



## ***The 2018 Hurricane Season is June through November***

### **Do you have a Family Emergency /Disaster Plan?**

The family is the domestic church and is integral to the life of the parish. As such, families should prepare themselves for those potential disasters that sometimes affect our homes here in Louisiana. Hurricanes tops the list it seems, so here are a few preparations a family can take during “The Season” to “Be Prepared”.

- ❑ Discuss the type of hazards that could affect your family. Know your home’s vulnerability to storm surge, flooding and wind.
- ❑ Locate a safe room or the safest areas in your home for each type of event. In certain circumstances, the safest areas may not be your home, but with your community.
- ❑ Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet afterwards if separated. These should be measure in tens of miles rather than hundreds of miles.
- ❑ Have an out-of-state friend as a central family contact, so all your family members have a single point of contact through which to communicate, especially if your family becomes separated.
- ❑ Make a plan now for what to do with your pets if you need to evacuate.
- ❑ Post emergency telephone numbers by your phones and make sure your children know how and when to use them, or to call 911.
- ❑ Check your insurance coverage – flood damage is usually not cover by homeowners insurance.
- ❑ Stock non-perishable emergency supplies and create a “Disaster Supply Kit”
- ❑ Use a NOAA weather radio. Remember to replace its battery every 6 months, as you would with your smoke alarms.
- ❑ Take a First Aid, CPR and Disaster Preparedness Classes.
- ❑ Pre-Register with the Louisiana Department of Family Services (DCFS) for the Disaster Supplement Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP).

### **A Hurricane Prayer**

Our Father in Heaven through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, spare us from all harm during this hurricane season and protect us and our homes from all disasters of nature. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us. Amen



### **Local Response**

All disasters begin with a local response. Local resources are used to respond to the disaster. The local elected official in a city or parish may declare a local disaster in order to activate that jurisdiction's emergency operations plan.

### **Local Government Request Assistance**

If a city or a parish response capabilities are overwhelmed or depleted, local officials may request assistance from for state assistance

### **State Disaster Declaration**

The governor may proclaim a state disaster, which allows state agencies to respond to local governments. For example the Department of Children and Family Services or Louisiana Department of Health.

### **Preliminary Damage Assessments**

Damage information (private property, business losses, and public infrastructure damages) must be first collected by local officials. Based on the information collected, the state may request a Federal/State Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA). During the visit, the PDA team tours, collects and analyzes the damage information.

Note: The ability to gather damage information expeditiously may be hindered due to the nature and severity of the disaster, such as flood waters receding.

### **Requesting a Presidential Disaster Declaration**

If the Governor asks the President for a major disaster declaration, the request is then submitted through FEMA Region VI. FEMA reviews the Governor's request and makes a recommendation to the President. The President then makes the decision on the Governor's request.

### **If the Request is Denied**

The Governor may appeal the denial. The appeal must be submitted within 30 days and provide additional NEW information to the original request for re-consideration.

### **President Approves Disaster Request**

Depending on the State's request, the Federal disaster declaration may make assistance available to families, businesses, local government, and/or certain private non-profit organizations located in the declared parishes that suffered eligible disaster related damages. The primary federal assistance programs are Individual Assistance, Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation Assistance and Small Business Administration disaster loans.

### **Individual Assistance (IA)**

Helps individuals and households in declared parishes begin the recovery process after a disaster. IA programs included individual & Household Programs. Minimum Essential Repairs, Disaster Unemployment and other programs. Homeowners, renters and businesses have 60 days after declaration is issued to register for assistance either by telephone or the internet.

### **Public Assistance**

Helps reimburse local, parish and state government and certain non-profit organizations in declared parish for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and repair/replacement of damaged public infrastructure.

### **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program**

After a Presidential Declaration the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) provides federal assistance to states, local units of government and certain private non-profit organizations for long term mitigation measures and all hazards mitigation planning. Applicant organizations must have a FEMA approved mitigation plan in place prior to the submission of project applications to FEMA, with the proposed project identified in the plan. Local government applicants must belong to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)



## ***Disaster and Emergency Supply Checklist***



To assist you with preparation for disaster here is a supply checklist for your use.

We recommend using Plastic Storage Containers

- ❑ Water – One gallon of water per person per day for at least 3 to 5 days.
  - ❑ Food – At least a 3 to 5 day supply of non-perishable food.
  - ❑ Battery Power radio with a NOAA Weather Radio.
  - ❑ Flashlight and extra batteries.
  - ❑ Whistle to signal for help.
  - ❑ Dust Mask to help filter contaminated air, plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter in place.
  - ❑ Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation.
  - ❑ Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities.
  - ❑ Manual can opener.
  - ❑ Local Maps
  - ❑ Prescription and non-prescription medications.
  - ❑ Spare Glasses and contact lenses with solutions.
  - ❑ Infant Formula, baby food, bottles, diapers, wipes and diaper rash medication.
  - ❑ Fire Extinguisher.
  - ❑ Matches in a waterproof container.
  - ❑ Paper and Pencils.
  - ❑ Work gloves and some tools.
- ❑ Important family documents, such as copies of insurance information, identification, banking records, save electronically in a waterproof container.
  - ❑ Complete change of clothing appropriate for your climate and sturdy shoes.
  - ❑ Feminine Supplies and personal hygiene items.
  - ❑ Cell phone with chargers.
  - ❑ Contact information, should include phone numbers and emails of your family and friends. One should not be living in the disaster-impacted area.
  - ❑ A spare set of keys for your home and vehicles.
  - ❑ Back up your computers files on a cloud storage or external hard drive.
  - ❑ Functional need items, such as adult diapers, wipes, extra batteries for hearing aids, along with special diet considerations.
  - ❑ Secondary resources for medical supplies such as oxygen refills, kidney dialysis treatment center locations.

For more information on building your disaster supply kit visit: <https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>

## List of Disaster Resources

### Before A Disaster Strikes

- [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) Know what disasters and hazards could affect your area. Where to go if you and your family need to evacuate.
- [www.ready.gov/make-a-plan](http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan) Make a disaster preparedness plan today.
- [www.getagameplan.org/planfamily](http://www.getagameplan.org/planfamily) Recommendation for developing your emergency supply kit.
- [www.ready.gov/publications](http://www.ready.gov/publications) Individuals and organizations who would like to order printed copies of ready emergency preparedness publications.
- [www.fema.gov/protecting-homes](http://www.fema.gov/protecting-homes) Learn how to protect your home or business
- [www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services/find-an-open-shelter](http://www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services/find-an-open-shelter) Find and locate emergency shelters in your area prior to disasters.
- [www.femaevachotels.com/index.php](http://www.femaevachotels.com/index.php) FEMA evacuee hotel listing. If you are eligible for Transitional Shelter Assistance, FEMA will pay the cost to stay in certain hotels and motels for a period-of-time. Cost covered are for the cost of the room and taxes only. No other expenses are included. Search availability and participating locations in your area.

### After Disaster Strikes

- [www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services](http://www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services) This guide will help start the process of recovering families' physical, emotional and financial wellbeing.
- [www.fema.gov/children-and-disasters](http://www.fema.gov/children-and-disasters) This webpage reflects resource available to support the integration and implementation of children's disaster related needs into preparedness, planning, response and recovery efforts initiated by state, local and tribal governments, as well as stakeholders responsible to the temporary care of children.
- [www.fema.gov/individual-disaster-assistance](http://www.fema.gov/individual-disaster-assistance) Provides general information by FEMA on Disaster Assistance, which can help support your recovery from a major disaster.
- [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov) Registering and applying for disaster assistance from FEMA.
- [www.fema.gov/IHP-Unified-Guidance](http://www.fema.gov/IHP-Unified-Guidance) The Individual and Household Program Unified Guidance (IHPUG) provides FEMA employees, emergency management partners, political leadership and the *public* with a single, comprehensive reference containing policy statements and conditions of eligibility for Individual and Household Program (IHP) assistance.