**HOUSING AUTHORITY**

**OF**

**JEFFERSON PARISH**

**HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS PLAN**

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**1718 Betty Street**

**Marrero, Louisiana 70072**

**Revised: June 2022**

HAJP RESIDENTS:

Everyone living on the Gulf Coast is at risk during hurricane season. If a hurricane is a category 3 (slow) or 4, or 5 (slow/fast) many areas in Jefferson Parish may flood.

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| **SAFFIR SIMPSON SCALE** | |
| **CATEGORY** | **WIND SPEED MILES PER HOUR** |
| **1** | **74 - 95** |
| **2** | **96 - 110** |
| **3** | **111 - 130** |
| **4** | **131 - 155** |
| **5** | **> 155** |

**Evacuation Considerations**

1. Has your area been advised to evacuate by local and/or State officials via radio and television?
2. When recommended to evacuate will Public Shelters be available locally or outside the Jefferson Parish area?
3. Have you planned for your destination out of the risk area and studied what routes will be available?

**Hurricane Evacuation Guidelines**

The overall strategy of all Southeast Louisiana Parishes when confronted with the possibility of a catastrophic hurricane is to evacuate as much of the risk population as possible from the path of the storm.

Residents should relocate to safety outside the projected high-water mark of the storm surge flooding and hurricane-force winds.

Sophisticated computer models of hurricane storm surge effects in Southeast Louisiana indicate that the hurricane protection levees built to protect life and property would be overtopped from the storm surge generated by a direct strike of a major hurricane resulting in widespread flooding.  
  
The Greater New Orleans area also represents a difficult evacuation problem due to a large population attempting to use an inadequate road network that is limited and susceptible to flooding. An evacuation notice will be issued when a hurricane is forecasted to present a danger to Jefferson Parish.

HAJP residents should act in their best interest and voluntarily evacuate the risk area when advised to do so.  
  
If you plan to evacuate, leave as early as possible before tropical-storm-force winds and storm surge caused road closures. Leaving early will also help you avoid possible traffic jams and road restrictions that will be in place after contraflow is implemented.

State Police 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 I** - 50 Hours before the 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. During Phase 1, there are no route restrictions.

**Phase II**- 40 Hours before the onset of tropical storm winds. Includes areas south of the Mississippi River that are levee protected but remain vulnerable to Category 2 or higher storms. During Phase II, there are no route restrictions.

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

PREPARE TO EVACUATE IF ADVISED TO DO SO BY OFFICIALS THROUGH RADIO OR TELEVISION

**Emergency Bus Transportation**

The [**Jefferson Transit**](http://www.jeffersontransit.org/) "JeT" System will maintain regular bus services until the Parish is placed under an Emergency Declaration by the Parish President. At that time the regularly scheduled routes will continue to operate but with a reduced number of buses.

Buses will still run along the regularly established routes but will be for our residents who have no other means of transportation available to them. Riders will be taken to shelters designated in our Parish or to State-designated shelters outside of Jefferson Parish.

As conditions warrant regular bus service will cease and only evacuation buses will be on the routes.

**Evacuation Route Signs**

Evacuation route signs are located on all Parish/State major routes. The blue sign indicates the Emergency Alert Radio Station to monitor the area being traveled.

Routes will be determined by the track of the storm and possible rainfall flooding prior to landfall. Monitor the Emergency Alert System for suggested roadways and traffic conditions.

**Supplies for Evacuation**

There are six basics that you should stock for your disaster supply kit:

1. Water
2. Food (baby food, pet food)
3. Clothing and bedding,
4. First aid supplies
5. Tools
6. Emergency supplies and special items

Keep these items in a waterproof container that can be easily transported from your home to your car and to your safe place. Assemble your kit now to allow for immediate action during an emergency.

Your family's disaster supply kit should include at least a five-day supply of:

* **Water** - One gallon of water per person per day.
* **Non-perishable food** - Select food items that are compact and lightweight. Include the following items:
  + Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits, and vegetables
  + Canned juices
  + High-energy foods
  + Vitamins
  + Comfort goods
  + Condiments
  + Food for infant
* **Clothing and bedding** - Include at least one complete change of clothing and footwear per person and the following weather-appropriate items:
  + Sturdy shoes or work boots
  + Rain gear
  + Blankets or sleeping bags
  + Hat and gloves
  + Thermal underwear
  + Sunglasses
* First aid supplies
* Tools and emergency supplies
  + First aid supplies
  + Flashlight and extra batteries
  + Non-electric can opener, utility knife
  + Tube Tent
  + Tape
  + Matches in a waterproof container
  + Plastic storage containers
  + Paper, pencil
  + Medicine dropper
  + Whistle
  + Sanitation supplies
  + Louisiana Citizen Awareness and Disaster Evacuation Guide
  + Battery-operated radio and extra batteries
  + Cash or traveler's checks, change
  + Fire extinguisher: small canister ABC-type
  + Pliers
  + Compass
  + Aluminum foil
  + Signal flare
  + Needles, thread
  + Shut-off wrench to turn off household gas and water
  + Plastic sheeting
  + Official DOTD Travel Map
  + Mess kits, paper cups, plates, and plastic utensils
* **Special Items** - Infant and medical supplies: Remember supplies for family members with special requirements, such as infants, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons taking medication.
* **Entertainment** - Games and books
* **Important family documents**
  + Wills, insurance policies, contracts, deeds, stocks, and bonds
  + Passports, social security cards, and immunization records
  + Bank account numbers
  + Credit card account numbers and company addresses
  + Inventory of valuable household goods and important telephone numbers
  + Family records (birth, marriage, death certificates)

Store your kit in a convenient place known to all family members. Keep a smaller version of the supply kit in the trunk of your car. Change your stored water supply every six months so it stays fresh. Replace your stored food every six months. Re-think your kit and family needs at least once a year. Replace batteries, update clothes, etc.

**AWARENESS INFORMATION / COMMUNICATION**

**RADIO FREQUENCY SYSTEM**

**Louisiana Emergency Alert System -** The following radio stations are key participants in the Louisiana Emergency Alert System. In the event of an emergency, these stations will broadcast emergency information.

***New Orleans***

*AM 870 (WWL)*

*FM 101.9 (WLMG)*

**NOAA Weather Radio (NWR)**

NOAA Weather Radio is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information direct from a nearby National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts National Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts, and other hazard information 24 hours a day.

**SEVERE WEATHER TERMS TO KNOW ...**

Natural disasters most likely to occur in Louisiana, particularly in low-lying areas bordering the Gulf of Mexico, include hurricanes and flooding due to heavy rains. Residents should be familiar with several terms that describe severe weather conditions:

* **Storm Surge:**An abnormal rise of the sea along a shore as the result, primarily, of the winds from a storm.
* **Watch:** Adverse conditions are possible in the specified area of the WATCH, usually within 36 hours. May be applied to thunderstorms, tornadoes, floods, or hurricanes.
* **Warning:** Adverse conditions are expected in the specified area of the WARNING, usually within 24 hours. May be applied to thunderstorms, tornadoes, floods, or hurricanes.

**MEASURING HURRICANE STRENGTH**

The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale:

* **Category 1:** Minimal Damage. Winds 74-95 mph.  
  Storm surges are generally 4-5 ft. above normal.
* **Category 2:** Moderate Damage. Winds 96-110 mph.  
  Storm surges are generally 6-8 ft. above normal.
* **Category 3:** Extensive Damage. Winds 111-130 mph.  
  Storm surges are generally 9-12 ft. above normal.
* **Category 4:** Extreme Damage. Winds 131-155 mph.  
  Storm surges are generally 13-18 ft. above normal.
* **Category 5:** Catastrophic Damage. Winds > 155 mph.  
  Storm surges are generally > 18 ft. above normal.

**PUBLIC SHELTER INFORMATION**

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

What to bring to a shelter?

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

What NOT to bring?

* There are no weapons, drugs, alcohol, or pets (service animals excluded)  
  allowed in shelters.

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|  | **SHELTER-IN-PLACE INFORMATION**  The National Terrorism Advisory System, or NTAS, replaced the color-coded Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) in April 2011. The NTAS system effectively communicates information about terrorist threats by providing timely, detailed information to the public, government agencies, first responders, airports and other transportation hubs, and the private sector. Prepare your family for these types of emergencies by visiting <http://www.ready.gov/shelter>.  For more information on Homeland Security advisories, visit the National Terrorism Advisory System link: <https://www.dhs.gov/topic/ntas>. |

"Sheltering in place" is a precaution aimed at keeping citizens safe while remaining indoors.  **This is not the same thing as evacuating to a shelter and is not recommended for hurricanes.**

When a "shelter-in-place" order is given by either local or state government, citizens within the affected area should take the following protective measures:

* Go indoors and close all windows and doors
* Turn off all sources of outside air (i.e., air conditions and ventilation  
  fans/ducts).
* Remain indoors until notified that it is safe to move outdoors
* Stay tuned to your local radio/ television station to receive official notices.
* Limit telephone usage to emergency calls only.  This is to prevent the  
  telephone lines from being overloaded with non-emergency calls.

**PREPARING YOUR PETS**

If you are a pet owner, your family's disaster plan must include your pets.  Bring pets indoors at the first sign of danger.  If you must evacuate, the best thing you can do to protect your pets is to evacuate them too.

* Identify boarding facilities, veterinarians, or hotels outside of the affected  
  areas that can accept your pets.  If you have notice of an impending disaster, call ahead for reservations.
* Pet-friendly shelters may be opened this information will be available  
  at shelter information points.
* Create a disaster readiness kit for your pet including food, water, first aid  
  supplies, feeding dishes, leashes, carrier, blanket, etc.
* Make sure all family members are aware of these preparations.

**Emergency Number- Dial 911** - (Sheriff's Office, Fire, Ambulance)

**ASSISTANCE**

**FEMA,** General Information 1-800-621-3362, Rental Problems 1-800-351-4889

**American Red Cross,** 1-800-229-8191 or 504-620-3105, [**www.arcno.org**](http://www.arcno.org/)

**Missing Family Members Info,** 877-568-3317

**Next of Kin Registry,**[**www.nokr.org**](http://www.nokr.org/)

**Roof Damages,** 800-BLU-ROOF

**Food Stamps,** 888-524-3578

**Salvation Army,** 504-895-6611

**Louisiana Housing Corporation,**[**https://www.lhc.la.gov/**](https://www.lhc.la.gov/)

**EOC RELATED LINKS**

**Louisiana Volunteers in Action (LAVA),**[**www.lava.dhh.louisiana.gov**](https://www.lava.dhh.louisiana.gov/)

**National Hurricane Center,**  [**www.nhc.noaa.gov**](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/)

**Storm Prediction Center,**  [**www.spc.noaa.gov**](http://www.spc.noaa.gov/)

**U.S. Homeland Security,** [**www.ready.gov**](http://www.ready.gov/)

**BUSINESS RECOVERY ASSISTANCE**

**JEDCO, 504-833-1881**

**Small Business Adm. (SBA), 1-800-659-2955 /**[**www.sba/services/disasterassistance/.gov**](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance/)

**LA Assn. Business & Industry** provides loans [**www.labi.org**](http://www.labi.org/)

**LABI Small Business Disaster Relief**[**www.labi.org**](http://www.labi.org/)

**Tax Relief Information** [**www.irs.gov**](http://www.irs.gov/)

**Displaced Worker Housing,**[**www.fema.gov**](http://www.fema.gov/)

**JEFFERSON PARISH NUMBERS\* NORMAL WORKING HOURS**

**Citizens' Affairs Department,**504-736-6100

To request information, assistance, or to report a problem

**AFTER HOURS/WEEKENDS/HOLIDAYS**

**Public Works Emergency Numbers:**

**Drainage/Sewerage/Water/Traffic Problems,** 504-736-6006

**Streets & Parkways,** Eastbank 504-838-1150, Westbank 504-349-5800

**Garbage & Debris Complaints & Information,** 504-731-4612

**\***Please refer to Jefferson Parish Department listing for office telephone numbers and locations.

**JPAlert** is an alert notification system that allows officials to immediately contact you during a major crisis or emergency and can deliver important emergency alerts, notifications, and updates to you on all your devices:

- email account (work, home, other)  
 - cell phone  
 - smartphone and other handheld devices

Here are examples of when **JPAlert** may be used:

- Life-threatening weather  
 - Highly disruptive road shutdowns  
 - Evacuation or Shelter in Place information  
 - Boil water notices  
 - Information about emergency shelters  
 - Other emergency information

**JPAlert** is your connection to real-time updates with the Parish of Jefferson. **JPAlert** will give you instructions on where to go, what to do, or what not to do, and who to contact during an emergency. Other important information can also be passed on to you through this notification system. **JPAlert** is a free service; however, your wireless carrier may charge you a fee to receive messages on your device.

Alternately, you can sign up for general alerts by **Texting “JPALERT”** to **888777**.

Spanish Speaking Residents can text **JPNOTICIAS to 888777**.

New to **JPAlert**? Sign up at: <https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736721515#/signup>

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION / UPDATES**

**J.P. Emergency Operations  
& Communications Center  
910 3rd Street  
Gretna, LA  70053  
Phone:  504.349.5360  
Fax:      504.227.1315  
E-mail:**[**JPEOC@JeffParish.net**](mailto:JPEOC@JeffParish.net)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

PROPERTY MANAGER:

MAINTENANCE MANAGER:

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF JEFFERSON PARISH WEBSITE: [www.hajp.org](http://www.hajp.org)