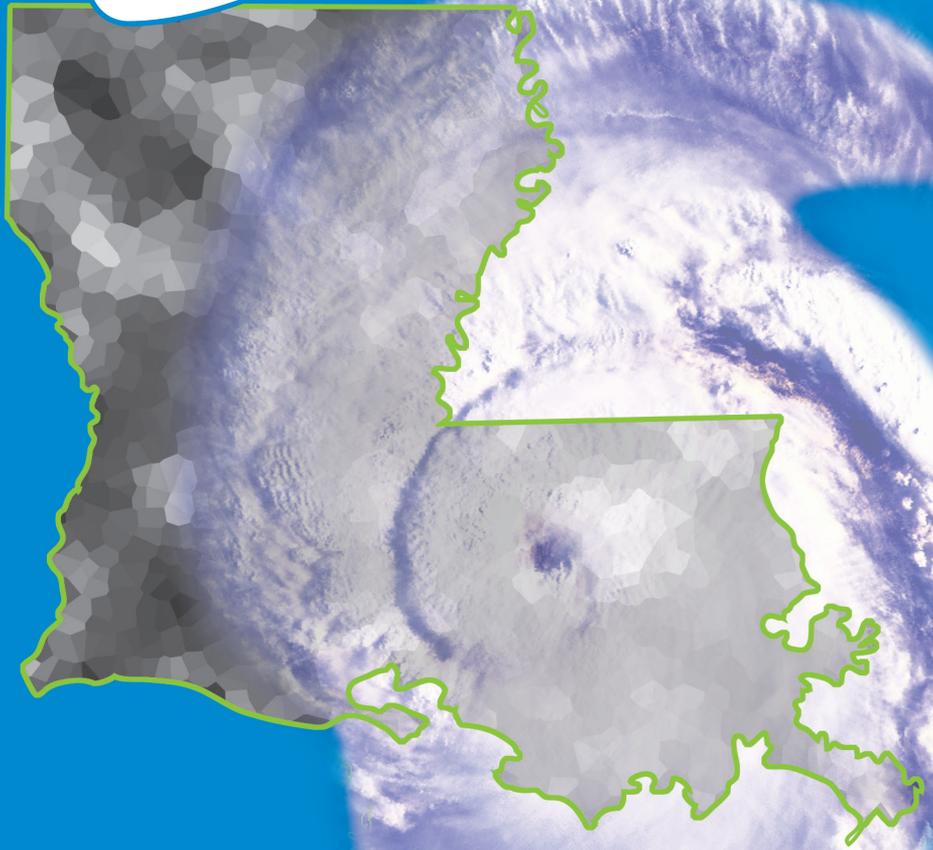


# 2013 LOUISIANA

# *Storm Survival* GUIDE



**TRAC**  
Prepare-Support-Recover



In the hundred twenty years since a Category Two Hurricane decimated Cheniere Caminada the technology of predicting and forecasting hurricanes has increased a hundred fold. But in this same time Louisiana's coastal barrier protection has disappeared at an alarming rate. Over 1.2 million acres have disappeared into the gulf... an area the size of the State of Delaware...

Tropical storms and minimal hurricanes that were once absorbed by our coast now threaten our cities, our neighborhoods and our families. Without coastal barriers, what's Louisiana's next line of defense... You Are.

This Guide includes detailed information on preparing yourself, your family, friends, co-workers and employees for the inevitable storm. It is available at all public libraries and directly through TRAC. It is also available on-line in English, Spanish, French and Vietnamese at [www.trac4la.com](http://www.trac4la.com).

TRAC has many FREE programs to help you stay prepared for any storm. It is information you need to know...it just may some day save your life.

## CAMPAIGN STORM SAFE LOUISIANA

## 2013 LOUISIANA Storm Survival GUIDE

## the Buddy Guide

### VANISHING Coast VANISHING Safety... Surviving Louisiana Storms

30 minute preparedness program available on VHS/ DVD at all PUBLIC LIBRARIES or view online in TRAC's Multi-Media Room at [www.trac4la.com](http://www.trac4la.com).



Instructor Guide available for teaching professionals in your parish. Contact us at 1-877-TRAC-4-LA.



Children's series developed to help prepare and cope with hurricane threats. Available at all public libraries or contact us at 1-877-TRAC-4-LA.

Prepare yourself, family, friends, coworkers and employees with this 10-step planner. Local emergency information for your parish is included. Available at all public libraries or view online in TRAC's Multi-Media Room in English, Spanish, French, and Vietnamese at [www.trac4la.com](http://www.trac4la.com).

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Since the French Colonial Period, a major hurricane has struck Louisiana at an average rate of once every three years, and the Grand Isle area is among the ten most likely hurricane landfalls in the United States.

- 1722** Many French colonial officials used the devastation of New Orleans in the “Great Hurricane of 1722” as testimony to that city’s unsuitability as capital of Louisiana.
- 1772** Alexander Hamilton, in his firsthand account of a hurricane, vividly recalled experiencing “...the roaring of the sea and wind, fiery meteors flying about in the air, the prodigious glare of almost perpetual lightning, the crash of falling houses, ...the ear-piercing shrieks of the distressed were sufficient to strike astonishment into Angels”.
- 1779** In assessing the devastation of the recent hurricane, the Governor reported: “There are but few houses that have not been destroyed, and there are so many wrecked to pieces; the fields have been leveled; the houses of the near villages, which are the only ones from which I have heard at this time, are all on the ground, crops, stock, provisions, are all lost”.
- 1780** A storm of such intensity hit the New Orleans area, it destroyed many buildings and reportedly sank every vessel afloat on the Mississippi River and Lake Pontchartrain.
- 1831** The Great Barbados Hurricane kills 1500 people and wreaks devastation all along its path from Barbados to New Orleans.
- 1837** “Racer’s Storm” moves from west to east across the entire coast of Louisiana, causing widespread flooding and considerable damage to agriculture and shipping.
- 1856** A hurricane strikes Isle Derniere, a vacation resort on the Louisiana coast southwest of New Orleans. Storm waters washed over the entire island, destroying the hotel even as gentlemen danced with their bejeweled ladies. More than 200 lives were lost and the denuded island was split in half.
- 1893** An October hurricane destroyed settlements at Grand Terre and Cheniere Caminada, killing an estimated 2000 people and stripping islands of vegetation and buildings.
- 1909** A hurricane passing through Baton Rouge and New Orleans killed 350 people and the storm surge inundated much of South Louisiana.
- 1915** Passing Grand Isle and New Orleans with winds of 140 miles per hour, a hurricane killed 275 people and leveled numerous communities in its path up the Mississippi River. In Leeville, only 1 building out of 100 survived the storm.
- 1918** With winds of 100 miles per hour, a hurricane passed across Southwest Louisiana, killing 34 people.
- 1926** As a hurricane followed a diagonal track across Louisiana from Houma to Shreveport, it took 25 lives and caused approximately \$4 million in building damages.
- 1947** A hurricane packing over 100 mph winds passed directly over New Orleans claiming 34 victims, flooding main parts of the city and causing an estimated \$100 million in damages.
- 1956** The storm surges of Hurricane Flossy completely submerged Grand Isle and caused extensive coastal erosion and flooding.
- 1957** The 15 foot storm surge created by Hurricane Audrey on its path from Calcasieu Pass to New Orleans was responsible for the deaths of 390 people. Damage estimates exceeded \$150 million.
- 1961** Hurricane Carla killed 46 people and caused an estimated \$410 million in damages.
- 1964** Besides causing severe coastal erosion and local flooding, Hurricane Hilda claimed 39 victims.

- 1965** Hurricane Betsy came ashore at Grand Isle as a Category 3 storm, packing winds in excess of 100 mph with gusts up to 160 mph. The accompanying 10 foot storm surge caused New Orleans to suffer its worst flooding in decades. Damage throughout Southeast Louisiana totaled \$1.4 billion and 81 lives were lost.
- 1969** With sustained winds exceeding 200 mph and a 15 to 25 foot storm surge, Hurricane Camille left a trail of devastation and death across Southeast Louisiana and the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Damages amounted to \$1.4 billion, with 262 deaths reported.
- 1971** Hurricane Edith hit the Caribbean Islands as a Category 5 and by the time it reached the Louisiana coast its force had been reduced to that of a Tropical Storm with sustained winds of 40 mph.
- 1974** Hurricane Carmen affected Southern Louisiana causing 1 fatality.
- 1985** Hurricanes Danny, Elena and Juan battered South Louisiana in quick succession. Aggregate damages exceeded \$2.5 billion with 19 dead.
- 1988** The storm surge and surf generated by Hurricane Gilbert caused extensive coastal erosion and local flooding throughout South Louisiana.
- 1992** Hurricane Andrew passed through South Louisiana after devastating South Florida. Andrew killed 40 people and became the most destructive hurricane in American history. The storm left 250,000 people homeless and caused an estimated \$30 billion in total damages. LaPlace was struck by a deadly tornado killing 2 people and injuring 32 others.
- 1997** Hurricane Danny, the first hurricane of the '97 season, affected Louisiana, Alabama, North Carolina and Virginia. Primary damage in Louisiana affected the commercial fishing industry. Estimated damages in Louisiana were \$3 million. The Category One storm lasted 10 days.
- 2002** Hurricanes Isidore and Lili delivered a One-Two Punch to Louisiana from September to October. Isidore came ashore west of Grand Isle as a Tropical Storm and then Lili, a Category 4 as it approached the LA coastline, lost intensity and made landfall as a Category 2. Still a powerful storm, it led to widespread damage, flooding and power outages over 37 LA parishes with \$170 million in damages.
- 2003** Tropical Storm Bill rapidly developed in the Gulf of Mexico on June 29 and made landfall on June 30 west of Cocodrie. Thousands were without power and damaging rainfall caused flooding throughout Southeast LA.
- 2005** Hurricane Katrina made landfall on Aug 29th, as a Category 3. Damages exceeded 75 billion, 1577 deaths. 900,000 households were without power, several bridges were destroyed, 80% of New Orleans was flooded due to breaches in 3 canal levees. MR-GO suffered 20 breaches in its levees flooding east New Orleans, St. Bernard, Plaquemines. Rainfall recorded 8-15 inches plus storm surge surrounding Lake Pontchartrain caused significant flooding in Slidell and Mandeville.
- 2005** Hurricane Rita made landfall on Sept 24 as a Category 3. Storm surge of 15-20 ft caused extensive damage to the coastal parishes of South Louisiana. Damages exceeded 10 billion. It was the strongest hurricane recorded in the Gulf of Mexico.
- 2008** Hurricane Gustav made landfall in Terrebonne Parish on Sept 1<sup>st</sup> as a Category 2 crippling 100% of its power grid. On Sept 13<sup>th</sup> Hurricane Ike's approach to Galveston, Texas brought storm surges and flooding waters reminiscent of Hurricane Rita to the coastal parishes of Louisiana.
- 2012** Isaac made its first U.S. landfall August 28th near the mouth of the Mississippi River. It made a second and final landfall the next morning at Port Fourchon, Louisiana. Due to its large size, the hurricane produced a relatively large storm surge damaging nearly 60,000 homes across southeast Louisiana. The damages exceeded \$ 612 million.

**Hurricanes** are products of the tropical ocean and atmosphere. Powered by heat from the sea, they are steered by the easterly trade winds and the temperate westerlies as well as by their own ferocious energy. Around their core, winds grow with great velocity, generating violent seas. Moving ashore, they sweep the ocean inward while spawning tornadoes and producing torrential rains and floods. In the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico, hurricane development starts in June. For the US the peak hurricane threat exists from mid-August to late October with the season officially ending November 30th.

**Hurricane winds** can exceed 155 mph and severely affect areas hundreds of miles inland. The wind rotates in counterclockwise direction around the center of the storm, called the “eye”, where the winds are nearly calm. The wind in an intense hurricane may exceed 150 mph with gusts above 200 mph just outside of the storm’s center. Hurricane force winds may extend out 100 miles from the center with gale force winds (39 mph or higher) extending outward 250 miles. It is the wind and low pressure that create the **storm surge**.

A **storm surge** is a great dome of water often 50 miles wide, that comes sweeping across the coastline near the area where the eye of the hurricane makes landfall. The surge, aided by the hammering effect of breaking waves, acts like a giant bulldozer sweeping everything in its path. The stronger the hurricane and the shallower the offshore water, the higher the storm surge will be. If the storm surge arrives at the same time as the high tide, the water height will be even greater. This is unquestionably the most dangerous part of a hurricane. Nine out of ten hurricane fatalities are caused by the storm surge. Hurricane Camille in 1969 produced a 25 foot storm surge which inundated Pass Christian, Mississippi.

**Landfall** is the term used to indicate the moment the eye of a hurricane hits land. Although the “eye” of the hurricane is deceptively calm, the most violent activity occurs in the area surrounding the eye, known as the “eyewall”. However, leading edge winds produce damage to mobile homes and lightly-constructed buildings which creates flying missiles of roofing and building materials, signs, loose outdoor items and assorted debris. Destructive hurricane-force winds often persist well inland. When a hurricane hits at a speed of 74 mph, the transaction of energy within its circulation is great. **The condensation heat energy released by a hurricane in one day can be the equivalent of energy released by fusion of four hundred 20-megaton hydrogen bombs.**

**Perception of Risk:** Over the past several years, the warning systems have provided adequate time for people on the barrier islands and coastline communities to move inland when hurricanes threaten. However, it is becoming more difficult to evacuate people from these areas because roads have not kept pace with the rapid population growth. There are 45 million permanent residents along the hurricane-prone coastline. In addition to these permanent residents, the holiday, weekend, and vacation populations swell some coastal areas 10-100 fold. The problem is further compounded by the fact that 80 to 90 % of the population, now living in hurricane-prone areas, have not ever experienced the core of a “major hurricane”. Many have been through weaker storms. The result is a false impression of a hurricane’s damage potential. This often leads to complacency and delayed actions.

***In the final analysis, the only real defense against a hurricane is the informed readiness of your community, your family, and YOU.***

**ATLANTIC STORMS 2013 - 2018**

<b>2013</b>										
Andrea Lorenzo	Barry Melissa	Chantal Nestor	Dorian Olga	Erin Pablo	Fernand Rebekah	Gabrielle Sebastien	Humberto Tanya	Ingrid Van	Jerry Wendy	Karen
<b>2014</b>										
Arthur Laura	Bertha Marco	Cristobal Nana	Dolly Omar	Edouard Paulette	Fay Rene	Gonzalo Sally	Hanna Teddy	Isaias Vicky	Josephine Wilfred	Kyle
<b>2015</b>										
Ana Larry	Bill Mindy	Claudette Nicholas	Danny Odette	Erika Peter	Fred Rose	Grace Sam	Henri Teresa	Ida Victor	Joaquin Wanda	Kate
<b>2016</b>										
Alex Lisa	Bonnie Matthew	Colin Nicole	Danielle Otto	Earl Paula	Fiona Richard	Gaston Shary	Hermine Tobias	Ian Virginie	Julia Walter	Karl
<b>2017</b>										
Arlene Lee	Bret Maria	Cindy Nate	Don Ophelia	Emily Philippe	Franklin Rina	Gert Sean	Harvey Tammy	Irene Vince	Jose Whitney	Katia
<b>2018</b>										
Alberto Leslie	Beryl Michael	Chris Nadine	Debby Oscar	Ernesto Paty	Florence Rafael	Gordon Sara	Helene Tony	Isaac Valerie	Joyce William	Kirk

# SAFFIR/SIMPSON HURRICANE SCALE

*This can be used to give an estimate of the potential property damage and flooding expected along the coast with a hurricane.*

Category Winds (1 min sustained winds in mph) Summary	People, Livestock and Pets	Mobile Homes and Frame Homes	Apartments, Shopping Centers, Industrial Buildings, High-Rise Windows and Glass	Signage, Fences, Canopies, Trees, Power and Water
<b>1</b> 74-95  <i>Very dangerous winds will produce some damage</i>	People, livestock, and pets struck by flying or falling debris could be injured or killed.	Older (mainly pre-1994 construction) mobile homes could be destroyed, especially if they are not anchored properly as they tend to shift or roll off their foundations. Newer mobile homes that are anchored properly can sustain damage involving the removal of shingle or metal roof coverings, and loss of vinyl siding, as well as damage to carports, sunrooms, or lanais. Some poorly constructed frame homes can experience major damage, involving loss of the roof covering and damage to gable ends as well as the removal of porch coverings and awnings. Unprotected windows may break if struck by flying debris. Masonry chimneys can be toppled. Well-constructed frame homes could have damage to roof shingles, vinyl siding, soffit panels, and gutters. Failure of aluminum, screened-in, swimming pool enclosures can occur.	Some apartment building and shopping center roof coverings could be partially removed. Industrial buildings can lose roofing and siding especially from windward corners, rakes, and eaves. Failures to overhead doors and unprotected windows will be common. Windows in high-rise buildings can be broken by flying debris. Falling and broken glass will pose a significant danger even after the storm.	There will be occasional damage to commercial signage, fences, and canopies. Large branches of trees will snap and shallow rooted trees can be toppled. Extensive damage to power lines and poles will likely result in power outages that could last a few to several days.
Example: Hurricane Dolly (2008) is an example of a hurricane that brought Category 1 winds and impacts to South Padre Island, Texas.				
<b>2</b> 96-110  <i>Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage</i>	There is a substantial risk of injury or death to people, livestock, and pets due to flying and falling debris.	Older (mainly pre-1994 construction) mobile homes have a very high chance of being destroyed and the flying debris generated can shred nearby mobile homes. Newer mobile homes can also be destroyed. Poorly constructed frame homes have a high chance of having their roof structures removed especially if they are not anchored properly. Unprotected windows will have a high probability of being broken by flying debris. Well-constructed frame homes could sustain major roof and siding damage. Failure of aluminum, screened-in, swimming pool enclosures will be common.	There will be a substantial percentage of roof and siding damage to apartment buildings and industrial buildings. Unreinforced masonry walls can collapse. Windows in highrise buildings can be broken by flying debris. Falling and broken glass will pose a significant danger even after the storm.	Commercial signage, fences and canopies will be damaged and often destroyed. Many shallowly rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted and block numerous roads. Near-total power loss is expected with outages that could last from several days to weeks. Potable water could become scarce as filtration systems begin to fail.
Example: Hurricane Frances (2004) is an example of a hurricane that brought Category 2 winds and impacts to coastal portions of Port St. Lucie, Florida with Category 1 conditions experienced elsewhere in the city.				
<b>3</b> 111-130  <i>Devastating damage will occur</i>	There is a high risk of injury or death to people, livestock, and pets due to flying and falling debris.	Nearly all older (pre-1994) mobile homes will be destroyed. Most newer mobile homes will sustain severe damage with potential for complete roof failure and wall collapse. Poorly constructed frame homes can be destroyed by the removal of the roof and exterior walls. Unprotected windows will be broken by flying debris. Well-built frame homes can experience major damage involving the removal of roof decking and gable ends.	There will be a high percentage of roof covering and siding damage to apartment buildings and industrial buildings. Isolated structural damage to wood or steel framing can occur. Complete failure of older metal buildings is possible, and older unreinforced masonry buildings can collapse. Numerous windows will be blown out of high-rise buildings resulting in falling glass, which will pose a threat for days to weeks after the storm.	Most commercial signage, fences, and canopies will be destroyed. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water will be unavailable for several days to a few weeks after the storm passes.
Example: Hurricane Ivan (2004) is an example of a hurricane that brought Category 3 winds and impacts to coastal portions of Gulf Shores, Alabama with Category 2 conditions experienced elsewhere in this city.				
<b>4</b> 131-155  <i>Catastrophic damage will occur</i>	There is a very high risk of injury or death to people, livestock, and pets due to flying and falling debris.	Nearly all older (pre-1994) mobile homes will be destroyed. A high percentage of newer mobile homes also will be destroyed. Poorly constructed homes can sustain complete collapse of all walls as well as the loss of the roof structure. Well-built homes also can sustain severe damage with loss of most of the roof structure and/or some exterior walls. Extensive damage to roof coverings, windows, and doors will occur. Large amounts of windborne debris will be lofted into the air. Windborne debris damage will break most unprotected windows and penetrate some protected windows.	There will be a high percentage of structural damage to the top floors of apartment buildings. Steel frames in older industrial buildings can collapse. There will be a high percentage of collapse to older unreinforced masonry buildings. Most windows will be blown out of high-rise buildings resulting in falling glass, which will pose a threat for days to weeks after the storm.	Nearly all commercial signage, fences, and canopies will be destroyed. Most trees will be snapped or uprooted and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Long-term water shortages will increase human suffering. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.
Example: Hurricane Charley (2004) is an example of a hurricane that brought Category 4 winds and impacts to coastal portions of Punta Gorda, Florida with Category 3 conditions experienced elsewhere in the city.				
<b>5</b> > 155  <i>Catastrophic damage will occur</i>	People, livestock, and pets are at very high risk of injury or death from flying or falling debris, even if indoors in mobile homes or framed homes.	Almost complete destruction of all mobile homes will occur, regardless of age or construction. A high percentage of frame homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Extensive damage to roof covers, windows, and doors will occur. Large amounts of windborne debris will be lofted into the air. Windborne debris damage will occur to nearly all unprotected windows and many protected windows.	Significant damage to wood roof commercial buildings will occur due to loss of roof sheathing. Complete collapse of many older metal buildings can occur. Most unreinforced masonry walls will fail which can lead to the collapse of the buildings. A high percentage of industrial buildings and low-rise apartment buildings will be destroyed. Nearly all windows will be blown out of high-rise buildings resulting in falling glass, which will pose a threat for days to weeks after the storm.	Nearly all commercial signage, fences, and canopies will be destroyed. Nearly all trees will be snapped or uprooted and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Long-term water shortages will increase human suffering. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.
Example: Hurricane Andrew (1992) is an example of a hurricane that brought Category 5 winds and impacts to coastal portions of Cutler Ridge, Florida with Category 4 conditions experienced elsewhere in south Miami-Dade County.				

**HURRICANE WATCH:** *hurricane conditions are possible in the specified area of the watch usually within 48 hours.*

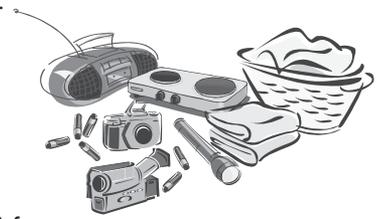
**When a Watch is Issued:**

- Review your family disaster plan.
- Assign family members tasks to accomplish your disaster plan.
- Check often for official bulletins with local news media.
- Fuel car, check all fluids, and tire pressure (including spare).
- Check mobile home tie-downs.
- Check disaster supply kits (car, home, evacuation).
- Fill critical medicines.
- Store water.
- Fill every available space in your freezer with water. Using plastic ziplock bags allows you to mold the containers in odd shaped spaces. This will preserve your frozen items longer in case of a power outage and will be an additional source of water.
- Turn your freezer's temperature gauge to maximum.
- Locate all important documents and store in waterproof containers.
- Have a cash on hand reserve available.
- Purchase extra film and store in the freezer for later use.
- Move small boats to safe shelter.
- Secure all items outdoors.
- Install temporary shutters on all windows and glass doors.
- Make evacuation reservations.
- Secure provisions for your animals.
- Alert your out-of-state communication center person / persons.

**HURRICANE WARNING:** *hurricane conditions are expected in the specified area of the warning usually within 36 hours.*

**When a Warning is Issued:**

- Stay on task with your disaster plan.
- Continue to monitor local news media.
- Move valuables to upper floors.
- Remove valuables from attic storage.
- Fill containers (bathtubs, sinks, bottles, etc.) for additional water resources.
- Garage or store vehicles you leave behind.
- Take pictures off walls and store in available closets or drawers.
- Count all lines (power, phone, cable, etc.) leading to your home and write it down in a visible place.
- Fill inground swimming pools, add extra chlorine, turn off pumps, and cover exposed motors.
- Leave your mobile home.



**IF YOU EVACUATE...** *shut off water, gas and electricity at the main source. Leave during daylight hours if possible.*

**IF YOU STAY...** *tune to local news media, keep calm, stay indoors (even if the “eye” passes directly in your path), shelter your family in the house opposite of the wind’s direction.*

## **WHEN THE HURRICANE STRIKES:**

- Stay indoors
- Avoid using the phone
- Don’t attempt to drive anywhere
- Don’t weather the storm in your boat or recreational vehicle



## **AFTERMATH OF THE HURRICANE:**

- Recount all lines leading to your home, immediately report loose or dangling power lines to the proper authorities.
- If your power is out allow a reasonable amount of time to report the outage.
- Stay where you are if it is safe until authorities give the “all-clear”.
- Stay tuned to local news media for constant updates regarding the situations at hand. They will provide you with up-to-the-minute information regarding medical help, feeding programs, and general assistance that may be needed for your family and community. Inspect your utility systems, report any potentially dangerous hazards.
- Keep your family together and talk about the experience as much as possible in a positive way.
- Be aware of the stress and fatigue catastrophic events produce. Eat foods that are high-energy, drink lots of fluids (especially those designed to replace sodium and potassium loss). Remember nursing moms, children and the elderly need more liquids than the average person.
- Check on your neighbors, as people often become isolated during disasters.
- Do not go sightseeing, the roads are filled with debris and you can hamper the recovery operations.

Tornadoes are nature's most violent storms. It appears as a rotating, funnel-shaped cloud that extends to the ground with whirling winds that can reach 300 mph. Damage paths can be in excess of one mile wide and 50 miles long. They most often appear during late spring and summer, usually in late afternoon. They are generally associated with thunderstorm or hurricane activity but can occur alone.



**TORNADO WATCH:** *means conditions are favorable for the formation of this type of storm.*

**TORNADO WARNING:** *means a tornado has been spotted...be prepared to take shelter.*

## HOW TO PREPARE:

- Ask about community warning signals.
- Always have a battery powered **NOAA** weather radio and extra batteries on hand.
- Learn the designated shelters in places you and your family spend time, such as malls, public buildings, nursing homes.
- Learn whether your children's schools have been inspected for shelter space by an engineer or architect and know the school plan of action.
- Always have an emergency supply kit on hand.
- Make an inventory of your possessions and keep in a safe place away from premises.
- Teach all family members an out-of-state contact phone number in the event you are separated. This provides you with a central point of communication away from local phone line outages.
- Tune to local news media.

## THINGS TO DO:

- If you are home, go into an interior room, such as a closet or bedroom, away from windows, doors and outside walls. For extra protection get under a sturdy piece of furniture. Protect your head.
- If you are away from home take shelter in a steel frame or reinforced concrete building.
- If you are outside, lie flat in a ditch, and protect your head.
- If you are in a high-rise building, go to a small interior room or hallway on the lowest floor possible.

## DON'T:

- Try to outride a tornado; they are erratic and move swiftly.
- Stay in a car or mobile home.
- Stay in a building with a wide roof span.



Lightning is one of nature's most fascinating phenomena, but it is also one of the most dangerous. Lightning accounts for over 200 deaths in the United States alone each year. Lightning always accompanies a thunderstorm. It is estimated that lightning hits the Earth 100 times each second. That's 8.6 million strikes per day and over three billion strikes each year !! Lightning is five times hotter than the sun. A single bolt can reach 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

## BEFORE THE STORM...

- Know the parish in which you live and the names of nearby cities. Severe weather warnings are issued on a parish basis.
- Check the weather forecast before leaving for extended periods outdoors.
- Watch for signs of approaching storms.
- If a storm is approaching, keep a NOAA weather radio or AM/FM radio with you.
- Postpone outdoor activities if thunderstorms are imminent.
- Check on those who have trouble taking shelter.

## WHEN THUNDERSTORMS APPROACH...

- Remember: if you can hear thunder, you are close enough to the storm to be struck by lightning. Go to safe shelter immediately!
- Move to a sturdy building or car. Do not seek shelter under a tree.
- Get out of boats and away from the water.
- The current associated with a lightning strike can travel through power, cable, and telephone lines. It is advisable to stay off the telephone and avoid using a computer, television, or other electrical appliances during thunderstorms.
- Do not take a bath or shower.
- Turn off air conditioners. Power surges from lightning can overload the compressors.
- Get to higher ground if flash flooding or flooding is possible. Once flooding begins, abandon cars and climb to higher ground. Do not attempt to drive to safety. **Note: Most flash flood deaths occur in automobiles.**
- If you are outside, crouch down on the balls of your feet when you feel your hair stand on end.

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**To figure out the distance of a lightning strike from where you are:  
count the seconds from when you see the flash to when you hear the thunder.**  
*Divide the number of seconds by five. 1 mile = approximately 4.8 seconds*

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To minimize damage to property and loss of life, the National Weather Service will issue a FLASH FLOOD WATCH. A FLOODWATCH is issued when local flooding can be expected within 12-24 hours. A FLOODWARNING is issued when flood waters are expected to exceed flood stage at any point on rivers and bayous. Most flood warnings will be issued 24-60 hours in advance of the crest. For your own well being and that of others, please take flooding very seriously.



## WHEN FLOODING IS PREDICTED FOR YOUR AREA:

- Check TV and radio often for official bulletins.
- Fuel car.
- Check mobile home tiedowns.
- Adjust moorings on watercraft or move to safer shelter.
- Stock up on canned provisions.
- Check supplies of special medicines and drugs.
- Check batteries for radio and flashlights.
- Secure lawn furniture and other loose material outdoors.
- Elevate lawn equipment and machinery.
- Inventory flood protection supplies and equipment.
- Plan a place to meet in case you and your family are separated.
- Have an evacuation plan - know how to get to high ground fast.

## WHEN A FLOOD WARNING IS ISSUED:

- Stay tuned to TV and radio for official bulletins.
- Move valuables to upper floors or attic.
- Raise appliances above predicted flood levels.
- Bring in pets.
- Fill containers with several days supply of drinking water.
- Use the phone only for emergencies.
- Implement a flood protection plan (sandbagging, wrapping, closing levee gaps).
- Monitor local storm drains and clear debris to facilitate runoff.

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*Debris in local storm drains or storm sewers can cause flood waters to back up and inundate areas that normally do not flood. Debris is not limited to natural materials. Garbage cans, children's toys and balls, metal roofing material, lawn furniture, landscape timbers and other items have been found in drains blocking storm water and causing flooding. Your local public works department monitors major drainage canals in your area to keep debris clear to facilitate drainage. **It is your responsibility to monitor local drains and remove debris!***

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## **STAY OR LEAVE**

*When a flood threatens your area, you will have to make the decision to either evacuate or stay safely at home.*

### **IF LOCAL AUTHORITIES RECOMMEND EVACUATION, YOU SHOULD LEAVE IMMEDIATELY!**

- Shut off water and electricity at main source and lock up.
- Take small valuables and papers, but travel light.
- Provide for animals and pets that shelters will not take.
- Use recommended evacuation routes. Do not drive through standing or flowing water, and barricaded streets.

### **DURING THE FLOOD EVENT:**

- Stay tuned to the TV and radio for information and official instructions.
- Stay out of disaster areas.
- Do not drink tap water until it has been determined to be safe.
- Do not attempt to travel until roads have been declared open.
- Drive carefully along debris-filled streets. Roads may be undermined and may collapse under weight.
- Stay clear of any downed or low hanging power lines, and report them to the power company.
- Report broken sewers or water mains to the water department.
- Be exceptionally careful to prevent fires: lower water pressure may make fire fighting difficult.
- Do not use the telephone except for emergencies.
- Check with neighbors to see if help is needed.
- When cooking without gas or electricity, good ventilation is extremely important. Bottled gas burners or several candles taped together are safe and efficient. The use of portable grills is strongly discouraged. NEVER burn charcoal indoors. Always have a fire extinguisher handy.

### **RETURNING TO YOUR FLOOD DAMAGED HOME:**

*USE EXTREME CAUTION!*

- Before entering a damaged building, check for structural damage and possible imminent collapse.
- When entering a damaged building, do not use an open flame as a light source.
- Be sure children are safe and in good hands.
- Keep chemicals used for disinfecting and poisons, used for insect and rodent control, out of the reach of children.
- Wear protective clothing and rubber gloves when cleaning.
- Disconnect main electrical switches and circuits. Remove covers from all outlets and fuses or multi-breaker boxes. When dry, spray outlets and boxes with contact cleaner/lubricant.
- Check refrigerated foods for spoilage if power has been off during the event.
- Assume that water supplies are contaminated.

If your house repetitively or substantially floods, you may want to consider taking some sort of permanent mitigation action to greatly reduce or eliminate flooding to your structure. Protective measures can range from low cost techniques to reduce the expense of flood damage to more expensive methods to eliminate the probability of flooding. Some of these methods are as follows:

## Minimizing flood losses:

- Keep concrete blocks or milk crates handy to raise furniture.
- Replace carpeting with tile or other flood resistant flooring.
- Elevate air conditioning compressor and condenser on blocks.
- Locate electrical outlets higher up on walls to prevent water from intruding.



## Floodproofing your home:

There are several new floodproofing technologies available to effectively seal flood waters out of your house that are less expensive and less intrusive than other measures. By using a waterproof membrane to seal the lower 3' of the structure and a series of closures (also known as flood doors) to block any doors or openings, low level floods up to 3' depths can be eliminated.

## Elevating your home:

Elevation of a structure is one of the most common mitigation techniques utilized to reduce the risk of flooding. An elevation done correctly places the living area above all the most severe or substantial floods. Any structure can be elevated; pier and beam construction, concrete slab, mobile home, and other type structures have been done throughout Louisiana. Although more expensive than other flood mitigation techniques, elevation offers the highest level of flood protection for your home.

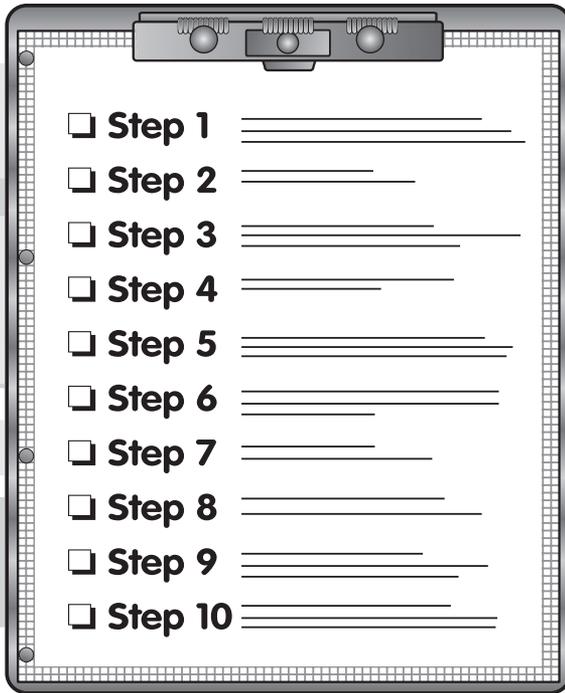
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### Floodplain Management Assistance

*Information on the 100-Year Base Flood Elevations and Flood Zone Determinations can be obtained from your local Department of Planning and Development or Permit Department. Parish libraries may have this information available, although it may not include latest revisions.*

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**To Assess Your Flood Risk: [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)**



To survive a disaster you need to create your own disaster plan. A plan that fits your lifestyle; one that is so well rehearsed that it becomes a reflex. We believe that your disaster plan can be developed in 10 steps or stages.

- Step 1:** Decide Where You Will Go
- Step 2:** Learn the Evacuation Routes and Procedures
- Step 3:** The Survival Kit
- Step 4:** Preparing for Special Needs Family Members:  
Children, Elderly, Disabled
- Step 5:** Provisions for Animals
- Step 6:** Preparing Important Documents & Memorabilia
- Step 7:** Insurance & Property Inventory
- Step 8:** Protecting Your Home & Property
- Step 9:** Plan for Family Notification & Communication
- Step 10:** Financial Planning

## **STEP ONE: DECIDE WHERE YOU WILL GO**

You need to decide *NOW* where you will go to escape the physical dangers of a storm.

- a. evacuate to central or northern Louisiana
- b. go to a friend or family member's home – only if it is structurally safe and out of the risk area
- c. as a “last resort” go to a designated shelter

### **EVACUATION CONSIDERATIONS:**

1. Has your area been advised to evacuate by local and /or State Officials via radio or television?
2. When recommended to evacuate, will public shelters be available locally or outside of your parish?
3. Will you stay with a friend or relative or at a hotel out of the risk area?
4. Have you considered the extra time needed to evacuate safely and to the location of your choice?

*Due to Louisiana's decreasing coastal protection you are **at risk for all storms.** Listen to the **advisories** issued by your local officials.*

#### **Highest risk properties:**

- mobile home/recreational vehicle
  - low-lying inland area
  - coastal dwellers
- outside of a levee protection system

**REMEMBER:** *The key principle to a hurricane preparedness plan is knowing why, where, when, what, and how to evacuate.*

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## STEP TWO: LEARN THE EVACUATION ROUTES & PROCEDURES

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Learn what evacuation routes will be used. That means you must know the MAJOR and MINOR highways to travel.

- a. decide your destination NOW so that you can familiarize yourself with the area
- b. secure hotel reservations in advance and be sure to evacuate early enough to avoid the risk of losing your hotel room. Some hotels allow pets. Check first before evacuating with your animals
- c. if you are evacuating with someone who has special needs, check the facility first to be sure that they can accommodate their needs
- d. know the road conditions, traffic controls, and vehicular restrictions on your planned evacuation route

### STATE POLICE GENERAL EVACUATION ADVISORY:

Citizens are urged to track all storms and follow official advisories well in advance of the projected landfall. Pay particular attention to the direction, speed and strength of the hurricane and the position of the outermost edge of the storm, **NOT THE EYE**. Remember, during evacuation procedures the roadways will be closed by authorities once travel becomes unsafe due to gale force winds, heavy rainfall and storm surge. Be aware that routes incorporating bridges, elevated lanes and coastal highways are most susceptible to high winds and may become impassable, even in the early stages of a storm.

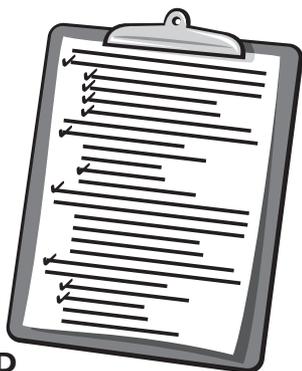
### STATE POLICE ADVISORY FOR RECREATIONAL/SPECIAL USE VEHICLES:

During emergency evacuation procedures boat trailers, horse trailers, motor homes, motorcycles and similar special use vehicles pose unique problems which can be avoided by advance planning and preparation. It is important to consider that these vehicles may not only be difficult to maneuver in congested traffic conditions, but also that evacuation routes over bridges, elevated roadways and flat unbroken terrain will be subject to high winds that will make movement potentially hazardous. In fact, it is probable that after actual evacuation procedures are underway access to affected bridges and highways by these types of vehicles will be denied by public safety officials.

The following tips are offered to citizens wishing to remove special use vehicles from harm's way. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive; citizens are directed to contact local or state police and emergency management offices for timely and detailed instructions pertinent to specific incidents. As always in emergency conditions, common sense and sound judgment must prevail.

- **Identify in advance a storage location at minimum safe distance.**
- **Learn alternate evacuation routes and utilize them early to avoid dangerous congestion and denied access to certain highways.**
- **Maintain and inspect vehicles regularly to ensure safe and reliable operation.**
- **Equip vehicles with serviceable emergency items such as spare tires, jacks, lug wrenches, flares, tie-downs, extra fuel, necessary tools, etc.**
- **Remember: Property considerations are secondary to the health and safety of human lives!**

**STEP THREE: THE SURVIVAL KIT**



**FOOD**

- fruits: canned, dried & fruit rollup
- vegetables: canned
- meats and fish: canned or dried
- milk: long shelf life boxed milk, powdered, evaporated
- juices: canned and bottled
- gatorade, 10-K, etc. Heavy work in hot conditions requires liquids to replenish fluids and salts.
- cheeses that do not require refrigeration
- peanut butter
- nuts and seeds
- crackers
- high energy snacks
- soups: canned
- pasta and rice

**PERSONAL ITEMS**

- washcloth and small towel
- sewing kit
- soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant
- hair care items
- feminine hygiene supplies

**SANITARY NEEDS**

- paper towels, toilet paper
- liquid detergent
- disinfectant
- garbage can or bucket with tight fitting lid (emergency toilet)
- plastic garbage bags (for lining toilet)

**BABY SUPPLIES** (if needed)

- clothes
- diapers, baby wipes
- milk, formula, food
- disposable baby bottles & liners
- sheets, blankets, rubber pads
- portable crib
- small toys
- children's medication

**WATER • FOOD**

**FIRST AID SUPPLIES**

**CLOTHING & BEDDING**

**TOOLS & EMERGENCY SUPPLIES**

**SPECIAL NEED ITEMS**

**WATER**

- One gallon a day per person for 7 days. Children, elderly and nursing mothers require more water.

**CHILDREN'S SUPPLIES**

- favorite stuffed animal, doll or toy
- crayons, coloring book, blank paper
- puzzles
- electronic games with extra batteries
- flashlight
- books
- cassette player, tapes, earphones with extra batteries

**ADULT SUPPLIES**

- cards, books, needlework, magazines, stationery, postcards, stamps
- \$10 in quarters for telephone calls
- shaving kit
- mirror
- contact lens supplies
- insect repellent, insecticide
- extra eye glasses, hearing-aid batteries
- supply of cash on hand

**CLOTHING AND BEDDING**

- appropriate for season and weather conditions
- sturdy work boots
- rain gear
- sleeping bags, pillows

**COMMUNICATION, LIGHTING & SAFETY**

- battery-operated radio
- waterproof flashlights for each family member
- extra batteries
- lantern and fuel
- fluorescent distress flag
- waterproof matches
- NOAA weather radio
- cellular phone
- fire extinguisher
- work gloves
- shovel, hand saw, axe, work knife
- tarps, hammer, duct tape, nails
- inflatable raft

## COOKING EQUIPMENT

\*\*Note: Do not attempt to cook indoors on outdoor equipment.

Be sure that there are no possible gas leaks indoors.

- barbecue grill
- charcoal and lighter fluid
- gas grill
- extra liquid propane gas tank
- sterno stove
- outdoor cooking pots & pans
- non-electric can opener
- bottle opener
- disposable eating utensils
- disposable plates, towels, cups
- portable ice chests

## “IF ONLY WE HAD” SUPPLIES

- chain saw, extra gas & oil
- generator, extra fuel & oil
- wet/dry vacuum cleaner

## CLEAN-UP SUPPLIES

- camera & extra film to photograph your damaged home before clean-up begins. This will help you with insurance claims.
- mops, brooms, brushes, sponges
- buckets, hose
- towels, old blankets, rags
- plastic yard bags
- rubber gloves
- disinfectants, pine oil, bleach,
- lubricating oil
- hair dryer
- washing detergents, trisodium phosphate

## PAPERS AND VALUABLES

Secure all these items in waterproof containers or ziplock bags and store safely. Make copies in the event they are lost.

- social security cards
- birth certificates
- marriage and death records
- driver's license or legal ID
- cash and credit cards
- wills
- insurance policies
- deeds and mortgages
- stocks and bonds
- savings & checking account books
- inventory of household goods (by photo or videotape)
- small valuables: cameras, watches, jewelry
- computer backups

## FIRST AID SUPPLIES

Keep contents in a waterproof metal or plastic container. Keep medicines tightly capped. Check periodically and replace any medication which has expired.

- first aid handbook
- bandaids
- gauze rolls, large non-stick pads
- first aid tape
- scissors, tweezers, knife, thermometer
- cotton swabs
- triangular bandages for arm sling
- splint
- ice / heat packs
- snake bite kit
- baking soda
- antibacterial soap
- latex gloves
- assortment of safety pins

## MEDICINES APPLIED EXTERNALLY:

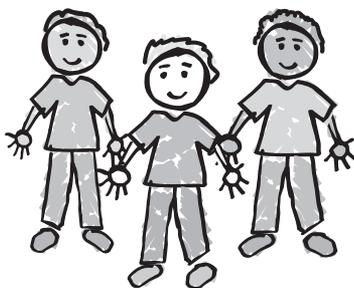
- hydrogen peroxide
- antibiotic ointment
- calamine lotion
- betadine
- sun block
- lip balm
- antifungal cream
- ergophine or “drawing salve” which brings splinters to surface
- eye drops
- ear drops
- nose drops
- rubbing alcohol
- prescription medicines

## MEDICINE TAKEN INTERNALLY:

- aspirin or acetaminophen
- antacids
- cough medicine
- sore throat lozenges or spray
- laxative
- anti-diarrhea medicine
- allergy medicine
- ipecac syrup
- vitamins
- prescription medicines

## **STEP FOUR: SPECIAL NEED FAMILY MEMBERS: CHILDREN**

One of the most important tasks you will face will be preparing your child or children for the possibility of an approaching disaster. This should be done in a non-threatening way; try to be positive and protective. Remind children that some of the toys and games they care about may be lost and emphasize that, over time, material things can be replaced.



Remember children's fears may also stem from their imagination and you should take these feelings seriously. A child who feels afraid is afraid. Your words and actions can provide reassurance. When talking with your child, be sure to present a realistic picture that is both honest and manageable. Talk openly about what is going on. Give simple, direct answers to questions. Children have radar and know when adults are afraid or worried and not telling them the truth. They hear other adults talking. It doesn't help to tell a child "not to worry", yet show all the signs of worrying yourself. Take time to talk openly, honestly and often.

Give your child simple tasks to do in your preparations. This will encourage their self-esteem and help them to feel more in control of the situations they may encounter.

### Here is a list of suggestions your child can do to help:

- ♥ pack their own favorite things in a overnight bag
- ♥ help pack the family's evacuation supply kit
- ♥ help pick up all their toys outdoors and store them in a safe place
- ♥ give them the task of listening to the weather updates
- ♥ teach them to track a storm's path and have them be in charge of that project
- ♥ be a helper in the boarding up of the home

*Sing-along with Andy & Allie  
to make disaster planning fun*

**FREE ★ Available on DVD only ★ FREE**  
**Call TRAC today – 1-877-TRAC-4-LA**



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## **STEP FOUR: SPECIAL NEED FAMILY MEMBERS: CHILDREN**

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### **Recovery Process For Children**

The recovery period after a disaster is a very stressful time for children and their families. If hard hit, it may take weeks or months before things return to normal.



### **If disaster strikes your area here are some things to remember:**

#### ***Encourage children to talk:***

Let children talk about the disaster and ask questions as much as they want. Encourage children to describe what they are feeling. Listen to what they say. Also watch your child at play. Often children express fear and anger when playing with dolls, trucks or friends after a major disaster. Acknowledge their feelings and encourage conversation.

#### ***Keep the family together:***

While you look for housing and assistance, it would be easier to leave your children with relatives or friends. Children get anxious and worry that their parents will not return. Instead, keep the family together as much as possible and make your children a part of what you are doing to get the family back on its feet.

#### ***Include children in the recovery activities:***

Give children chores that are their responsibility. This will help children feel they are part of the recovery. A child that feels part of the “family team” will be more self-assured.

#### ***Watch for changes in behavior:***

If you notice persistent changes in your child’s behavior (thumb sucking, bedwetting or clinging), seek the aid of a trained professional.

*Children and their families that have been taught preparedness and safety messages about disasters are better able to cope with the stress of a disaster. **Prepare now** it is the first step towards preventing problems later on.*

## **STEP FOUR:**

### **SPECIAL NEED FAMILY MEMBERS: ELDERLY/DISABLED**

*If I Am Elderly or Disabled and Need Help In the Event of a Disaster*

## **CALL YOUR PARISH COUNCIL ON AGING AND REGISTER YOURSELF**

Acadia Council on Aging	337-788-1400	Madison Council on Aging	318-574-3666
Allen Council on Aging	318-335-3195	Morehouse Council on Aging	318-283-0845
Ascension Council on Aging	225-473-3789	Natchitoches Council on Aging	318-357-3250
Assumption Council on Aging	985-369-7961	New Orleans Council on Aging	504-821-4121
Avoyelles Council on Aging	318-253-9771	Ouachita Council on Aging	318-387-0535
Beauregard Council on Aging	337-463-6578	Plaquemines Council on Aging	504-564-0600
Bienville Council on Aging	318-263-8936	Pointe Coupee Council on Aging	225-638-4402
Bossier Council on Aging	318-741-8302	Rapides Council on Aging	318-445-7985
Caddo Council on Aging	318-676-7900	Red River Council on Aging	318-932-5721
Calcasieu Council on Aging	337-474-2583	Richland Council on Aging	318-728-2646
Caldwell Council on Aging	318-649-2584	Sabine Council on Aging	318-256-4140
Cameron Council on Aging	337-905-6000	St. Bernard Council on Aging	504-278-7335
Catahoula Council on Aging	318-339-8111	St. Charles Council on Aging	985-783-6683
Claiborne Council on Aging	318-927-6922	St. Helena Council on Aging	225-222-6070
Concordia Council on Aging	318-336-7887	St. James Council on Aging	225-562-2372
Desoto Council on Aging	318-872-3700	St. John the Baptist Council on Aging	985-479-0272
East Baton Rouge Council on Aging	225-923-8000	St. Landry Council on Aging	337-942-1938
East Carroll Council on Aging	318-559-2774	St. Martin Council on Aging	337-332-3063
East Feliciana Council on Aging	225-683-9862	St. Mary Council on Aging	337-828-4100
Evangeline Council on Aging	337-363-5161	St. Tammany Council on Aging	985-892-0377
Franklin Council on Aging	318-435-7579	Tangipahoa Voluntary Council on Aging	985-748-7486
Grant Council on Aging	318-627-5757	Tensas Council on Aging	318-766-3770
Iberia Council on Aging	337-367-1556	Terrebonne Council on Aging	985-868-8411
Iberville Council on Aging	225-687-9682	Union Council on Aging	318-368-2205
Jackson Council on Aging	318-259-8962	Vermilion Council on Aging	337-893-2563
Jefferson Council on Aging	504-888-5880	Vernon Council on Aging	337-239-4361
Jefferson Davis Council on Aging	337-824-5504	Washington Council on Aging	985-839-4535
Lafayette Council on Aging	337-262-5990	Webster Council on Aging	318-371-3056
Lafourche Council on Aging	985-532-0457	West Baton Rouge Council on Aging	225-383-0638
Lasalle Council on Aging	318-992-4708	West Carroll Council on Aging	318-428-4217
Lincoln Council on Aging	318-255-5070	West Feliciana Council on Aging	225-635-6719
Livingston Council on Aging	225-664-9343	Winn Council on Aging	318-628-2186

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## **STEP FOUR:** **SPECIAL NEED FAMILY MEMBERS: ELDERLY/DISABLED**

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### **What About My Elderly Relatives In A Nursing Home Or Clients Of A Home Health Care Agency?**

Your elderly family members in Nursing Homes or who are clients of a Home Health Care agency need assistance in preparing for a natural disaster. You need to be aware of what disaster plan is available from these agencies. Ask questions and be prepared to lend assistance to these facilities to insure the safety of your elderly relatives.

#### **Call your local Nursing Home or Home Health Care providers and ask:**

- ✓ If they have a disaster plan and do they hold in-house emergency preparedness training for their employees.
- ✓ Confirm that they have identification procedures for the patients/clients that include bands or cards. These cards/bands should include name, age, medical condition and current medications.
- ✓ If they have evacuation transportation services and are they renewed annually.
- ✓ Do they have agreements with host facilities and are they renewed annually.
- ✓ Is there a check list of items that will accompany clients, including an adequate supply of medications and special foods.
- ✓ Do they have maps with evacuation routes highlighted.
- ✓ Confirm that there are transfer forms for authorizing admission of nursing facility residents into a hospital when necessary.
- ✓ Insure that relatives, friends or neighbors who have agreed to help in emergencies are alerted and ready to assist.

***Remember that your elderly family members will often be frightened and need to know where you will be during and after the emergency. Reestablish contact with them as soon as possible after the emergency has passed.***

#### **Louisiana Nursing Home Association**

**Do you need to locate a love one who has evacuated or find available nursing home placements? Call 225-927-5642**

## **STEP FOUR:** **SPECIAL NEED FAMILY MEMBERS: ELDERLY/DISABLED**

Elderly, homebound elderly, and disabled citizens in South Louisiana Parishes have special needs, especially in disaster or crisis situations.

Many cannot physically evacuate or may not understand that they must leave their homes in order to survive.

Government recognizes that elderly and disabled populations do have special needs, but because of the increasing numbers it would be impossible to provide aid to everyone without the “Buddy System.”

### **WHAT IS THE “BUDDY SYSTEM”?**

*The “Buddy System” is...*

...**A CARE PROGRAM** of relatives, neighbors, and friends, that offers assistance to someone in need or who cannot help themselves during emergencies, hurricanes or other times of crisis.

...**A COMMUNICATION DEVICE** that allows elderly, disabled, homebound or persons with language barriers to reach out to someone to help them.



### **What can I do to help?**

Become a “buddy” and help special needs citizens prepare before hurricane season begins by educating them and helping with any physical work needed in preparing their homes and property. Help them to shop for their necessary supplies. Post their disaster action plan “check list” in a visible location as a reminder. This tool will also help a “Buddy” when the emergency arises.

Bring your special needs family members, friends, and neighbors with you when you evacuate, if at all possible.



**Call TRAC TODAY to receive your free BUDDY GUIDE...**  
**YOU CAN BE A BUDDY TOO!**  
**1-877-TRAC-4-LA**

## **STEP FOUR:** **SPECIAL NEED FAMILY MEMBERS: ELDERLY/DISABLED**

### **Elderly/Disabled Check List** **UPDATE EVERY YEAR BEFORE HURRICANE SEASON**

#### **PURCHASE**

- One-Month Supply of Medications and Instructions
- One-Month Supply of Medical or Special Sanitary Needs
- One-Month Supply of Special Dietary Needs
- Hurricane Supplies: food, water, flashlight, batteries

#### **UPDATE**

- Name, address & phone of designated family member/friend to contact
- Medication List
- Special Doctor's Orders with their contact information
- Health Insurance Policy Information
- Register with Council On Aging
- Register for Evacuation Program
- Sheltering Information
- Evacuation Plan

#### **STORE**

##### *PAPER AND VALUABLES*

Secure all these items in waterproof containers or ziplock bags and store safely. Make copies in the event they are lost.

- Social Security Cards
- Birth Certificates
- Marriage & Death Certificates
- Driver's Licenses or Legal ID
- Cash and Credit Cards
- Wills
- Insurance Policies
- Deeds & Mortgages
- Stocks & Bonds
- Savings & Checking Books
- Inventory of Household Goods (by photo or videotape)
- Small Valuables: (jewelry, computer backups, cameras)



**STEP FIVE: PROVISIONS FOR ANIMALS**

**PETS: BEFORE AN EMERGENCY DEVELOPS** – it is important that you include a plan of action for your pets. Depending on your circumstances and the nature of the emergency the first important decision you make is whether you stay put or get away. You should understand and plan for both possibilities.

**IF YOUR CHOICE IS TO STAY HOME**, remember to shelter your pets inside with you. Store a 5-day supply of food and water for both you and your pets.

**IF YOU MUST EVACUATE**, take your pets with you. Pet-friendly shelters may be opened during an evacuation. However, if you are going to a public shelter, it is important to understand that animals may not be allowed inside. This information will be available at Emergency Shelter Information Points along Hurricane Evacuation Routes throughout the State (see page 41).



**PLAN IN ADVANCE FOR SHELTER ALTERNATIVES**, that will work for both you and your pets.

**PLACES YOUR PET CAN STAY:**

- ◆ A friend or family member's home in a safe inland area.
- ◆ A motel/hotel that allows pets.
- ◆ A kennel out of the risk area.

**PET SUPPLY KIT:**

- ◆ ID collar or microchip
- ◆ Current medical records
- ◆ Pet carrier or cage
- ◆ Leash
- ◆ Favorite toy & bedding
- ◆ Feeding & water bowls
- ◆ Food / water
- ◆ Medicines & 1<sup>st</sup> aid kit
- ◆ Extra newspaper & plastic trash bags (for cleanup)
- ◆ Cleaners & disinfectants
- ◆ Current photo of you and pet
- ◆ Kitty litter & scoop



**WHEN YOU RETURN, IF YOUR PET IS MISSING OR YOU FIND A LOST PET CONTACT YOUR LOCAL ANIMAL CONTROL.**



**PET FRIENDLY LODGING**

[www.petswelcome.com](http://www.petswelcome.com)  
[www.1clickpethotels.com](http://www.1clickpethotels.com)  
[www.petsonthego.com](http://www.petsonthego.com)

*MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE SAFETY OF YOUR PET, PLEASE CONTACT THE LOUISIANA SPCA AT 504-368-5191 • [www.la-sPCA.org](http://www.la-sPCA.org)*

## **STEP FIVE: PROVISIONS FOR ANIMALS**

### **LIVESTOCK:**

Evacuate livestock whenever possible. Arrangements for evacuation, including routes and host sites, should be made in advance. Alternate routes should be mapped out in case the planned route is inaccessible.

The evacuation sites should have or be able to readily obtain food, water, veterinary care, handling equipment, and facilities.

Trucks, trailers, and other vehicles appropriate for transporting each specific type of animal should be available, along with experienced handlers and drivers, to transport them. Whenever possible, the animals should be accustomed to these vehicles in advance so they're less frightened and easier to move.

It is also probable that after actual evacuation procedures are under way, the public safety officials may deny transport vehicles access to certain routes affected by high winds.

If evacuation is not possible, you must decide whether or not to move large animals to available shelters or turn them outside. You should base your decision on the soundness and location of the shelter.



All animals should have some form of identification. Also include in your emergency plans a list of the local agencies that can assist you if disaster strikes.

### **WILDLIFE:**

Not only pets are affected by disaster, but other animals in the disaster area are affected as well. Wild animals often seek higher ground which, during floods, eventually become submerged and the animals are stranded. You can leave food appropriate to the species. Wildlife often seek refuge on upper levels of a home and may remain inside even after the water recedes. If you meet a rat or snake face to face, be careful but don't panic. Open a window or other escape route and the animal will probably leave on its own. NEVER attempt to capture a wild animal unless you have the training and necessary equipment to perform the job. If you need help evicting your wild visitor, please contact your local Animal Control Center.

### **BIRDS:**

Birds must eat daily to survive. Talk with your veterinarian or local pet store about special food dispensers that regulate the food supply. Make sure your bird is caged and the cage is covered with a thin cloth to provide security and filtered light.

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## STEP SIX: PREPARING IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS & MEMORABILIA

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### DOCUMENTS

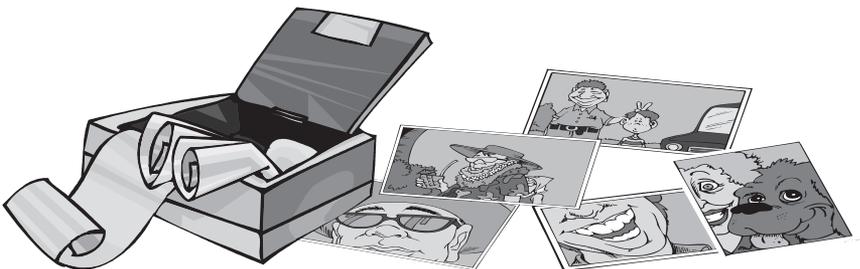
Secure all these items in waterproof containers and store safely or take with you if you evacuate. Make additional copies in the event they are destroyed.

- ❖ social security cards
- ❖ birth certificates
- ❖ marriage & death records
- ❖ driver's license
- ❖ cash & credit cards
- ❖ wills
- ❖ insurance policies
- ❖ deeds & mortgages
- ❖ stocks & bonds
- ❖ bank account records
- ❖ property inventory
- ❖ small valuables: cameras, jewelry
- ❖ computer backups

### MEMORABILIA

***Anything that is not replaceable  
should be protected.***

Family photographs of generations past, your children's mementos, or valuable heirlooms cannot be replaced. Placing these items in safe storage, such as a safety deposit box, is a wise choice. The greatest material loss in any disaster are those items that hold you and your family's memories deep within them. Protect these treasures with your heart.



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## STEP SEVEN: INSURANCE & PROPERTY INVENTORY

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### INSURANCE:

Appropriate and adequate insurance is an important component in recovering after a disaster. Ask your insurance agent for a review of your current policy. Upgrading your policy to maximize your coverage will minimize your losses during a disaster's aftermath.

*There are 4 types of property insurance available on the market today:*

#### 1. HOMEOWNER'S INSURANCE:

Usually covers losses caused by wind, storm, broken water pipes, but not surface flooding. Some policies may cover basement flooding caused by sewer backup or sump pump failure. In coastal areas some insurance companies are unable to include wind & hail coverage directly. An additional policy for that particular coverage must be purchased.

#### 2. WIND & HAIL INSURANCE:

Covers losses in coastal areas from the winds of a storm. This is an underwritten policy provided to homeowners when their main insurance provider is unable to include this coverage in their homeowner's policy.

#### 3. FLOOD INSURANCE:

All flood insurance policies are underwritten by the National Flood Insurance Program. This policy is available in communities that adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations to reduce future flood damage. All Southeast Louisiana parishes are participating communities. There is a 30 day waiting period before policy is activated.

#### 4. RENTER'S INSURANCE:

Insurance on the contents of your rental unit is available through a property protection policy. Flood insurance is also available to cover your contents through the National Flood Insurance Program.

### PROPERTY INVENTORY:

This project is crucial to the recovery of your losses after a disaster. **NOW IS THE TIME** to properly record your property and personal possessions. This can be done by photographs, videotape or with a manual record.

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#### INVENTORY INFORMATION SHOULD INCLUDE:

1. Date, value, and serial numbers of purchases
  2. Value for each of your personal belongings
-

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## STEP EIGHT: PROTECTING YOUR HOME & PROPERTY

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Four areas of your home are most vulnerable to wind damage: windows, doors, garage doors, and roof gable ends. If hurricane winds enter any opening, damage is much more likely to occur due to increased internal pressure and uplifting on walls and roof supports. **MAKE SURE ALL WINDOWS, DOORS AND OPENINGS ARE COMPLETELY CLOSED, COVERED AND BRACED.**

### Exterior Windows:

The best covering for your windows is some sort of shutter. Temporary shutters should be constructed from 5/8 inch plywood and should overlap the window by at least four inches on every side. Nailing the plywood to the house is adequate to use in haste, but bolting to the house ensures the plywood will not become detached.

### Large Windows - Glass Doors:

To further reinforce plywood over large windows and glass doors, bolt a two-by-four reinforcing beam across the plywood and angle another two-by-four from the reinforcing beam to a stake firmly embedded in the ground.

### Garage Doors:

Check with your local supplier for a manufacturer's retrofit kit or if this is not available install horizontal bracing onto each panel at its weakest point.

### Roof Gable Ends:

Cover the openings of a home's gabled ends using the same temporary shutter procedures for exterior windows. *The lesson learned from Hurricane Andrew was many gabled end homes were severely damaged when the wind blew in the window and allowed strong updrafts to rip off roofs.*

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## STOP THE MYTH

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Taping your windows does not protect them from anything! Windows are normally broken and destroyed by wind driven debris that tape will not deflect. Broken glass caused by wind driven debris creates an extremely sharp flying weapon. The only way to protect your windows and home is to shutter or board windows to keep the hurricane outside.

### HOME HAZARD HUNT:

During a storm ordinary objects can cause injury or damage. Anything that can move, fall, break or cause a fire is a home hazard. Inspect your home and fix any potential hazards. Teach all responsible family members the correct way to shut off all utilities in your home at the main source.

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## **STEP EIGHT: PROTECTING YOUR HOME & PROPERTY**

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### **PROTECTING YOUR ROOF:**

Regardless of your type of roof, hurricane straps are designed to increase the strength of the roof against uplifting forces. Hurricane straps are a galvanized metal bracing material that are designed to hold the roof joist to the top plate and enhance the bonding strength beyond that of regular nails. By placing these straps on every joist or every other joist will increase the strength of your roof 50% - 75%. In many regions hurricane straps are part of the building code for new construction and substantial renovations. Check in your attic to see if your home has these protective straps. Retrofitting your home with hurricane straps may be difficult for homeowners to install properly. It's worth the investment to have these hurricane straps installed. Contact your local builders before hurricane season begins.

### **OUTDOOR PROPERTY PLAN:**

Small items, such as children's toys, potted plants, lawn chairs may cause property damage and injury to persons if left loose outside during a hurricane. Survey your outdoor property and decide what you will do with the loose items. Make an action plan of what they are, how and where you will store or secure them. Post your plan in a visible place so that all family members can participate when the time to execute it arises. This will only take a few minutes but will limit the damage to both you and your neighbor's property .

### **BOATS AND AUTOS:**

Never attempt to ride out the storm in a boat or a car. More people are killed or injured inside vehicles due to natural disasters every year because they think they are safe. If possible, remove your boat from the water and park the boat and car in a garage or far away from trees and known areas that flood. If time permits, lengths of rope may be pulled over the boat and staked to the ground. An extra car may be staged away from your home for use if it is doubtful that you will be able to return home immediately after the storm.

### **TREES:**

Trees present a dilemma when it comes to disaster preparedness. Although they provide cool shade during the summer and help to lower utility bills, trees that are close to or hang over your house are more likely to cause severe damage in coastal regions. Large trees and limbs should be removed periodically to prevent roof damage or crushing of your house during a storm. A periodic tree maintenance check will help you keep on top of possible falling trees and limbs.

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## STEP NINE: PLAN FOR FAMILY NOTIFICATION & COMMUNICATION

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### COMMUNICATION MESSAGE CENTER:

When a disaster strikes your area, it is easier to make an out-of-state call than to try and reach your relatives and friends experiencing the same disaster locally. Therefore everyone involved should decide on:

### ONE OUT-OF-STATE CONTACT NUMBER:

*THIS WILL BE YOUR COMMUNICATION MESSAGE CENTER SO choose wisely who you entrust with this responsibility.*

### CRITERIA FOR CONTACT PERSON/S:

-  someone who responds well under stress
-  has call-waiting
-  owns an answering machine or cellular phone
-  willing to stay by the phone until the crisis is over

### THE RULES ARE SIMPLE:

1. Everyone in the family, wherever they are, must use that number to relay their condition, whereabouts, and personal messages.
2. Everyone must memorize that number. For infants, toddlers or the mentally challenged, write the number visibly on what they are wearing.
3. Teach everyone that will be using this number how to place a phone call without money (calling collect, phone card).



### RE-GROUPING LOCATION PLAN:

In the event that you are separated from one another, have a re-grouping location picked out. This is especially important for those families who have members working out of the area, offshore employees and emergency service providers.

## STEP TEN: FINANCIAL PLANNING

Most people assume that “a disaster will never happen here” or “we just had a bad one a few years ago, nothing will happen this year”. **The fact is, in Louisiana, a parish is declared a major disaster every 1.1 years!** How does this impact you? If you are not financially prepared to sustain yourself or your family for several days or even weeks outside of your home, it could spell trouble when a disaster does occur. The government can only react so fast to the disaster needs of individuals. As a potential disaster victim, you should be financially prepared to protect yourself from an impending disaster.

The following breakdown details the expenses for a family of four with a person that may require some sort of special assistance:

### Disaster Supplies Kit:

This kit includes your basic supplies such as water, food, first aid, clothing, bedding, tools, emergency supplies and special needs items. Most of these supplies can be found in and around your home, however, you should anticipate spending about **\$300 or more** on the items you don't already have. (see step 3 - pgs. 18-19)

### Securing the Home:

If your home does not have hurricane shutters the average cost to secure the vulnerable openings are as follows: **Windows: \$20.00 Doors: \$40.00.** Costs for these items may seem excessive, but compared to the cost of repairing your home, with or without insurance, it is minimal.

### Evacuation:

Cost of evacuating out of the risk area would include fuel expenses, eating in restaurants and staying in hotels; if you do not go to a shelter. Motel/Hotels average **\$60-\$99** per night. If bringing pets add **\$10.00** per day per pet for housing fees.

### Critical Medicine:

If you require special medication add to your budget the **cost for a month's supply.**

### Cash - on - hand:

It's a good idea to include this because during the event of a power outage the use of credit cards and bank cards could be limited. Caution should be exercised when carrying cash to ensure you are not the victim of a criminal.

### Decrease in Earnings:

You must also budget for a decrease in revenue. Unfortunately, you may be out of work for a few weeks. Consider a loss of wages.

**FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
ABOUT DESIGNING  
YOUR PERSONAL  
10-STEP DISASTER  
SURVIVAL PLAN**

#### **WATCH TRAC'S -**

***“Vanishing Coast, Vanishing Safety...Surviving Louisiana Storms”***

Check your local TV/Cable Listings throughout  
HURRICANE SEASON

**OR** Visit a public library nearest you and rent it **FREE**

**OR** View Online at TRAC's Multi-Media Room:

***www.trac4la.com***

## WHAT IS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT?

**THE OFFICES OF HOMELAND SECURITY/EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS** are responsible for the coordination of those actions needed to protect the lives and property of its residents when threatened from natural disasters, as well as man-made occurrences such as hazardous material incidents.

This coordination is possible through the development and constant updating of an Integrated Emergency Operating Plan that effectively combines all Parish Department Operations along with those of other service agencies during emergencies. Hazards analysis, mitigation efforts, preparedness, response and recovery procedures for all the potential hazards that could threaten our parishes are the year-round planning efforts performed and executed by the staff.

The Office of Homeland Security/ Emergency Preparedness operates from the Parish's Emergency Operating Center (EOC). It is the primary site for direction and control of emergency operations. The EOC linked with the 911 Communications Center, sheriff, police, fire, medical and all parish service departments work together to form the parish's emergency team.

### OHSEP STAFF AND EOC LOCATIONS:

OHSEP	DIRECTOR	LOCATION	WEBSITE
Acadia	Lee Hebert	568 NE Court Circle, Crowley 70526	<a href="http://www.apso.org">www.apso.org</a>
Ascension	Richard Weber	828 S. Irma Blvd. Bld 3, Gonzales 70737	<a href="http://www.ascension-caer.org">www.ascension-caer.org</a>
Assumption	John Boudreaux	105 Dr. MLK Dr., Napoleonville 70390	<a href="http://www.assumptionoep.com">www.assumptionoep.com</a>
Avoyelles	Anzell Jones	312 North Main St., Marksville 71351	<a href="http://www.lpgov.org">www.lpgov.org</a>
Beauregard	Ken Harlow	412 Meyeaux Dr., DeRidder 70634	<a href="http://www.beau.lib.la.us/~oem">www.beau.lib.la.us/~oem</a>
Jefferson	Col. David Dysart	910 3rd Street, Gretna 70053	<a href="http://www.jeffersonparish.net">www.jeffersonparish.net</a>
Lafourche	Chris Boudreaux	4876 Hwy 1, Mathews 70375	<a href="http://www.lafourchegov.org">www.lafourchegov.org</a>
Orleans	Jerry Sneed	1300 Perdido Rm. 9 E06, 70112	<a href="http://www.new-orleans.la.us">www.new-orleans.la.us</a>
Plaquemines	Guy Laigast	8056 Hwy 23 Ste. 308, Belle Chase 70037	<a href="http://www.plaquemineparish.com">www.plaquemineparish.com</a>
Rapides	Sonya Wiley-Gremillion	4216 Ellis Street, Alexandria 71302	<a href="http://www.rppj.com">www.rppj.com</a>
St. Bernard	John Rahaim, Jr.	8201 W. Judge Perez Dr., Chalmette 70043	<a href="http://www.st-bernard.la.us">www.st-bernard.la.us</a>
St. Charles	Scott Whelchel	15045 River Rd., Hahnville 70057	<a href="http://www.stcharlesgov.net">www.stcharlesgov.net</a>
St. James	Eric Deroche	5800 Hwy 44, Convent 70723	<a href="http://www.stjamesla.com">www.stjamesla.com</a>
St. John the Baptist	Kathryn Gilmore <a href="mailto:k.gilmore@sjbparish.com">k.gilmore@sjbparish.com</a>	1801 West Airline Hwy, Laplace 70068	<a href="http://www.sjbparish.com">www.sjbparish.com</a>
St. Landry	Lisa Vidrine	780 Hwy 742, Opelousas 70570	no website available
St. Martin	Terry Guidry	4870 Main Hwy, St. Martinville 70582	no website available
St. Mary	Duval H. Arthur, Jr.	500 Main Street, Franklin 70538	<a href="http://www.parish.st-mar.la.us">www.parish.st-mar.la.us</a>
St. Tammany	Dexter Accardo	510 East Boston Street, Covington 70434	<a href="http://www.stpgov.org">www.stpgov.org</a>
Tangipahoa	Dawson Primes	206 East Mulberry, Amite 70422	<a href="http://www.tangicouncil.com">www.tangicouncil.com</a>
Terrebonne	Earl Eues	112 Capital Blvd, Houma 70360	<a href="http://www.tpcg.org">www.tpcg.org</a>
Vermilion	Rebecca Broussard	100 N. State St. Ste. 200, Abbeville 70510	<a href="http://www.vermilionparishpolicyjury.com">www.vermilionparishpolicyjury.com</a>
Washington	Tommy Thiebaut	803 Pearl Street, Franklinton 70438	<a href="http://www.wpgov.org">www.wpgov.org</a>

# ALL EMERGENCIES.....911

## NON-EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

### LA Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness

800-256-7036  
www.ohsep.louisiana.gov

Acadia	337-783-4357	St. Charles	985-783-5050
Ascension	225-621-8360	St. James	225-562-2364
Assumption	985-369-7351	St. John	985-652-2222
Avoyelles	318-240-9160	St. Landry	337-948-7177
Beauregard	337-463-3282	St. Martin	337-394-3071
Jefferson	504-349-5360	St. Mary	337-828-4100 ext. 135
Lafourche	985-532-8174	St. Tammany	985-898-2359
Orleans	504-658-8700	Tangipahoa	985-748-3211
Plaquemines	504-274-2476	Terrebonne	985-873-6357
Rapides	318-445-0396	Vermilion	337-898-4308
St. Bernard	504-278-4268	Washington	985-839-0434

### American Red Cross

866-GET-INFO or 866-438-4636  
www.redcross.org

Acadiana Chapter (Lafayette)	337-234-7371
Central Louisiana Chapter (Alexandria)	318-442-6621
Louisiana Capital Area Chapter (Baton Rouge)	225-291-4533
Northeast Louisiana Chapter (Monroe)	318-323-5141
Northwest Louisiana Chapter (Shreveport)	318-865-9545
Southeast Louisiana Chapter (Greater New Orleans)	504-620-3105
Southwest Louisiana Chapter (Lake Charles)	337-478-5122
St. Bernard Parish Chapter (Chalmette)	504-277-8163

### Louisiana State Police

www.lsp.org

Road Closure Information	800-469-4828
Troop A Baton Rouge	800-969-2059
Troop B Kenner	800-964-8076
Troop C Gray	800-659-5907
Troop D Lake Charles	888-225-5577
Troop E Alexandria	800-256-4160
Troop F Monroe	866-292-8320
Troop G Bossier City	866-853-6580
Troop I Lafayette	888-768-8746
Troop L Covington	888-339-8659

*Or dial \*577 from a cellular phone*

### LA Dept. of Social Services

www.dss.state.la.us

### LA Dept. of Health and Hospitals

www.dhh.state.la.us

### LA Dept. of Transportation and Development

225-379-1232  
www.dotd.louisiana.gov



**!** Study this map and **CHOOSE YOUR ROUTE WISELY**. There will be many restrictions on the Interstate system. Upon entering the contraflow area, it may not be possible to change routes. Contraflow operations will begin when evacuations are initiated in Jefferson and Orleans parishes. If you do not wish to evacuate under the contraflow restrictions, your best strategy is to **LEAVE EARLY** before contraflow is activated. **!**

### I-10 West Contraflow Lanes:

- The eastbound and westbound lanes of I-10 from Clearview Parkway in Metairie to I-55 North in Laplace will be used as westbound lanes. On the Contraflow Plan, the normal westbound lanes are shown with BROWN arrows and the Contraflow (eastbound) lanes are shown with BLUE arrows.
- All I-10 West entrances through New Orleans, Metairie and Kenner will be used in their normal manner to gain access to I-10 West.

### I-55 North Contraflow Lanes:

- The northbound and southbound lanes of I-55 from I-12 in Hammond to the Mississippi state line will be used as northbound lanes. On the Contraflow Plan, the normal northbound lanes are shown with RED arrows and the Contraflow (southbound) lanes are shown with BROWN arrows.
- Traffic traveling I-55 North (BROWN) will be diverted onto I-55 North Contraflow and will only be allowed to exit at two locations: Exit 47 (LA-16) in Amite and Exit 61 (LA-38) in Kentwood.

### I-59 North Contraflow Lanes:

- The northbound and southbound lanes of I-59, north of the I-10/I-12/I-59 interchange, will be used as northbound lanes. On the Contraflow Plan, the normal northbound lanes are shown with PURPLE arrows and the Contraflow (southbound) lanes are shown with GREEN arrows.

### BROWN Arrows (I-10/I-55 North to Hammond and Mississippi):

- In LaPlace, the I-10 West (BROWN) lanes will be diverted to I-55 North toward Hammond and Mississippi. Traffic will not be allowed to continue on I-10 West at this interchange.
- All traffic traveling on I-55 North will travel in the existing northbound lanes.
- When traffic traveling on I-55 North reaches the I-55/I-12 interchange in Hammond, I-55 will begin to Contraflow (both the north and south lanes will travel north into Mississippi).

### BLUE Arrows (I-10 West to Baton Rouge):

- Traffic destined for Baton Rouge may enter the Contraflow (eastbound) lanes from Clearview Parkway, Veterans Boulevard or Williams Boulevard in Jefferson Parish (see diagrams).
- Traffic destined for Baton Rouge may enter Contraflow (eastbound) lanes from I-10 West via a crossover at the Clearview Parkway overpass. This is the only opportunity to enter Contraflow (eastbound) lanes from I-10 West without exiting and re-entering the Interstate.
- In LaPlace, I-10 Contraflow traffic (BLUE) will be diverted onto the westbound lanes of I-10 and will continue west on I-10 toward Baton Rouge.

### RED Arrows: (Lake Pontchartrain Causeway to Covington, I-12, Hammond, Mississippi):

- Northbound traffic on the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway (RED) will be diverted onto I-12 West (RED) at the US-190/I-12 interchange and will continue on I-12 West to Hammond.
- I-12 West (RED) will be diverted onto I-55 North (RED) at the I-12/I-55 interchange in Hammond.
- I-55 North (RED) will continue north into Mississippi.

### GREEN Arrows (I-10 East to I-59, North to Slidell, Mississippi):

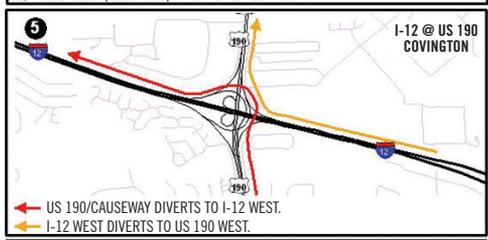
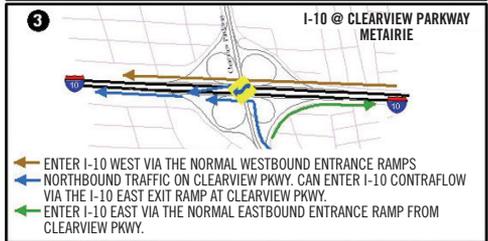
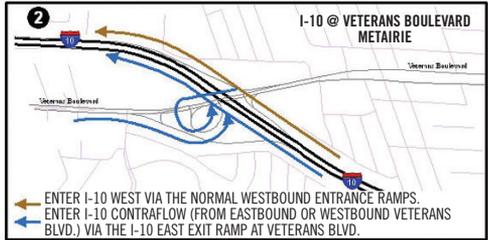
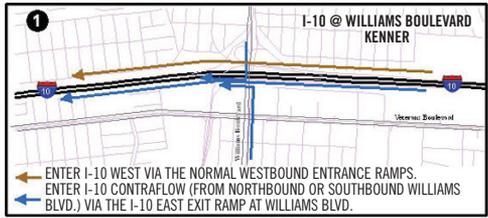
- I-10 East traffic (GREEN) from New Orleans will cross the I-10 Twin Spans using the three eastbound lanes.
- Contraflow of I-59 will begin at the I-10/I-12/I-59 interchange.
- At the I-10/I-12/I-59 interchange, the left and center lanes of eastbound I-10 will be diverted onto southbound I-59 (GREEN). Only the right lane will continue onto I-59 North (PURPLE).
- The I-10 East (GREEN) traffic will not be allowed to continue on I-10 East or enter I-12 West.

### PURPLE Arrows (I-59 North to Mississippi from I-10 West):

- I-10 East traffic (GREEN) from New Orleans will cross the I-10 East Twin Spans using the three eastbound lanes.
- Only the right lane (GREEN) will continue onto I-59 North (PURPLE).
- All traffic on I-10 West (PURPLE) from Mississippi will be diverted on I-59 North (PURPLE) at the I-10/I-12/I-59 interchange.
- I-10 West traffic will not be allowed to continue on I-10 or I-12.

### ORANGE Arrows (I-12 Westbound - Covington/Hammond):

- Traffic traveling on I-12 West (RED) between Covington (US-190) and Hammond (I-55) will NOT be allowed to continue on I-12 West. This traffic must divert onto I-55 North.
- Traffic traveling on I-12 West between Slidell (I-10/I-12/I-59 interchange) and Covington (US-190) will NOT be allowed to continue I-12 West. This traffic will be diverted onto US-190 West.
- Traffic traveling on US-190 West will be allowed to continue to Baton Rouge.



All interstate exit ramps will be open to normal traffic flow. Interstate exit ramps in the Contraflow lanes will be limited and marked with variable message boards.

\*The Contraflow Plan can be viewed online at [www.lsp.org](http://www.lsp.org).

As of January 1, 1997 all licensed broadcast stations were upgraded to the Emergency Alert System (EAS). This is a new state-of-the-art digital system which will allow better dissemination of emergency information and instructions from federal, state, and local authorities.

All residents should monitor their local EAS station for authoritative evacuation and shelter information.

The EAS radio station will broadcast the latest:

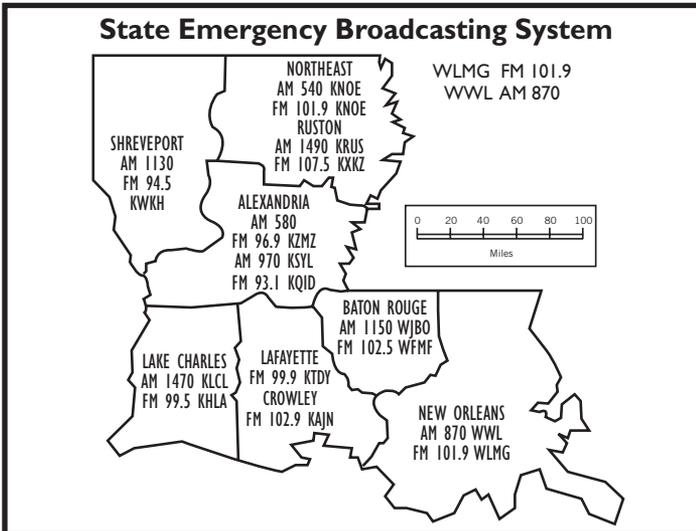
- weather reports
- road conditions
- shelter locations
- re-entry information (date, time & risk areas)



**As the storm gets closer to the risk area:  
INFORMATION WILL BE ISSUED EVERY TWO  
HOURS**

Evacuation Route Signs are located on all Parish as well as State roads which have been designated as major evacuation routes.

The square sign indicates the EAS radio station to monitor for the particular area you are traveling through.





# Working Together to Save Lives

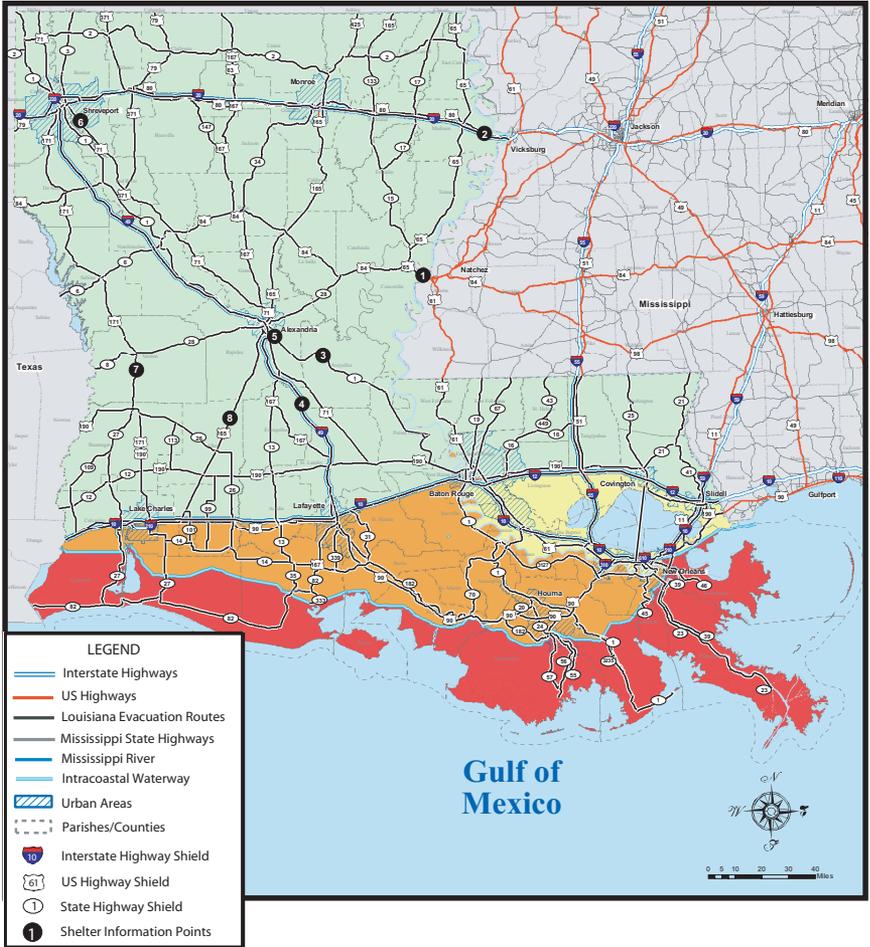


## ALL HAZARDS NOAA WEATHER RADIO (NWR)

- NWR is an all-hazards public warning system, broadcasting forecasts, warnings and emergency information 24 hours a day directly to the public.
- “All Hazards” messages include:
  - **natural** (e.g., tornado, hurricane, floods, earthquakes)
  - **technological accidents** (e.g., chemical release, oil spill, nuclear power plant emergencies, maritime accidents, train derailments)
  - **AMBER alerts**
  - **terrorist attacks**
- Non-weather emergency messages will be broadcast over NWR when: (1) public safety is involved, (2) the message comes from an official government source, and (3) time is critical.
- The National Response Plan assigns responsibility to the National Weather Service (NWS) to broadcast non-weather emergency messages.
- Non-weather emergency messages will be broadcast over NWR at the request of local and/or state officials. The NWS does not initiate the contact nor the message. When local or state officials wish to broadcast a message on NWR, the officials provide text information about the hazard and the appropriate response directly to the local NWS offices. NWS offices have set up pre-arranged agreements to facilitate and speed the process.
- NWR and the Emergency Alert System (EAS) use the same digital protocols, and NWR is the primary means for NWS alerts to activate the EAS. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) amended the EAS rules in 2002 and adopted numerous new event codes. NWS introduced the new codes on June 30, 2004.

### Related Web Sites:

- NWS Home Page.....[www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov) OR [www.nws.noaa.gov](http://www.nws.noaa.gov)
- NOAA Weather Radio Home Page.....[www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr)
- NWS All Hazards Web Page..... [www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/allhazard.htm](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/allhazard.htm)
- NWS EAS Information Web Page ... [www.nws.noaa.gov/os/NWS\\_EAS.shtml](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/NWS_EAS.shtml)



## PHASED EVACUATION

During a threat of a hurricane, a phased evacuation will be based on geographic location and time in which tropical storm winds are forecasted to reach the affected areas.

**Phase 1** - 50 Hours before onset of tropical storm winds. Includes areas south of the Intracoastal Waterway. These areas are outside any levee protection system and are vulnerable to Category 1 and 2 storms. These areas are depicted in **RED** on the Evacuation Map. During Phase 1 there are no route restrictions.

**Phase 2** - 40 Hours before onset of tropical storm winds. Includes areas south of the Mississippi River which are levee protected but remain vulnerable to Category 2 or higher storms. These areas are depicted in **ORANGE** on the Evacuation Map. During Phase 2 there are no route restrictions.

**Phase 3** - 30 Hours before onset of tropical storm winds. Includes areas on the East Bank of the Mississippi River in the New Orleans Metropolitan Area which are within the levee protection system but remain vulnerable to a slow-moving Category 3 or any Category 4 or 5 storm. These areas are depicted in **YELLOW** on the Evacuation Map. During Phase 3, certain routes will be directed and the Contraflow Plan implemented.

Phased evacuation procedures are for traffic management purposes only. Consult your local Office of Emergency Preparedness Director for further evacuation information.

# EMERGENCY SHELTER INFORMATION POINTS FOR HURRICANE EVACUATIONS:

	<b>EVACUATION AREA OF THE STATE</b>	<b>INFORMATION POINT LOCATION</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>
<b>1</b>	Re-entry from Mississippi on US 65 & US 84	Tourist Welcome Center	US 65 & 84 1401 Carter St. (US 84) Vidalia, LA
<b>2</b>	Re-entry from Mississippi on I-20	Tourist Welcome Center	836 I-20 West Tallulah, LA
<b>3</b>	From the Southeast area on LA 1	Paragon Casino	711 Paragon Place Marksville, LA
<b>4</b>	From the Southeast/Central areas on I-49	Sammy's Truck Stop	I-49, Exit 53 3601 LA 115 W Bunkie, LA
<b>5</b>	From the Southeast/Central areas on US 71	Med Express Office	7525 US 71 Alexandria, LA
<b>6</b>	From the Southeast/Southwest/Central areas on US 171 and I-49	P.E. Gym LSU-Shreveport	One University Place Shreveport, LA
<b>7</b>	From the Southwest area on US 171	Pickering High School	180 Lebleu Rd. Leesville, LA
<b>8</b>	From the Southwest/Central areas on US 165	Tourist Information Center	8904 US 165 Oberlin, LA
<b>9</b>	From Southeast area on LA1	Maddie's Truck Plaza	15972 Hwy. 1 Simmsport, LA

The Information Sites will be located if possible at locations/near locations that can provide re-fueling of vehicles, food and restroom facilities. When you arrive at the Information Site you will be screened to determine which type of shelter will facilitate your needs. You will be provided directions to the shelter and shelter registration forms which must be completed before arriving at assigned shelter.

Public Shelters are operated by trained individuals and ensure that the safety, security, and basic needs of its residents are met.

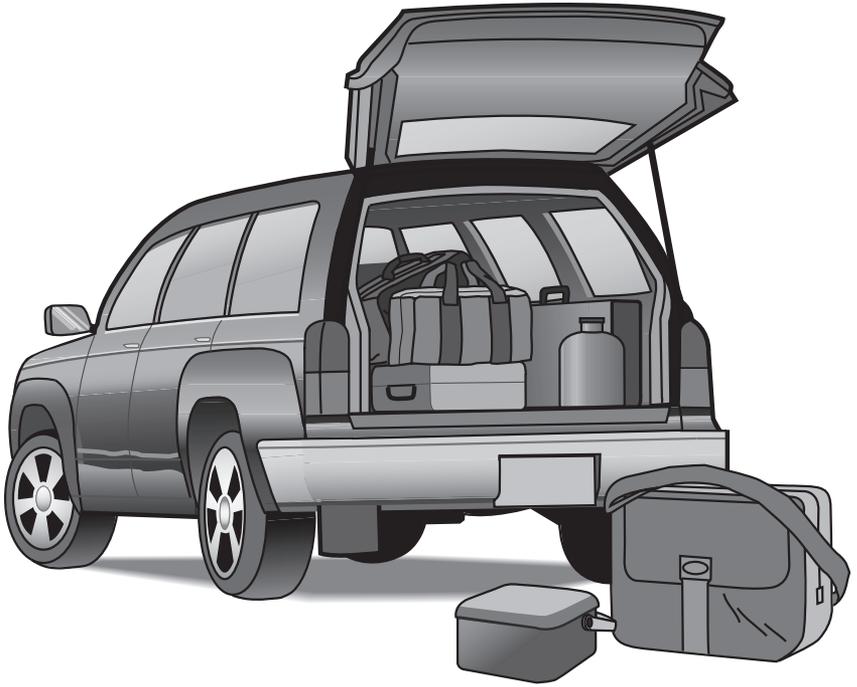
**What to Bring:**

- Change of clothing, blanket and pillow for each family member.
- Your disaster supply kit, including food, medications, comfort items and special items for infants and/or the elderly.

**What Not to Bring:**

- There are NO weapons, drugs or alcohol allowed.



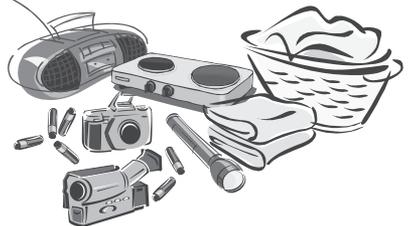


## LEAVE EARLY

Both the **STATE** and **LOCAL PLANS** include provisions to coordinate bridge openings for marine travel, for vehicle breakdowns, and for those residents who do not have transportation of their own.

## PREPARE AN EMERGENCY CAR KIT:

- ✓ battery powered radio and extra batteries
- ✓ flashlight and extra batteries
- ✓ blanket
- ✓ booster cables
- ✓ fire extinguisher (5lb. A-B-C type)
- ✓ first aid kit
- ✓ bottled water
- ✓ non-perishable high energy foods such as:  
*granola bars, peanut butter, raisins*
- ✓ maps
- ✓ shovel
- ✓ tire repair kit and pump
- ✓ flares



## SANDBAGS FOR FLOOD PROTECTION

Sandbags are one of the most well-known devices for keeping floodwater out of your property. Remember that if there is a flood in your area demand may exceed supply as people rush to buy them.

You can prevent or reduce flooding by taking steps to stop flood water entering your home or workplace. This can be done by blocking doorways and airbricks from the outside with sandbags.

### HOW TO FILL AND POSITION SANDBAGS

Unless you have access to a sandbag filling machine, this is a two-person job – one to hold the bag open and one to fill.

- Sand is abrasive – both people should wear protective gloves.
- Do not fill bags more than half full.
- It is not necessary to tie the end of the bag.
- Remove any debris from the area where the bags are to be placed.
- Lift the sandbags by the neck, place the half filled bags lengthways across the doorway and parallel to the direction of the water flow. Tuck the opened end under the filled half of the bag and position it pointing into the water flow. Ensure it is bedded in against the door and frame.
- Place bags in layers. Like a brick wall, make sure that in the next layer each bag overlaps the one below by half.
- Stamp bags firmly into place to eliminate gaps and create a tight seal.

### Pyramid Placing Method

If you need to create sandbag protection that is more than three layers high you will need to build a pyramid style. For the structure to be stable, you should build the 'sandbag wall' three times as wide as you need it to be high. It will also be more effective if you alternate the layers lengthways and crosswise. Stamp each bag in place and tuck the loose end firmly under the filled portion of the bag.

### Additional Waterproofing

Lay plastic sheeting across the side of the 'sandbag wall' that will face the floodwater. Weigh down with additional sandbags.

Remember, sandbags are popular but they have disadvantages:

- During an emergency sufficient quantity may be difficult to obtain.
- They are time-consuming and require two people to fill.
- They can be difficult to handle, particularly for the elderly or infirm.
- When they come into contact with floodwater they tend to retain contaminants such as sewage.
- Sacking material is biodegradable and will disintegrate if left in place for long periods of time. Polypropylene bags do not do this.
- Keep your sandbags out of the rain and sunshine to make sure they last longer.

#### SANDBAG LOCATIONS:

Contact your Emergency Management Officials  
for Sandbag Locations Nearest You



**WHEN TOLD TO EVACUATE:**

- Stay Calm.
- Fuel your car and check spare tire.
- Take along your 3-day disaster survival supplies: non-perishable foods, water, clothing, sleeping gear, medicines, first aid kit.
- A battery-powered weather radio.
- Flashlights with extra batteries.
- Extra set of car keys.
- Credit card and/or cash.
- Special items for infants, elderly and disabled family members (*if applicable*).
- All important documents such as insurance, mortgage, and household inventory.

**REMEMBER TO DO THE FOLLOWING:**

- Turn off electricity at main box, gas heating, cooling and ventilation systems.
- Lock the house.
- Let others know when you leave and where you are going.
- Make arrangements for your animals.
- Use recommended evacuation routes.
- Tune in to local EAS radio broadcast stations for evacuation & shelter information.




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**EVACUATION DRIVING  
TIME FORMULA:  
Multiply regular driving time X 4**

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**HOTEL RESERVATION NUMBERS OUT OF RISK AREA:**

*\*check hotel before bringing any pets*

SLEEP INN	}	1-877-4-CHOICE 1-877-424-6423	BEST WESTERN	800-780-7234
COMFORT INN			DAYS INN	800-741-5072
COMFORT SUITES			HAMPTON INN	800-426-7866
CLARION			HOLIDAY INN	800-315-2621
ECONO LODGE			HOWARD JOHNSON	800-221-5801
RODEWAY			RAMADA INN	800-854-9517
MAIN STAY SUITES			TRAVEL LODGE	800-525-4055
QUALITY INN				
SUBURBAN SUITES				



# WHAT TO BRING TO A SHELTER:

*Local Shelters  
5-7 Days of Supplies*

*Out of Risk Area Shelters  
3-5 Days of Supplies*

Blankets, pillows and sleeping gear	X	
Non-perishable foods	X	X
Special dietary needs	X	X
Baby food, formula, diapers, wipes	X	X
Personal hygiene items	X	X
Medical records / Important papers	X	X
All medications	X	X
Extra clothing	X	X
Comfort items	X	X
Water	X	
Flashlights and extra batteries	X	
Disinfectant	X	
Portable ice chest	X	

## DO

- register at the shelter when you arrive
- familiarize yourself with the exits, bathrooms and safest locations
- understand that shelters could be crowded with very little privacy
- make the best of the situation, work together and try to help others
- listen to the shelter guidelines
- remember that the shelter staff are volunteers possibly with family be courteous at all times

## DON'T

- bring firearms, weapons or alcohol to a shelter
- leave until you are told that it is safe
- bring valuables with you; make arrangements for safekeeping

**GENERAL RE-ENTRY GUIDELINES:**

1. Remain in shelter or safe haven until informed by local authorities that it is safe to return to your home.
2. Keep tuned to your local radio or television station for advice and instructions regarding emergency medical, food, housing, and other forms of assistance.
3. Stay out of the disaster areas. Sightseeing is dangerous and it interferes with essential rescue and recovery work.
4. Do not drive unless you must. Debris filled streets may be undermined and could collapse under the weight of a car.
5. Avoid loose and dangling wires. Report them immediately to the utility, fire or police departments.
6. Report broken sewer, gas or water mains to the appropriate service authority.
7. Prevent fires. Because of decreased water pressure firefighting becomes difficult.

**EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM WILL BROADCAST THE LATEST:**

- weather reports • road conditions • shelter locations
- re-entry information (date, time & risk areas)

**GENERAL DEBRIS REMOVAL:**

Debris is hazardous. It often has sharp or rough edges; it may cause falls; it may contain hazardous material such as asbestos, lead or fiberglass; and it may have been contaminated with chemicals or germs by the flood or storm.

**CONTAMINATION:**

Flood waters may have picked up pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, gasoline, and other chemicals commonly held in household storage areas. The bacteria which causes tetanus (lockjaw) may lie dormant in soil. This is why cuts from tools or other objects that have been on the ground are particularly hazardous. Keep that tetanus shot current !

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:**

Some of the debris on your property may contain asbestos (roofing, siding, flooring tiles) or be painted with lead-based pre-1978 paint. Airborne asbestos & lead dust are dangerous to inhale or ingest. They should be handled with gloves and bagged while wet. Fiberglass fibers from insulation will irritate skin and lungs; so collect carefully and bag.

**BURNING:**

If burning is permitted in your parish, be particularly careful not to burn asphalt roofing, vinyl siding or any form of treated lumber. The smoke can cause eye and lung irritation. Don't burn wood with lead-based paint since the fumes are poisonous.

**INFESTATION:**

Proper cleanup and disposal of debris will reduce the potential for rodents, snakes and insects. If your debris will not be disposed of quickly, be sure to pile it as far from the home as possible. Don't let children play on or around debris.

- Listen to local news media for debris removal information
  - Separate flammable & nonflammable debris
  - Segregate household cleaners from other debris
  - Place debris at curbside
  - Keep debris piles away from fire hydrants & valves
  - Report locations of illegal dumping & dump sites
  - Segregate recyclable materials

Severe water inundation (flooding) and high winds could create problems involving hazardous materials. The following is a guide to assist you with this potential problem:

1. Know your surroundings, be observant to what is around you.
2. If flooding is eminent, move household chemicals to a secure elevated area out of the floodwater's reach.
3. Stay away from any unknown material floating on or in the water.
4. Avoid breathing odors or fumes.
5. Stay away from visible clouds by moving indoors.
6. Notify local authorities immediately at 9-1-1 to report the release of any chemicals.
7. Stay out of any area suspected of containing any hazardous materials or chemicals.
8. Avoid using open flames. (Barbecue pits, butane burners, etc.)
9. During a chemical release in adverse weather conditions you should immediately shelter-in-place.

**How to Shelter in Place:**

- a. Go inside immediately.
- b. Turn off air conditioner, heater and any exhaust fans.
- c. Close all doors, windows and fireplace dampers.
- d. Turn on your TV or radio.
- e. Seal seams or cracks, if possible.
- f. Stay inside until an "all clear" is given.

10. If you think you have come in contact with a chemical while in the water, you should thoroughly wash the area with clean water and seek medical attention.
11. Stay tuned to your local radio and/or television station.
12. Follow the instructions of your public officials.
13. Keep this booklet handy. Please store with your family disaster supply kit.
14. If you have evacuated, use extreme caution when returning to your area after a flood and/or hurricane. Be aware of potential chemical hazards that you may encounter. Floodwaters may have buried or moved hazardous chemical containers from their normal storage place, including solvents, aerosol cans, and industrial chemicals.
15. If any tank or drums are discovered please do not attempt to handle them yourself. Call the local authorities at: 9-1-1
16. If you have any questions concerning hazardous materials please call your local emergency management officials or **STATE POLICE HOTLINE at: 225-925-6595 or 877-925-6595.**

**WATER:**

The most **essential and life sustaining item you will need**. Stocking water reserves and learning how to purify contaminated water should be among your top priorities for an emergency.

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**FORMULA FOR CONSUMPTION:  
1 gallon a day per person for 7 days.**

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In hot environments children, elderly, and nursing mothers require more water.

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**STORAGE:** Always store water in a cool, dark place. Also store water in your freezer in ziplock bags. The shelf life for water is approximately 6 months. **REMEMBER** - a **full freezer** runs more efficiently year round and will keep your frozen foods from spoilage for a least 72 hours.

**WATER RESOURCES:**

**Bottled Water:** is a readily available resource in a variety of container sizes.

**Tap Water:** always ADD 8 drops of liquid chlorine bleach (5.25% sodium hypochlorite/no soap) per gallon of tap water at the time you are filling your plastic containers.

**HIDDEN WATER RESOURCES IN YOUR HOME:**

**Water Beds:** contain 400 gallons of water. If you designate your bed as an emergency water supply, put fresh water and add 2 ounces of bleach per 120 gallons.

**Hot Water Tank:** flush out before hurricane season, removing all sediment. To use this source open the drain at the bottom of the tank, making sure that the tank's gas or electricity source is **OFF**. **Turn off the water intake valve, and turn on a hot water faucet to start the flow.**

**3 WAYS TO PURIFY WATER:**

**Purification Tablets:** inexpensive, available at drug or sporting goods stores.

**Boiling:** is the safest method. Bring to a boil for 10 minutes and pour back and forth between containers to put back the oxygen.

**Chlorination:** use liquid chlorine bleach to kill organisms. **8 drops of liquid chlorine bleach (5.25% sodium hypochlorite/no soap) per gallon.**

**FOOD:** Food provisions and liquids for people during a period of emergency or catastrophe rank in the top priority along with medical care. It is important to select foods which are familiar to your family and which will last for months without refrigeration. Realize that without refrigeration, food poisoning poses a real danger in the summer heat and humidity along the Hurricane Belt. Whenever possible choose foods in waterproof containers or store in waterproof containers.

**STORAGE OF DISASTER SUPPLIES:**

Should be stored in a convenient place known to all family members. Keep a smaller version of the Disaster Supplies Kit in the trunk of your car.

- Keep items in airtight plastic bags.
- Change your stored water supply every six months.
- Rotate your stored food every six months.
- Rethink your kit and family needs at least once a year.
- Replace batteries, update clothing items.
- Check with your pharmacist about storing prescription medications.

## **Emergency generators are most often used in one of two ways:**

### **1. To provide electricity to one or two appliances plugged into a generator.**

This is the safest method and easiest to set up. The generator is placed outdoors, brought up to its speed, voltage, and frequency, and the appliance is plugged into the generator's 120 volt outlet. In this case there is no danger of electric power being fed back into the electric company's system.

### **2. To provide electricity for the entire building, or most of it, where the appliances remain plugged into the wall sockets and electricity flows through the house wiring.**

This type of installation usually involves a permanently mounted generator and special wiring. If the generator is not properly wired into the building there is a danger of back-feeding electricity into the electric company's system. ***This is very dangerous and could result in serious injury or death to anyone coming into contact with electric lines while working to restore power in an emergency.*** To provide this type of installation as safely as possible, a transfer switch must be installed that will break the connection to the electric company's service when the generator is in use and, similarly, disconnect the generator connection when normal power has been restored. This switch is normally located between the customer's main service panel and the power sources.

Single phase electric service requires a two pole, double throw switch. Three phase service requires a three pole, double throw switch. Installation must be performed by a licensed electrician and must conform to the National Electric Code.

**REMEMBER:**  
Running a generator attached to house wiring without a transfer switch could kill someone.



1. Call your insurance adjuster immediately. Be patient.
2. Take photos **BEFORE** any cleanup for use in inventory. Once your documentation has been completed begin cleanup and salvage as soon as possible. Make any temporary repairs to avoid further damage (*keep receipts for reimbursement*).
3. Keep damaged items available for proof of loss.
4. Leave phone number(s) available so you can be reached.
5. Owner should sign proof of loss statement after the adjuster's assessment.
6. Report additional damages when discovered or if they are not listed on original assessment.
7. Report theft and looting to the police or sheriff's departments.
8. Make a list of damaged articles from your household inventory records and provide a copy to your adjuster.
9. Save all receipts relating to temporary lodging and food if your home is uninhabitable.
10. File your claim within your policy's imposed time limits. Make and keep all copies of information and correspondence sent to your insurance company for future reference.
11. Review the settlement steps outlined in your particular policy. If you are dissatisfied with the proposed settlement you may wish to submit the dispute for reconsideration. It is a good idea to leave the status of your settlement "open" in the event that unforeseeable losses may occur months later.

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**CONTACT YOUR INDIVIDUAL INSURANCE AGENCY  
BE PATIENT, DEPENDING ON THE MAGNITUDE OF  
THE DISASTER SERVICE MAY NOT BE AS  
EXPEDIENT AS YOU WOULD LIKE**

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The IHP - Housing Assistance assures that people whose homes are damaged by disaster have a safe place to live. The IHP - Other Needs Assistance (ONA) provides financial assistance to individuals and households who have other disaster-related necessary expenses or serious needs and do not qualify for a low interest loan from Small Business Administration (SBA). These programs are designed to provide funds for expenses that are not covered by insurance. They are available only to homeowners and renters who are United States citizens, non-citizen nationals, or qualified aliens affected by the disaster. The following is a list of the types of assistance available through this program and what each provides.

**Temporary Housing** - homeowners and renters receive funds to rent a different place to live or a temporary housing unit when rental properties are not available.

**Repair** - homeowners receive grants to repair damage from the disaster that is not covered by insurance. The goal is to make the damaged home safe and sanitary.

**Replacement** - under rare conditions, homeowners receive limited funds to replace their disaster damaged home.

**Permanent Housing Construction** - homeowners and renters receive direct assistance or a grant for the construction of a new home. This type of assistance occurs only in very unusual situations, in insular areas or remote locations specified by FEMA/EPR where no other type of housing is possible.

**Other Needs Assistance (ONA)** - applicants receive grants for necessary and serious needs caused by the disaster. This includes medical, dental, funeral, personal property, transportation, moving and storage, and other expenses that FEMA/EPR approves. The homeowner may need to apply for a SBA loan before receiving assistance.

**Small Business Administration Disaster Loans** can make federally subsidized loans to repair or replace homes, personal property or businesses that sustained damages not covered by insurance. The Small Business Administration can provide three types of disaster loans to qualified homeowners and businesses:

1. **home disaster loans** to homeowners and renters to repair or replace disaster-related damages to home or personal property,
2. **business physical disaster loans** to business owners to repair or replace disaster-damaged property, including inventory, and supplies; and
3. **economic injury disaster loans**, which provide capital to small businesses and to small agricultural cooperatives to assist them through the disaster recovery period.

For many individuals the SBA disaster loan program is the primary form of disaster assistance.

**Disaster Unemployment Assistance** provides unemployment benefits and re-employment services to individuals who have become unemployed because of major disasters. Benefits begin with the date the individual was unemployed due to the disaster incident and can extend up to 26 weeks after the Presidential declaration date. All unemployed individuals must register with the State's employment services office before they can receive DUA benefits.

**Legal Services** are provided to low income individuals who, prior to or because of the disaster, are unable to secure legal services adequate to meet their needs as a consequence of a major disaster. The assistance that participating lawyers provide typically includes: Assistance with insurance claims (life, medical, property, etc.). Counseling on landlord/tenant problems. Assistance with consumer protection matters, remedies, and procedures. Replacement of wills and other important legal documents destroyed in a major disaster.

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**FOR BOTH FEMA AND SBA APPLICATIONS:  
CALL: 1-800-462-9029**

**FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL OFFICE OF  
HOMELAND SECURITY/EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RED CROSS,  
SALVATION ARMY OR SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES.**

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Hurricanes usually disrupt electrical power for hours, sometimes days. If you do not have an alternative source of electrical power, such as a generator, the loss of your food supply is a strong and costly reality.

## **FREEZER:**

1. A FULL FREEZER WILL LAST AT LEAST 72 HOURS IF YOU MINIMIZE OPENING IT. Put all foods that could defrost first on the left side of your freezer for minimum door opening.
2. Utilize the most vulnerable frozen items first.
3. Use “dry ice” if available. This will prolong the freezer for an extra couple of days.
4. You can refreeze thawed foods **ONLY IF THEY STILL CONTAIN ICE CRYSTALS OR FEEL COLD.**
5. Seafood and ground meats will need to be cooked first. These foods can be cooked outdoors, are rich in protein, and will feed family, friends, and neighbors using the right recipes.

## **REFRIGERATOR:**

1. Utilize the items most vulnerable to heat first. Yogurt, milk, butter, margarine, eggs, cream cheese (if still cool to touch) can be used. Always use your best judgment, when in doubt throw away!
2. Condiments, jams, jelly, syrup, hard cheeses, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, nuts, and peanut butter should be salvageable and will make high-energy lunches and snacks. Always use your best judgment, when in doubt throw away!

*THE POINT IS TO TRY AND UTILIZE YOUR FOOD SUPPLIES. BE CREATIVE. FEED AS MANY PEOPLE AS YOU CAN. IT IS BETTER TO HELP YOURSELF AND OTHERS THAN TO DEPEND UPON THE SERVICES OF EMERGENCY PROVIDERS.*



Learn how to properly store foods to maximize their life and minimize your loss. Learn what to do with your food supply in the event of an extended power outage. You can cook healthy, delicious meals outdoors with confidence.

**WATCH TRAC'S VIDEO  
“COOKING UP A STORM”.**

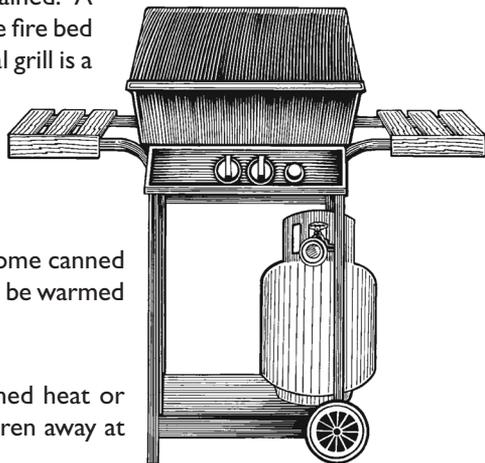
*Check your local TV/Cable Listings throughout HURRICANE SEASON  
OR*

*Visit a public library nearest you and rent it FREE  
OR*

*View Online at TRAC's Multi-Media Room: [www.trac4la.com](http://www.trac4la.com)*

## YOU CAN COOK SAFELY WITHOUT ELECTRICITY OR GAS BY FOLLOWING THESE RULES:

- Charcoal or gas grills are the most obvious alternative sources of heat for cooking. Never use them indoors. In doing so, you risk both asphyxiation from carbon monoxide and the chance of starting a fire that could destroy your home.
- Likewise, camp stoves that use liquid or solid fuel should always be used outdoors.
- Use small electrical appliances to prepare meals if you have access to an electrical generator and the generator has sufficient capacity. Do not use an appliance that has been flooded until it has been checked for short circuits.
- You can use wood for cooking in many situations. You can cook in a fireplace if the chimney is sound. Don't start a fire in a fireplace that has a broken chimney. Be sure the damper is open.
- If you're cooking on a wood stove, make sure the stove pipe has not been damaged.
- If you have to build a fire outside, build it away from buildings, never in a carport. Sparks can easily get into the ceiling and start a house fire.
- Never use gasoline to get a wood or charcoal fire started.
- Do not use "treated" wood as fuel for a cooking fire.
- Make sure any fire is well contained. A metal drum or stones around the fire bed are good precautions. A charcoal grill is a good place in which to build a wood fire. Be sure to put out any fire when you are through with it.
- When cooking is not possible, some canned food can be eaten cold. Or it can be warmed over canned heat or candles.
- Never leave any open fire, canned heat or candles unattended. Keep children away at all times.



You and your family have been through a disaster. Your life has been turned upside down. It will take time for things to return to normal, or what we perceive as normal. You should recognize that the disaster can take its toll on you, as well as your property. It is important to look after yourself and your loved ones as you focus on the obvious tasks of cleanup, recovery, and rebuilding. The choices you will be making on a daily basis could affect your lives for many years. Please consider your options and do not make any hasty decisions that you will regret later.

*UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ARE VERY VULNERABLE AND THERE ARE PEOPLE, LIKE VULTURES, THAT WILL PREY ON YOUR TEMPORARY WEAKNESSES. SEEK INFORMED GUIDANCE...DO NOT DEPEND UPON HEARSAY.*

## **GUIDELINES FOR YOU TO FOLLOW:**

1. **KEEP THE FAMILY TOGETHER** — In hard times togetherness provides mutual support.
2. **DISCUSS YOUR PROBLEMS** — Sharing your anxieties will help release tension and crying is a natural response to a disaster experience for both males and females.
3. **REST OFTEN & EAT WELL** — Your body must have proper rest and nourishment in order to think clearly and accomplish the many tasks at hand.
4. **SET A REALISTIC SCHEDULE** — You will have many tasks to do in the months to come. Identify your **TASKS** and make a **TO-DO-LIST** for each one. Set **GOALS** to accomplish at least one thing a day. **STICK TO YOUR SCHEDULE. EXCUSES** will make you feel powerless to this disaster.
5. **WATCH FOR STRESS SIGNALS** —
  - short tempers, argumentative
  - greater consumption of alcohol, drugs, cigarettes
  - physical aches & pains
  - stomach digestive problems
  - apathy, inability to focus
  - depression, anxiety, nightmares
  - regressive behavior (*especially in children, elderly, mentally challenged*)
6. **SEEK PROFESSIONAL HELP** — Go to your family physician if the symptoms are physically debilitating. Critical stress counselors will be available during any major disaster. Seek the comfort of a clergy person you trust.
7. **CARE FOR CHILDREN & ELDERLY** — Listen to their version of the experience. Reassure them through actions and words that life will return to normal. Touching, hugging, and holding your frightened and frail family members is one of the most important **TASKS** you need to add to your recovery plans.
8. **BE PATIENT** — Stop and realize each day that you are not alone in this disaster. Recovery takes time. Remember this is all a part of the process and without it you would not become a stronger, more resilient and understanding human being.

## HELPING AFTER A DISASTER

Volunteers and donations have become vital to disaster response and recovery. Here are guidelines to help you as you help others after a disaster:

Get involved...

- **Give blood -**

Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE to schedule a life saving appointment. Donors of all blood types are needed.

- **Get trained -**

Most disaster organizations require a level of training to be sure their volunteers are qualified to supply the services the clients need. Though it is sometimes possible to train you in the moment, it is not the most effective way. Signing up with a disaster-based organization in your local community before a disaster is the BEST way to be a great volunteer later.

- **Volunteer locally -**

Your community is a great place to start. There are hundreds of organizations that provide direct social service support in your area and many of these have disaster components to prepare and support those in your area. These same volunteers are often the first line of support in other areas when disaster strikes.

### Volunteers can...

- Promote family preparedness by distributing educational materials
- Prepare and distribute meals to victims and relief workers
- Assist with the placement and tracking of victims in evacuation shelters
- Provide child care for disaster survivors
- Compile and distribute disaster recovery information to survivors
- Answer phones at volunteer intake or disaster recovery centers
- Provide debris removal and clean-up assistance to the elderly or disabled
- Help with the reconstruction of homes

### VOLUNTEER WISELY TO HELP OTHERS...

In a community struggling to respond to and recover from a disaster, an influx of unexpected or unneeded volunteers and donations can make the process even more difficult. Before traveling to a disaster area to help, learn where and when your skills will be needed. Discuss with volunteer organizers how your needs for food, water and shelter will be met while you are volunteering.

### WHEN MAKING DONATIONS...

Financial contributions are preferred ...

- Cash donations help to avoid the labor and expense of sorting, packing, transporting and distributing donated goods.
- Voluntary relief agencies use cash to meet victims' specific needs more quickly.
- Purchasing relief supplies available in the impacted community helps the local economy to recover more quickly.
- Donate cash or goods online through Aidmatrix
- Donate through an experienced disaster relief organization.

### DONATIONS OF GOODS...

Some relief agencies have the infrastructure in place to store and distribute donated goods. To prevent waste, donations of goods should be made only to agencies that have requested specific items.

Confirm the need before collecting. Donors should be wary of anyone who claims that "everything is needed." Many groups have been disappointed that their efforts and the goods they collected were not appreciated. A community hit by a disaster, however, does not have the time, manpower or money to dispose of unneeded donations. Get precise information and confirm the need before collecting any donated goods.

- To prevent waste, donations of goods should be made only to agencies that have requested specific items.
- Coordination with a relief organization is essential to ensure that the right goods in the right amounts are collected, and that transportation, warehousing and distribution will go smoothly.

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### USEFUL LINKS

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[www.trac4la.com](http://www.trac4la.com)

[www.volunteerlouisiana.gov](http://www.volunteerlouisiana.gov)

[www.gohsep.la.gov](http://www.gohsep.la.gov)

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

[www.aidmatrix.org](http://www.aidmatrix.org)

Damage to structures in many cases is obvious, but damage that is not clearly seen may cause problems too. Bulges, sways, leaning walls and sagging roof lines are signs that a structure may be in danger of collapsing. Check for these signs before entering the building. Also check where the structure meets the foundation to see if the building has shifted. Wind and water are powerful forces. If any of these indicators of structural damage are observed, have the building inspected. Report signs of structural damage to insurance adjusters.

If the structure is sound, you may need to make preliminary repairs to keep damage from getting worse. These repairs may require some creativity since there's likely to be a shortage of materials. The most common repairs will involve nailing plywood or taping heavy plastic to broken windows, ceilings and walls. Be careful when performing unfamiliar tasks.

A less obvious form of damage will result if a building is left with moisture in confined spaces such as walls, under floors, behind vinyl wallpaper, in cabinets, etc. Water from any source can be damaging, but rising flood water is usually more contaminated than rain water entering through a broken window or roof. Any water which enters a building must be eliminated; this should be done as quickly as possible, before mold and mildew have had a chance to grow significantly. Wet fiberglass insulation should be removed and discarded; it will not dry out in a closed wall.

Residual moisture provides excellent habitat for mold, mildew, and bacteria. These microbes aggravate allergies, can produce significant health problems and will lead to decay of the wooden framing material inside the walls. If your home has flooded, it must be disinfected and dried thoroughly.



Wash moldy walls, ceilings, and floors  
**TWICE** with the following:

- ¾ gallon bleach
- ¼ gallon TSP (*trisodium phosphate*)
- 1 ½ gallons water



Mix ingredients in a garden pump-sprayer and spray infested surface so that it is wet to touch. The kill time is **10 minutes** minimum. Scrub infected area if necessary. Allow drying to the touch. Repeat procedure.

Be sure to wear rubber gloves and a protective mask. Open windows so you have fresh air to breathe. Be sure to follow all warnings on the ingredient labels.

If the mold infestation becomes chronic it is recommended that infested materials are removed and area cleaned as described above.

### **+** REMEMBER:

Anyone with a compromised immune system, respiratory illness, infants and elderly are at risk. Seek medical attention immediately if chronic coughs, fever, and weakness persist.

In 1968, the United States Congress passed and the President signed into law the National Flood Insurance Act, which created the NFIP. The NFIP is a Federal Program enabling property owners to purchase insurance protection against losses from flooding. Participation in the NFIP is based on an agreement between local communities and the Federal Government which states that if a community will adopt and enforce a floodplain management ordinance to reduce future flood risks to new construction in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs), the Federal Government will make flood insurance available within the community as a financial protection against flood losses.

Flood insurance coverage is available to all owners and occupants of insurable property (a building and/or its contents) in a community participating in the NFIP. Almost every type of walled and roofed building that is principally above ground and not entirely over water may be insured if it is located in a participating community. To encourage participation in the NFIP by communities and the purchase of flood insurance by individuals, insurance premiums for buildings constructed prior to the issuance of a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) (referred to as Pre-FIRM) are subsidized. Buildings constructed after the date of the FIRM (referred to as Post-FIRM) are rated actuarially for flood insurance.

V Zones (Zones VE, VI-30, V), also known as Coastal High Hazard Areas, are mapped along the nation's coastlines. V zones, which include high velocity flows, breaking waves, and often debris, contain severe risks that present special challenges in ensuring that new development does not result in increased flood damages. NFIP regulations contain specific elevation and structural performance requirements for buildings constructed in V zones. Included are the requirements that natural features which act to reduce flooding, such as frontal sand dunes, are not altered.

All other areas within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) are identified on FIRM(s) with one of the A zone designations (AE, AI-30, AO, AH or A). This includes riverine and lacustrine (lake) floodplains and coastal floodplains landward of V zones. A special risk area identified within A zones in riverine areas is the floodway. The floodway is an area identified on a FIRM or a Flood Boundary Floodway Map (FBFM) that represents the portion of the floodplain that carries the majority of the flood flow and often is associated with high velocity flows and debris impact. As with V zones, floodways often represent severe risks that present special challenges for local officials. Any new development in floodways must not obstruct flood waters and increase water surface elevations.

The National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004 may have a significant effect on the local population upon initial purchase or renewal of a flood insurance policy. The stated purpose of the Act is to improve the financial condition of the NFIP and reduce Federal expenditures for Federal Disaster Assistance to flood damaged properties. By implementing the guidelines below, NFIP is striving to achieve the stated purpose.

The National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004 may affect you as a home or business owner:

- Lenders or mortgage companies require flood insurance when making, increasing, extending, or renewing a loan if property is located in an identified special flood hazard area; coverage must be maintained for the term of that loan.
- Lenders are required to notify borrowers if their property is in a special flood hazard area and requires flood insurance; if the borrower has not purchased flood insurance within 45 days of notification, the lender must purchase it on behalf of the borrower.
- Flood insurance coverage limits have been increased; \$250,000 on building coverage, \$100,000 on contents coverage for residential dwellings. \$500,000 building and \$500,000 contents coverage for commercial structures. Renter contents \$100,000.
- There is an additional premium charged on new or renewed policies to cover the costs of the NFIP providing a one time, \$30,000 payment to repetitively flooded structures. Known as the Increased Cost of Mitigation, the payment will be issued to those structures who meet standard eligibility criteria and can be used only to mitigate the flooding problem to that structure.
- Prohibited Flood Disaster Assistance: Individuals in SFHAs who receive Federal Disaster Assistance for flood disaster losses to property must purchase and maintain flood insurance coverage. If flood insurance is not purchased and maintained, many forms of disaster assistance may be denied in the future.

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**The waiting period for a flood insurance policy effective date is 30 days. Now is the time to financially protect yourself from flood waters. Waiting to the last minute will not allow enough time for your new flood insurance policy to take effect!**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
**[www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)**  
**ASSESS YOUR FLOOD RISK TODAY!**

## FLOOD MITIGATION FUNDING SOURCES

Listed below are two financial resource programs that may provide assistance to homeowners for flood mitigation measures. For more information contact your local Flood Plain Manager or Emergency Management Director.

### THE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) was created in November 1988, by Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The HMGP assists States and local communities in implementing long-term mitigation measures following a Presidential disaster declaration.

#### Objectives of the HMGP

- To prevent future losses of lives and property due to disasters;
- To implement State or local mitigation plans;
- To enable mitigation measures to be implemented during a State's or community's immediate recovery from a disaster; and
- To provide funding for previously identified mitigation measures that benefit the disaster area.

#### COST SHARE LIMITS

To meet these objectives, FEMA may fund up to 75 percent of the eligible costs of each project. The State or local cost-share match does not need to be cash; in kind services or materials may also be used up to 12.5% of the 25% state-local cost share match. For projects involving protection of personal property, the local cost share may be provided by the property owner.

The HMGP can be used to fund projects to protect either public or private property, so long as the projects in question fit within the State and local government's overall mitigation strategy for the disaster area, and comply with program guidelines. Examples of projects that may be funded include the acquisition or relocation of structures from hazard-prone areas, the retrofitting of existing structures to protect them from future damages; and the development of State or local standards designed to protect buildings from future damages.

Eligibility for funding under the HMGP is limited to State and local governments, certain private nonprofit organizations or institutions that serve a public function, Indian tribes or authorized tribal organizations, and Alaska Native villages or organizations.

In order to obtain assistance through the HMGP, homeowners must work with their local government to sponsor a community project application.

**FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE:**

FEMA's Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) provides funding to assist States and communities in implementing measures to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insurable under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

FMA was created as part of the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 4101) with the goal of reducing or eliminating claims under the NFIP. FMA is a pre-disaster grant program.

**GETTING STARTED:**

Planning is the foundation of FMA. FEMA encourages communities to identify ways to reduce their risk of flood damage by preparing Flood Mitigation Plans.

Communities that have Flood Mitigation Plans can request approval of their plans from their FMA State Point of Contact (POC) and FEMA. Approved plans make a community eligible to apply for FMA project grants. Plans must assess flood risk and identify actions to reduce that risk.

**TWO TYPES OF GRANTS TO COMMUNITIES:**

- **Planning Grants** - Grants to communities to develop Flood Mitigation Plans.
- **Project Grants** - Grants to communities to implement measures to reduce flood losses.

**EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS:**

Projects that reduce the risk of flood damage to structures insurable under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) are eligible. Such activities include:

- Elevation of insured structures.
- Acquisition of insured structures and real property.
- Relocation or demolition of insured structures.
- Dry floodproofing of insured structures.
- Minor, localized structural projects that are not fundable by State or other Federal programs.
- Beach nourishment activities such as planting of dune grass.

**APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY:**

Any State agency, participating NFIP community, or qualified local organization is eligible to participate in FMA. Communities that are suspended or on probation from the NFIP are not eligible. Individuals wishing to participate in FMA should contact their local Emergency Management Director or Floodplain Manager.

**HOW FEMA WORKS:**

FEMA distributes FMA funds to States, which in turn provide funds to communities. The State serves as the grantee and program administrator for the FMA. The State will in turn work with local communities to fund mitigation projects that fit into the overall statewide strategy.

**COST-SHARE LIMITS:**

FEMA may contribute up to 75 percent of the total eligible costs. At least 25 percent of the total eligible costs must be provided by a non-federal source.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

For more information on how to apply for an FMA grant, contact your Local Emergency Management Director or Floodplain Manager for details.

## TRAC PROGRAMS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU FREE:

### “Vanishing Coast, Vanishing Safety...Surviving Louisiana Storms”

30 minute preparedness program available on VHS/DVD at all PUBLIC LIBRARIES or view online in TRAC's Multi-Media Room at [www.trac4la.com](http://www.trac4la.com).



### “Louisiana Storm Survival Guide”

Prepare yourself, family, friends, coworkers and employees with this 10-step planner. Local emergency information for your parish is included. Available at all public libraries or view online in TRAC's Multi-Media Room in English, Spanish, French, and Vietnamese at [www.trac4la.com](http://www.trac4la.com).



### “Teaching Disaster Readiness to Louisiana Kids”

Instructor Guide available for teaching professionals in your parish. Contact us at 1-877-TRAC-4-LA.



### “Disaster Preparedness for the Elderly and Disabled”

Instructor Guide available for healthcare professionals with an elderly and/or disabled clientele. Contact us at 1-877-TRAC-4-LA.



### “The Buddy Guide”

Become a buddy and help area special needs citizens prepare for hurricane season. Contact us at 1-877-TRAC-4-LA. Everybody needs **SOME BUDDY, TOO.**



### “Andy & Allie Hurricane Series”

Children's series developed to help prepare and cope with hurricane threats. Available at all public libraries or contact us at 1-877-TRAC-4-LA.



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# Are You Ready?

- ✓ Do you have a plan in place to survive a disaster?
- ✓ Do you have an emergency supply kit for your home and car?
- ✓ Is your homeowner's & flood insurance policies in order?
- ✓ Have you planned your evacuation?
- ✓ Do you have a plan for turning off your utilities?
- ✓ Do you have a plan to secure the house/outdoor items/boat?
- ✓ Do you have copies of your insurance policies, important documents, and other valuables in a safe place?
- ✓ Do you have an inventory and detailed description of your property?
- ✓ Has your roof been inspected within the last 6 months?
- ✓ Have you had routine maintenance on your trees and shrubs around the house?
- ✓ Have you had routine maintenance on your car and are the tires, including the spare in good condition?
- ✓ Is your emergency phone list up-to-date?
- ✓ Have you made arrangements for your out-of-state communication contact?
- ✓ Do you have a plan to address the "special needs" family members?
- ✓ Have you decided what you will do with your animals?
- ✓ Do you have a recovery plan?
- ✓ Are you involved with community preparedness planning and education?
- ✓ Have you budgeted for the additional expenses to prepare your home, buy supplies, and evacuate?

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## Take Action Today

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# Holistic Programs & Services in the Field of Disaster Reduction:



- Long-Term Disaster Recovery
- Sustainable Housing Development
- Volunteer Construction Management
- Residential Mitigation Assistance
- Disaster Preparedness Education



*Your local step for Louisiana Storm Survival*

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Who We Are	What We Do	Louisiana Lift House	Disaster Recovery	Preparedness Education	Programs / Resources
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**Are You Prepared? Who Will Support You? Who Will Help You Recover?**

**Now is the time to prepare. Will you be ready?**

TRAC is beginning to help people like you prepare for the upcoming hurricane season. How can you help the people of Louisiana? Click on a tab below to find out more.

Donate

Volunteer

Support

TRAC's Mission is to assist individuals, families and communities to rebuild following a disaster, to help navigate recovery plans for those affected, strengthen our planning and preparation for future disasters and empower people organizing to dramatically improve life in our communities. TRAC's focus is Disaster Recovery, Preparedness Education, Mitigation and Client Advocacy.

Donate

TRAC Multimedia

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