

HURRICANE

PREPARATION GUIDE

The 2016 Atlantic hurricane season officially begins on June 1 and lasts through November 30. Use this handy guide and map as a supplement to your family's hurricane preparation plans.

Pull Out & Save!

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MAKE A FAMILY COMMUNICATION PLAN

Have a family communication plan in place before the onset of an emergency.

- Designate an out-of-state family member or friend as your central point of contact. Ensure each immediate family member knows whom to contact if you happen to get separated or if someone is badly injured.
- Call your point of contact periodically to ensure their phone information is unchanged. Also call your contact at first news of an impending hurricane to make sure they are apprised of the weather situation.
- Practice your emergency communication plan with all family members
- Take the time to program all pertinent emergency numbers in your phone: police, fire, nearest hospital, your children's schools and local family members.
- Keep you phone charged at all times and place a spare phone car charger in your vehicle.
- If you have to get out into the weather, make sure your phone stays dry. Place your phone in a plastic or waterproof pouch or purchase a waterproof case.
- If you have a landline and are forced to evacuate, remember to forward your home number to your cell phone to ensure no calls are missed.
- Install weather apps on your cell phone and learn how to operate them in advance.
- Have more than one GPS in place. Two options are a stand-alone system and your cell phone.
- Use location based mapping to determine evacuation routes and to avoid fallen trees and power lines. These systems are also useful for tracking family members via your wireless device or cell phone should you get separated.
- Make sure your cell phone is capable of sending and receiving text messages and every member of the family, from the youngest to the oldest is well versed in text messaging. During an emergency, text messages can provide a means of communication when voice calls can't go through.

STAY SAFE BY STAYING CONNECTED

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Emergency 911
 Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (225) 925-7500
 American Red Cross- Lafayette (337) 234-7371
 Louisiana Road Closure Information 511
 To Report Roadway Emergencies 577
 Poison Control (800) 222-1222



On Facebook:

National Hurricane Center
 Facebook.com/US.NOAA
American Red Cross
 Facebook.com/RedCross

On Twitter:

NWS Southern Region: @NWSLakeCharles
American Red Cross: @RedCross
National Hurricane Center: @NHC_Atlantic

Here is a list of NOAA's phone- and tablet-friendly mobile websites and apps:

NOAA.gov
 NOAA National Weather Service weather.gov
 NOAA NWS National Hurricane Center hurricanes.gov
 NOAA NWS Marine Forecasts weather.gov/marine
 NOAA NWS Aviation Weather noaa.gov/zoa
 "NOAA Hi-Def Weather Radar" \$1.99
 "NOAA Weather Radar – live Doppler" Free
 "NOAA SuperRes Radar US" \$3.99
 "NOAA Radar US – HD Weather Radar" \$1.99
 "NOAA Radar Pro – Severe Weather" \$1.99

2016 ATLANTIC TROPICAL STORM NAMES

Alex	Earl	Ian	Matthew	Richard	Walter
Bonnie	Fiona	Julia	Nicole	Shary	
Colin	Gaston	Karl	Otto	Tobias	
Danielle	Hermine	Lisa	Paula	Virginie	

WEATHER RADIOS

During a hurricane the National Weather Service continuously broadcasts warnings, watches, forecasts and non-weather related hazard information on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration All Hazards Weather Radio. Stay safe and stay in the know by purchasing weather radios certified to Public Alert™ standards.



THE FIRST 72 HOURS ARE ON YOU

The wise adage says, "Better Safe Than Sorry." One can never be too prepared for the onslaught of a hurricane. The best way to ensure you are prepared adequately is to view a cyclonic weather event with the mindset of "The first 72 hours are on me." During a storm, services may be unavailable, you may be unable to travel and even if you could, roads and highways may be inaccessible. As a result, in severe circumstances it may take up to 72 hours for food, supplies and other assistance to reach you or for electricity and gas to be restored.