines or wells. Wear appropriate protective equipment such as gloves, safety glasses, rubber boots, and masks top protect you from debris and airborne particles, e.g., mold and dust.

**Do not use electrical equipment** if it is wet or if you are standing in water.

**Protect your pet** following a hurricane. To learn more, visit ready.gov/animals.



#### STAY HEALTHY

**Throw out any food** including canned items that were not maintained at the proper temperature or have been exposed to floodwaters. Do not eat food from a flooded garden. When in doubt, throw it out.

Avoid drinking tap water until you know it is safe. If uncertain, boil or purity it first.

**Clean and disinfect everything** that got wet. Mud left from floodwater can contain sewage, bacteria, and chemicals.



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#### After/Be Safe

# FIVE STEPS FOR POST-HURRICANE CLEAN-UP

Use appropriate personal protective equipment to avoid injury from possible exposure to mold and bacteria including gloves, goggles, rubber boots, and N95 masks.



**MOVE OUT** saturated porous materials such as mattresses or upholstered items, especially those with viable fungal growth.

**TEAR OUT** flooring, paneling, drywall, insulation, and electrical outlets saturated by flood water **CLEAN OUT** and disinfect any remaining debris and mud.

**DRY OUT** the building and any remaining contents.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The following resources and websites can help you further prepare for, respond to, and recover from a hurricane.

FEMA MOBILE APP: fema.gov/mobile-app

FEMA Against the Wind: Protecting Your Home From Hurricane and Wind Damage: <u>fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/2988</u>

FEMA Community Hurricane Preparedness Training: training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=is-324.a

FEMA Taking Shelter From the Storm: Building a Safe Room in Your Home or Small Business: fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/2009?id=1536

#### **RELATED WEBSITES**

American Red Cross Hurricane Preparedness: redcross.org/prepare/disaster/hurricane

FEMA Hurricane: ready.gov/hurricanes

FloodSmart Campaign: FloodSmart.gov

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA): <u>noaa.gov</u>

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#### HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

The right time to prepare for a hurricane is now. This helpful checklist will get you started. Make sure to include your entire Family in the preparation and discuss your emergency plan with them. Post this checklist in a easily accessible location so it's always close by. Remember to keep in mind your Family's unique needs as you complete the checklist.

| BEFORE A HURRICANE<br>Stock your emergency kit and "go<br>bag" with:<br>EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION<br>Important contact information for<br>Family, school, work, doctors, etc.,<br>including phone numbers and email  | TOOLS & SAFETY ITEMS Flashlight Multi-purpose tool Matches or lighter in waterproof container Whistle  | DURING A HURRICANE<br>When a tropical storm or hurricane<br>watch is issued, its important to stay<br>informed.<br>Tune in to channels:   |
|--|--|---|
| addresses.<br>Cellular phone, extra battery, and<br>chargers for electrical equipment.<br>AM/FM radio/NOAA Weather<br>Radio (extra batteries)  | FOOD/SUPPLIES At least a three-day supply of water and non-perishable food Infant formula and diapers Pet food, supplies, and extra water  | Check for alerts on apps: FEMA App<br>In case of evacuation, grab your "go<br>bag" and leave immediately. Use<br>evacuation route:<br>The closest shelter is:   |
| CRITICAL DOCUMENTS  Medications for at least one week and copies of prescriptions Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses Medical equipment/assistive technology and backup batteries. First aid kit   | HYGIENE & SANITATION<br>Soap/disinfectant/sanitizer<br>Paper towels/moist towelettes<br>Toilet paper<br>Bleach<br>Toothbrush and toothpaste  | Meet Family at:<br>Make sure to take these important<br>numbers with you:<br>Family member's name:<br><br>Phone#:<br>Email:   |
| CRITICAL DOCUMENTS  Photo ID (e.g., driver's license, Passport) Cash and credit cards Personal records (e.g., birth certificates, marriage certificates) Medical records Financial information (e.g., bank account or credit care information) Property records (e.g., insurance policies deed, or lease) Waterproof, portable container for important documents | PROTECTIVE GEAR & CLOTHING   Extra warm clothes   Sturdy shoes   Blankets or sleeping bags   COMFORT & PRICELESS ITEMS   Items like: books, puzzles, favorite stuffed toy, photo albums, valuables | Local contact's name:         Phone#:         Email:         Out-of-State contact's name:         Phone#:         Email:         Primary physician's name:         Phone#:         Email:         Phone#:         Hospital's Phone #: |



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