

PREPARE + PREVENT + RESPOND + RECOVER + MITIGATE

# LOUISIANA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

Preparedness and hazard mitigation can save lives, protect property and lessen impacts of future disasters. To reduce risk and ensure Louisiana citizens and communities are better prepared, this Guide is intended to help Louisiana residents benefit from the experience of past events and recommendations from experts in disaster preparation, prevention, response, recovery and mitigation.

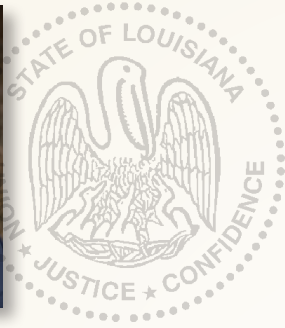


EDUCATE  
to  
MITIGATE™

[getagameplan.org](http://getagameplan.org)



# LOUISIANA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE



## A READY AND RESILIENT LOUISIANA

Those of us who have lived in Louisiana over the last decade know how devastating tropical storms, hurricanes, floods, ice storms and other natural and man-made emergencies or disasters can be. Our State continues to recover from the twin **back-to-back disasters** of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, followed by the added **community, personal and economic** impacts of Hurricanes Gustav, Ike and Isaac, Mississippi River flooding, British Petroleum (BP) oil spill and other challenging events.

Each new storm season brings a *renewed* awareness of the need to be **prepared** and to continue to invest in efforts that make Louisiana more **resilient**, so Louisiana **families and businesses** are better able to **withstand, bounce back quickly and recover** when an emergency or disaster event occurs. You need to know what you, your family and your business partners and employees should do in the event of an emergency or disaster.

This *Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Guide* (Guide) can help. From identifying our most likely **risks** to providing **sheltering information and evacuation routes** to listing **supplies** you might need, identifying **special needs and more**, this Guide should be **YOUR Guide** to personal planning.

To **learn more** about emergency and disaster preparation, prevention, response, recovery and mitigation, visit the *Get A Game Plan* website at [getagameplan.org](http://getagameplan.org) OR the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) at [gohsep.la.gov](http://gohsep.la.gov).

In the event of an emergency or disaster, **please listen carefully to the direction of local and State officials** and prepare to evacuate should that becomes necessary.

Sincerely,

John Bel Edwards  
Governor

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# Important Terms You Should Know

**PARISH EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC):**

The facility that provides coordination and control of all emergency response and recovery activities for the Parish during declared emergencies.

**EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS):** A state-of-the-art digital system designed to give emergency information and instructions from Federal, State and local authorities. The system is interfaced with the cable television system as well as radio and television stations. When activated, it broadcasts the latest information on weather reports, road conditions, evacuations, shelter locations and reentry information.

**EVACUATION ORDER:** The most important instruction you will receive from local government officials. When appropriate, the *State of Louisiana Evacuation Plan* goes into effect. This plan may require, depending on predicted impact, the evacuation of everyone in south Louisiana in vulnerable areas.

**EYE:** The low-pressure center of a tropical cyclone or hurricane. Though the most intense area of the storm surrounds it, winds are normally calm and sometimes the sky clears.

**EYE WALL:** The ring of thunderstorms that surrounds a storm's eye. The heaviest rain, strongest winds and worst turbulence are normally in the eye wall.

**FLASH FLOOD:** A flood that occurs within a few hours (usually less than six [6]) of heavy or excessive rainfall or dam or levee failure.

**GALE:** Sustained wind speeds from 39 to 54 miles per hour (mph) (34 to 47 knots).

**HURRICANE:** A severe tropical cyclone with sustained winds over 74 mph (64 knots).

**KNOT(S):** Unit of speed used in aviation and marine activities. One (1) knot is equal to 1.15 mph.

**STORM SURGE:** A rise of the sea level along the shore that builds up as a storm (usually a hurricane) moves over water. It is a result of the winds of the storm and low atmospheric pressures.

**STORM TRACK:** The path that a low-pressure area follows.

**TORNADO:** A violently rotating column of air classified into three (3) main groups; weak – wind speeds up to 110 mph; strong – wind speeds 110 to 205 mph; and violent – wind speeds 205 to perhaps 320 mph.

**TROPICAL OR SUBTROPICAL DEPRESSION:** Cyclones that have maximum sustained winds of 38 mph (33 knots) or less. These are referred to as low-pressure systems in public advisories and statements.

**TROPICAL STORM:** Tropical cyclone that has maximum sustained winds from 39 to 73 mph (34 to 63 knots).

**WARNING:** Issued when a particular weather or flood hazard is “imminent” or already occurring (e.g., tornado warning or flash flood warning). A warning is used for conditions posing a threat to life or property.

**WATCH:** Forecast issued in advance to alert the public of the possibility of a particular weather-related hazard (tornado watch, flash flood watch). It is intended to provide enough lead time so those who need to set their plans in motion can do so.



## Contact Information

7667 Independence Boulevard  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806  
(225) 925-7500  
Fax (225) 925-7501  
[gohsep.la.gov](http://gohsep.la.gov)

# State Hazards

## STATE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

The *State Hazard Mitigation Plan* (SHMP) identifies hazards and guides the implementation of hazard mitigation measures intended to eliminate or reduce the effects of future disasters that might impact Louisiana. The plan is reviewed annually. For more information, visit [getagameplan.org/planMitigate.htm](http://getagameplan.org/planMitigate.htm).

## 11 MOST LIKELY HAZARDS IN LOUISIANA



### FLOODING

A natural condition that is the result of an overflowing river, heavy rain, dam break, levee failure or snow or ice melting too fast. Hurricanes and tornadoes can also cause flooding.



### HAILSTORM

Severe thunderstorms in which chunks of ice fall along with rain.



### HURRICANE

A tropical storm with sustained winds at least 74 mph on the Saffir-Simpson Scale. Heavy rain, strong winds and large waves can damage cars, buildings and homes. Hurricane season runs from June 1 – November 30.



### TORNADO

A violent storm that appears as a funnel-shaped cone with winds that can be as strong as 300 mph or more. Tornadoes can also occur within other storms, such as hurricanes.



### ICE STORM

Ice storms consist of freezing temperatures and heavy precipitation, usually in the form of rain, freezing rain or sleet, and sometimes in the form of snow and ice.



### STORM SURGE

Storm surge is an abnormal rise of water generated by a storm, over and above the predicted astronomical tides. Storm surge should not be confused with storm tide, which is defined as the water level rise due to the combination of storm surge and the astronomical tide.



### SUBSIDENCE

Subsidence is the loss of surface elevation due to the removal of subsurface support. Along with sea level rise, subsidence can accelerate coastal erosion and wetland loss, as well as increase flooding.



### WILDFIRE

An uncontrolled fire that spreads through vegetation and possibly exposes and consumes structures. Wildfires can be caused by human acts such as arson or careless accidents, as well as by natural occurrences such as lightning.



### DAM FAILURE

Dam failure can occur when there is a breach or collapse in the structure of a dam.



### LEVEE FAILURE

A levee failure involves the overtopping, breaching or collapsing of a levee.



### HAZARDOUS-MATERIALS INCIDENT

A man-made disaster, hazardous-materials incidents involve accidental or intentional releases of chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear materials.

# High Wind + Tornado



Tornadoes are **nature's most violent storms**. Spawned from powerful thunderstorms, tornadoes can cause fatalities and devastate a neighborhood in seconds. Some of the danger signs of a tornado are a dark, often

greenish sky; large hail; a large, dark, low-lying cloud (particularly if rotating); and loud roaring, similar to a freight train.

Hurricanes, no matter how weak, are dangerous. The combination of storm surge, wind and other contributing factors determines a hurricane's destructive power. To compare the disaster potential of sustained wind, emergency forces utilize the Saffir-Simpson scale of wind speeds that help them predict potential hazards. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) forecasters use the Saffir-Simpson Scale.



CATEGORY 1  
74 - 95 MPH

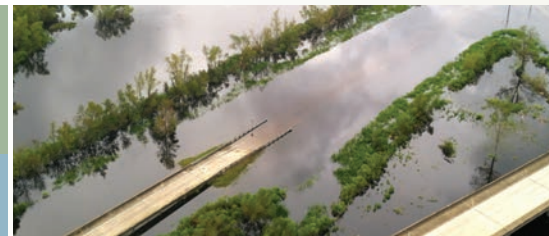
CATEGORY 2  
96 - 110 mph

CATEGORY 3  
111 - 130 mph

CATEGORY 4  
131 - 155 mph

CATEGORY 5  
155+ mph

Graphic courtesy of Lafayette Utilities System



Hurricane Isaac had Category 1 sustained winds but extensive damage from flooding on I-10 in LaPlace.

# Flooding + Ice

Most people in Louisiana associate hurricanes with devastating winds and storm surge. While strong winds and high storm surges do cause a tremendous amount of coastal destruction, flooding resulting from a hurricane can occur hundreds of miles from the coast. **Inland flooding** throughout **coastal, central and north Louisiana** can cause severe damage after a hurricane makes landfall and as the remaining weather system moves through the State. Since 1970, inland flooding has been responsible for more than half of all deaths associated with tropical storms and hurricanes in the United States.

Flooding can occur as a result of other weather events. People across the State can be at risk from flooding caused by **heavy rains**. People in central and north Louisiana may be at risk from flooding caused by **melting snow and ice**.

**Winter storms** accompanied by dangerously low temperatures and sometimes by strong winds, icing, sleet and freezing rain can also be a danger. Winter storms can knock out heat, power and communications services to your home or office, sometimes for days at a time. Icy conditions and extreme cold can immobilize an entire region.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:**  
[getagameplan.org](http://getagameplan.org) and [ready.gov](http://ready.gov)

Trimming limbs that extend over buildings in advance of ice storms is an important mitigation measure.



# Emergency Supply Checklist

## FOOD (3-DAY SUPPLY)

- fruit: canned, dried, roll-ups
- meats: canned or dried
- vegetables: canned
- powdered milk
- juices: canned or bottled
- water: bottled
- peanut butter
- crackers
- soup: canned
- high-energy bars

## BABY SUPPLIES

- diapers, baby wipes
- milk, food, formula
- clothes
- disposable bottles and liners
- blankets, sheets, bed liners
- medications
- portable crib
- toys

## PERSONAL ITEMS

- soap, toothbrush, deodorant
- towels and washcloths
- sewing kit
- shampoo
- feminine hygiene items
- shaving kit
- mirror
- eyeglasses and contact lenses
- special items needed for the elderly and disabled

## CHILDREN'S SUPPLIES

- quiet toys
- coloring books
- crayons
- puzzles
- books
- CD/MP3 player
- extra batteries

## SANITARY ITEMS

- portable toilet
- plastic garbage bags
- paper towels, toilet paper
- liquid detergent
- disinfectant

## CLOTHING + BEDDING

- rain gear
- sleeping bags, blankets and pillows
- extra shoes and work boots
- extra clothes

## COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT

- battery-operated radio
- extra batteries
- NOAA weather radio
- cellular phone and charger
- non-cordless phone

## LIGHTING

- waterproof flashlights
- battery-powered lantern
- extra batteries

## CLEANUP SUPPLIES

- washing detergents
- mops, brooms, etc.
- buckets, extra hose
- old blankets, towels, rags
- large plastic garbage bags and ties
- rubber gloves
- bleach, disinfectants
- camera to photograph home before cleanup



### PAPERS + VALUABLES

- extra set of car keys
- evacuation route maps
- driver's license or some form of identification
- Social Security cards
- passport
- birth certificates
- vehicle registration papers
- proof of residence (deed or lease)
- marriage records
- death records
- computer backups
- small valuables
- extra cash
- credit cards
- wills
- insurance policies
- medical and vaccination records
- other important papers (e.g., stocks, bonds, mortgages, deeds, wills, recent tax returns, etc.)
- checking and savings account information
- household inventory (photo or video)
- pet veterinary records
- books, stationery, pens and pencils

### SAFETY SUPPLIES

- fire extinguisher
- waterproof matches
- insect repellents
- work gloves
- utility knife
- shovel, hand saw, ax
- hammer, nails, pliers, shut-off wrench
- tarp, duct tape
- small boat
- chain saw
- generator/fuel
- wet/dry vacuum
- extra oil, gas
- jumper cables
- compass
- written instructions on how to turn off utilities (gas, water, electricity)

### PRESCRIPTIONS

- medications (7-day supply)
- list of each family member's prescriptions, medications, dosage and schedule
- copy of health insurance cards and prescriptions

**Don't forget pet supplies** (collar, leash, ID, food, waste supplies).

### EXTERNAL MEDICATIONS

- antibiotic ointment
- antibacterial soap
- baking soda
- hydrogen peroxide
- calamine lotion
- betadine
- lip balm
- rubbing alcohol
- sunblock

### INTERNAL MEDICATIONS

- aspirin/acetaminophen
- sore throat lozenges and spray
- laxative/anti-diarrhea
- eyedrops
- antacids
- nose spray
- vitamins
- cough medicine
- eardrops

### FIRST AID SUPPLIES

- first aid handbook
- scissors
- tweezers
- thermometer
- first aid tape
- gauze rolls
- large nonstick pads
- bandages, such as Band-Aids™
- arm sling
- snakebite kit
- cotton swabs
- ice/heat packs
- latex gloves
- safety pins

### COOKING EQUIPMENT

- gas or barbecue grill
- extra propane gas
- lighter fluid/charcoal
- Sterno™ stove
- cooking utensils
- manual can opener
- bottle opener
- disposable eating utensils
- disposable plates and cups
- paper towels
- ice chest
- plastic storage bags

# Family Preparation

## PREPARE FOR AN EMERGENCY

- Know what emergencies or disasters are **most likely to occur** in your area and have a emergency kit pre-assembled.
- Inquire about **emergency plans** at places where your family spends time: work, daycare and school, faith organizations, sports events and commuting.
- **Refill prescriptions** so that you always have a seven (7) day supply.
- **Identify responsibilities** for each member of your household and plan to work together as a team.
- Know the difference between different weather **alerts** such as **watches** and **warnings** and what actions to take for each.
- Learn about your community's **warning signals** and frequently monitor television, NOAA radio, Internet and mobile apps.
  - » Don't wait until the storm approaches to download your apps.
- If there is a chance you will have to evacuate, turn the refrigerator and freezer to the **coldest setting** and keep them closed as much as possible so that food will last longer if the power goes out.
- **Listen to local officials** and be ready to evacuate. Know your evacuation routes and emergency shelters and checkpoints. Notify someone outside the disaster area of your plans.

## IMPORTANT PAPERS INVENTORY

Create a personal file containing information about your possessions and keep it in a secure place, such as a **safe deposit box** or **waterproof container**. Consider including copies of the following for each family member:

- Driver's license(s).
- Vehicle registration and proof of insurance.
- Insurance policies (life, health, property).
- Medical and vaccination records including medicine or food allergies and other specific health conditions.
- Copies of prescription medicine labels.
- Birth and marriage certificates.
- Tax or other important business and personal records.
- Wills.

- Veterinary and vaccination records for pets and livestock.
- Photos of your home and possessions.

## EMERGENCY FUNDS

- Several factors should be considered as to how disasters will affect your family financially. You should be prepared to sustain yourself and your family away from your home for **several days** or, in a worst-case scenario, **several weeks** or even **months**. Be advised, government agencies may not be able to react as quickly as you think they should.
- **Evacuation expenses** include fuel, restaurants and your stay in hotels. When deciding how much cash to bring for each day, keep those three (3) items in mind and plan accordingly.
- Average **pet boarding costs** are different for each animal depending on size and special needs.
- You should budget enough money to pay for a **month's supply** of prescription medicines.
- During a disaster, credit and other bank card use may be limited due to loss of power and other disaster-related factors. Get more **cash** than you think will be necessary.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

[getagameplan.org/planFamilyStp02.htm](http://getagameplan.org/planFamilyStp02.htm) and [ready.gov](http://ready.gov)







# Pets

## DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FOR PETS

Make sure you have:

- **Food and water** for at least three (3) days for each pet.
- Food and water bowls and a manual can opener.
- Depending on the pet, pack litter and litter box or newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags, grooming items and household bleach.
- Don't forget **pet medications** and medical records stored in a waterproof container, a first aid kit and a pet first aid book.
- Sturdy leashes, harnesses and carriers to transport pets safely and to ensure that your pets cannot escape. A carrier should be large enough for the animal to stand comfortably, turn around and lie down. Your pet may have to stay in the carrier for hours. Be sure to have a secure carrier with no loose objects. Include blankets or towels for bedding and warmth and other special items.
- Bring pet toys and the pet's bed, if you can easily take it, to reduce stress.
- **Current photos** and descriptions of your pets to help others identify them in case you and your pets become separated, and to prove that they are yours.

- Make a copy of feeding schedules, **medical conditions**, behavior problems and the name and telephone number of your veterinarian in case you have to board your pets or place them in foster care.
- The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry and its non-governmental partners work year around to support local response to disasters. Animal shelters may be available through your Parish evacuation plan; contact your local Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness. The location of your evacuation destination may or may not accept pets, so call ahead and check. All hazards disaster preparedness information is available at [ldaf.state.la.us](http://ldaf.state.la.us).
- Remember, animal ownership is a responsibility! Be ready to take care of your whole family.



### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FOR YOUR PETS VISIT:

[getagameplan.org/planFamilyStpoz.htm](http://getagameplan.org/planFamilyStpoz.htm) or the Louisiana Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (LA SPCA) website [LA-SPCA.org](http://LA-SPCA.org) or call 504-368-5191

# Get a Game Plan + Apps + Links

The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) hosts an energetic web-based education and information portal designed to help Louisiana citizens prepare for, monitor and respond to disasters.

The website is maintained by GOHSEP and provides information about hazard mitigation measures, disaster preparation, ways to respond to an emergency and how to recover from weather-related disasters, as well as other hazards. It helps you develop a simple, yet successful game plan for your family, should an emergency occur, in order to keep you and your family safe.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

[getagameplan.org](http://getagameplan.org)

Visit [redcross.org/prepare/mobile-apps](http://redcross.org/prepare/mobile-apps) for descriptions.

Visit [iTunes](#) or [Google Play](#) to download.



Look for new GetaGamePlan app available **May 2016**.

**Way to Geaux**; a new hands-free, eyes-free smartphone application providing Louisiana travelers access to around-the-clock, real-time traffic and road condition updates.

[www.sp.dotd.la.gov/Residents/Pages/Travel\\_Information.aspx](http://www.sp.dotd.la.gov/Residents/Pages/Travel_Information.aspx)



[facebook.com/gohsep](https://facebook.com/gohsep)  
[youtube.com/user/GOHSEP](https://youtube.com/user/GOHSEP)  
[twitter.com/gohsep](https://twitter.com/gohsep)



### ALERT FM

For a description go to [alertfm.com/products/mobile-applications](http://alertfm.com/products/mobile-applications)

Visit **iTunes** or **Google Play** to download.

- Functions like a weather radio, but with unique local alerts from emergency officials.
- Offers simple functionality. The user enters a “home” zip code upon launching the app. This connects the user with State and local emergency managers on the network.

### FEMA

For a description go to [fema.gov/smartphone-app](http://fema.gov/smartphone-app)

Visit **iTunes**, **Google Play** or **Blackberry World** to download.

The FEMA app contains disaster safety tips, interactive lists for storing your emergency kit and emergency meeting location information, and a map with open shelters and open FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs).

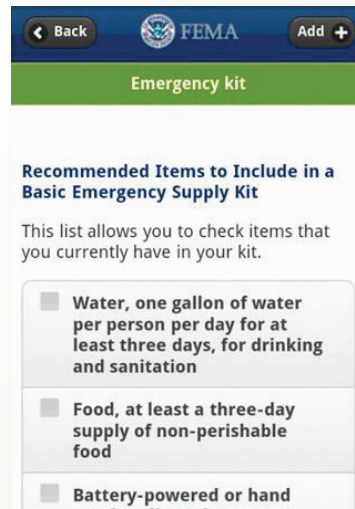
### KNOW YOUR PLAN

By **Insurance Information Institute**



Visit **GooglePlay** to download.

Use *Know Your Plan* – listed as “Your Plan” in GooglePlay – to be prepared when disaster strikes! In the event of hurricanes, wildfires, earthquakes, tornadoes, severe cold, evacuations, this app helps you plan ahead to better protect yourself, your family, your home and your pets. Get started by using the preloaded checklists to learn about important mitigation and preparation steps, or create your own lists from scratch. You can set due dates, chart your progress, include notes with your tasks, and share your checklists with family and friends. Get organized now so you can be ready for what may come.



### HEALTHVAULT

Visit [HealthVault.com](http://HealthVault.com) to discover apps that let you:

- Keep all of your health records in one place that’s organized and available to you online.
- Keep track of medications, health history, conditions and illnesses, allergies, x-rays and scans.

# Business Preparation

## PREPARE YOUR BUSINESS FOR A DISASTER

- Document employee roles and responsibilities during a crisis situation.
- **Conduct a drill** to make sure your staff understands their roles and to test your emergency plan and continuity systems.
- Ask your vendors what their disaster preparedness plans are so you will know how your supply chain will be protected.
- Ensure vital records are protected.
  - » **Review** your off-site backup record storage.
  - » Place irreplaceable paperwork and digital storage media in a fireproof, waterproof box.

Consider having a “**Go Box**” with:

- A hard copy of your emergency plan.
- A copy of a primary, secondary and out-of-area contact information for employees and key stakeholders.
- A copy of insurance policies and agent contact information.
- A copy of contact information for emergency vendors (contractors, plumbers, electricians, mold remediation, etc.).
- Laptops and portable backup media for critical business information.
- Important documents (such as finance records and an assets inventory).
- General office supplies and special forms that you may need to do business at an alternate location.

## SECURE THE PREMISES

- **Move** computers and copiers away from large windows.
- **Cover** and **elevate** inventory.
- **Anchor** large equipment, cabinets and shelves to walls or floors.
- **Move** or store equipment, furniture and valuable files on the upper level of multistory buildings.
  - » OR place equipment on concrete blocks at least 12 inches above projected flood elevations.
- **Cover** doors and windows.

## THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP)

[fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program](http://fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program)

Almost 40 percent of small businesses never reopen their doors following a disaster because just a few inches of water can cause tens of thousands of dollars in damage. Between 2006 and 2010, the average

commercial flood claim amounted to just over \$85,000.

**Flood insurance** is the best way to protect yourself from devastating financial loss. Find the flood risk for your business now using our *One-Step Flood Risk Profile* at [floodsmart.gov](http://floodsmart.gov).

Flood insurance is available to homeowners, renters, condo owners/renters and commercial owners/renters. Costs vary depending on how much insurance is purchased, what it covers and the property's flood risk. Coverage for your building and contents is available. Talk to your agent today about insuring your business and its contents. Typically, there's a **30-day waiting period** from date of purchase before your policy goes into effect. That means *now* is the best time to buy flood insurance.

The **Louisiana Business Emergency Operations Center (LA BEOC)** supports the coordination of activities and resources of businesses and volunteer organizations with the State's Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) during emergencies. The LA BEOC provides situational awareness and identifies critical supply chains of goods and services likely to be needed in response to a disaster or emergency. To find out about the benefits of registering with the LA BEOC go to [labeoc.org](http://labeoc.org).

**Reentering** an area may be difficult following a disaster. Access control is carried out using a **tiered approach**. For information go to [lsp.org](http://lsp.org), click on Alerts, then on Emergency Information and then Louisiana Statewide Credentialing/Access Program. Also be sure to check with your Parish to see if they have specific **reentry requirements and permits**.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BUSINESS PREPAREDNESS AND DISASTER PLANNING VISIT:**  
[getagameplan.org/planBusiness.htm](http://getagameplan.org/planBusiness.htm)

To download a copy of the small-business disaster preparedness guide *From Risk To Resiliency* go to [gohsep.la.gov/RESOURCES/OVERVIEW/PUBLICATIONS](http://gohsep.la.gov/RESOURCES/OVERVIEW/PUBLICATIONS)

[ready.gov/planning](http://ready.gov/planning)  
[fema.gov/protect-your-property-or-business-disaster](http://fema.gov/protect-your-property-or-business-disaster)  
[readyrating.org](http://readyrating.org)  
[disastersafety.org/open-for-business](http://disastersafety.org/open-for-business)

Look for new GetaGamePlan app available **May 2016**.

# see it. suspect it. REPORT IT.

## Prevention

### HOMELAND SECURITY BEGINS WITH HOMETOWN SECURITY

If you see something **suspicious** taking place, **report** that behavior or activity to local law enforcement.

Factors such as race, ethnicity, national origin or religious affiliation alone are not suspicious. For that reason, the public should report only suspicious behavior and situations (e.g., an unattended backpack in a public place or someone trying to break into a restricted area) rather than beliefs, thoughts, ideas, expressions, associations or speech unrelated to terrorism or other criminal activity. Only reports that **indicate relevant criminal activity** will be shared with Federal partners.



Fusion Centers manage the flow of information and intelligence across local, State, Tribal and Federal agencies.

In Louisiana, the Fusion Center is coordinated by State Police (LSP) through the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and consists of a number of law enforcement, public safety and governmental partners. The public plays a **vital role** in providing information about potential acts of terrorism and terrorist organizations to these centers. Visit the [la-safe.org](http://la-safe.org) web site to learn more about the Louisiana State Analytical and Fusion Exchange (LA-SAFE).

### LOUISIANA'S PRIMARY DOMESTIC + INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

- Cyber crime
- Drug trafficking organizations
- Gangs
- Immigration smuggling

- Sexual predators
- Suspicious activity
- Transnational + national criminal organizations
- Terrorism

### TWO (2) WAYS TO REPORT SUSPICIOUS OR CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

There are **two (2) ways** to report **suspicious** or **criminal activity**:

- Contact Louisiana State Police (LSP) Suspicious Activity Hotline: 1-800-434-8007 or visit [lsp.org/help.html](http://lsp.org/help.html).
- Use the **See Send app**.

Please remember, in case of an emergency, **always dial 9-1-1**.



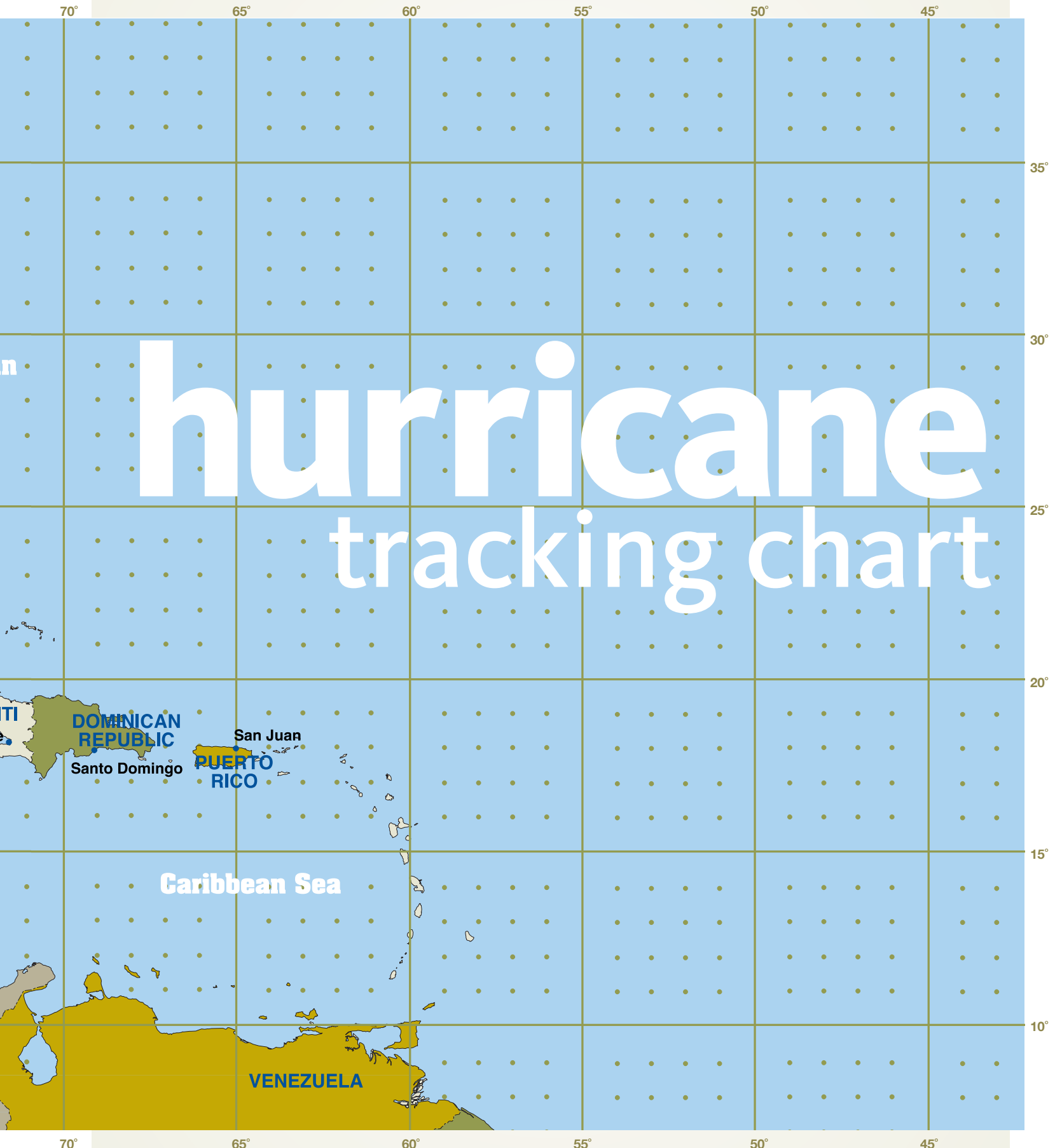
### SEE SEND APP

The *See Something Send Something* app is the preeminent nationwide suspicious activity reporting (SAR) tool for citizens to help in the fight against terrorism. *See Something Send*

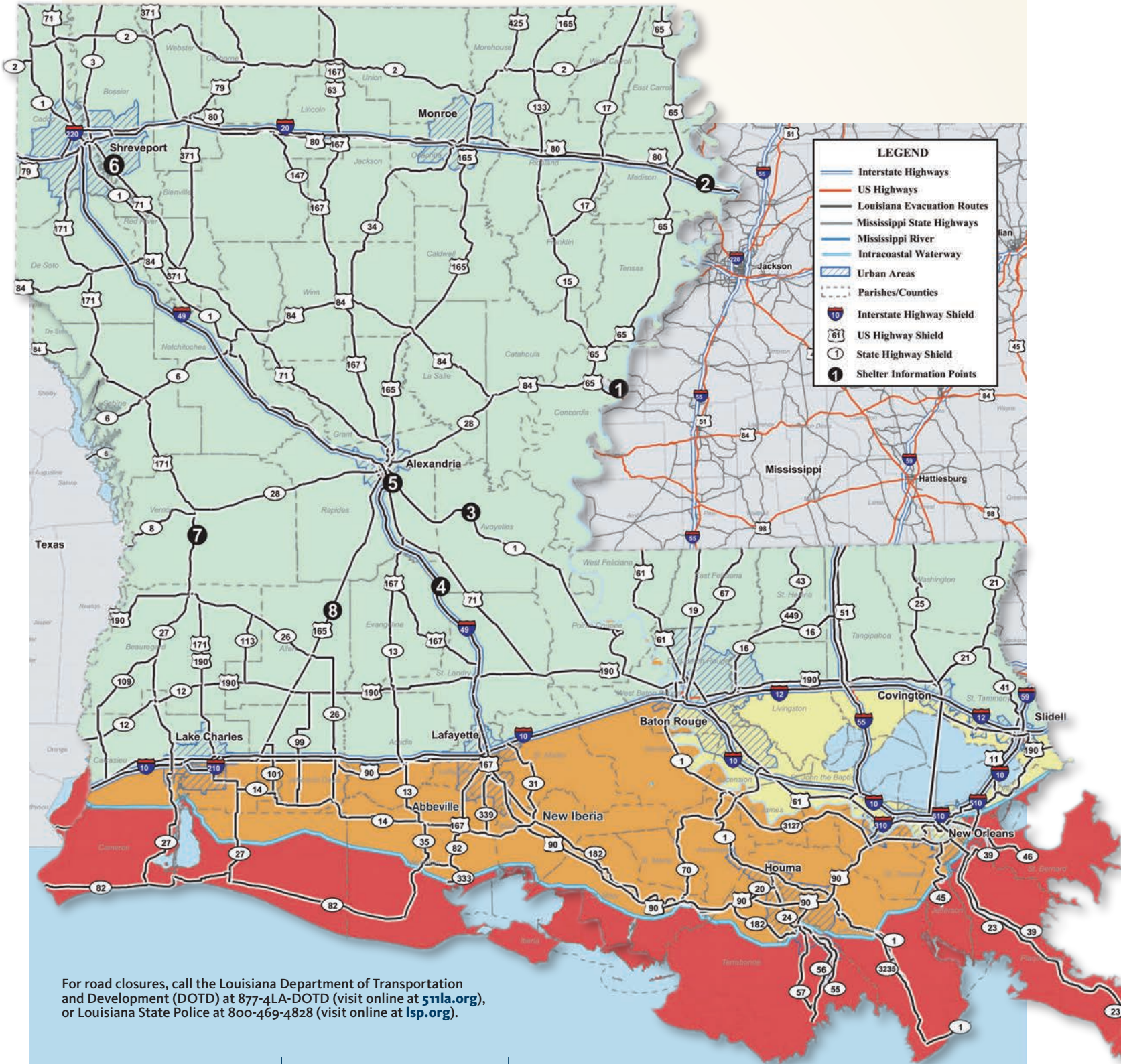
*Something* has information to educate you on **what to look for** and **when to submit suspicious activity reports** along with how to receive important alerts. The SAR tool connects you to a nationwide network of Intelligence Centers by routing tips to the correct center for analysis.

Visit **iTunes** or **Google Play** to download the **SEE SEND** app. It's **FREE**.





# Louisiana Emergency Evacuation Map



For road closures, call the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) at 877-4LA-DOTD (visit online at [511la.org](http://511la.org)), or Louisiana State Police at 800-469-4828 (visit online at [lsp.org](http://lsp.org)).

### PHASE I (RED)

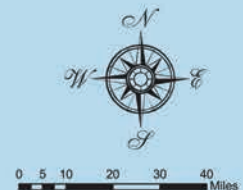
**50 hours** before onset of tropical storm force winds. Set evacuations include areas south of Intracoastal Waterway. These areas are outside any levee protection system and are vulnerable.

### PHASE II (ORANGE)

**40 hours** before onset of tropical storm force winds for south of I-10, which are levee protected but remain vulnerable.

### PHASE III (YELLOW)

**30 hours** before onset of tropical storm force winds for areas on the east bank of the Mississippi River in the New Orleans metropolitan area, which are within levee protection system but remain vulnerable.





# Louisiana Parishes + Homeland Security + Emergency Preparedness Information

YOUR PARISH IS A SOURCE FOR SANDBAGS + EVACUATION ROUTES + OTHER IMPORTANT DISASTER RESPONSE INFORMATION

## PARISH

Acadia  
 Allen  
 Ascension  
 Assumption  
 Avoyelles  
 Beauregard  
 Bienville  
 Bossier  
 Caddo  
 Calcasieu  
 Caldwell  
 Cameron  
 Catahoula  
 Claiborne  
 Concordia  
 De Soto  
 East Baton Rouge  
 East Carroll  
 East Feliciana  
 Evangeline  
 Franklin  
 Grant  
 Iberia  
 Iberville  
 Jackson  
 Jefferson Davis  
 Jefferson  
 Lafayette  
 Lafourche  
 La Salle  
 Lincoln  
 Livingston  
 Madison  
 Morehouse  
 Natchitoches  
 Orleans  
 Ouachita  
 Plaquemines  
 Pointe Coupee  
 Rapides  
 Red River  
 Richland  
 Sabine  
 St. Bernard  
 St. Charles  
 St. Helena  
 St. James  
 St. John the Baptist  
 St. Landry  
 St. Martin  
 St. Mary  
 St. Tammany  
 Tangipahoa  
 Tensas  
 Terrebonne  
 Union  
 Vermilion  
 Vernon  
 Washington  
 Webster  
 West Baton Rouge  
 West Carroll  
 West Feliciana  
 Winn

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

337-783-4357  
 337-639-4353  
 225-621-8360  
 985-369-7386  
 318-240-9160  
 337-463-3282, ext 1142  
 318-263-2019  
 318-425-5351  
 318-425-5351  
 337-721-3800  
 318-649-3764  
 337-775-7048  
 318-744-5697  
 318-927-9118  
 318-336-7151  
 318-872-1877  
 225-389-2100  
 318-559-2256  
 225-683-1014  
 337-363-3267  
 318-435-6247  
 318-627-3261  
 337-369-4427  
 225-687-5140  
 318-259-2361, ext 204  
 337-824-3850  
 504-349-5360  
 337-291-5075  
 985-537-7603  
 318-992-0673  
 318-251-6454  
 225-686-3066  
 318-574-6911  
 318-282-8754  
 318-238-7555  
 504-658-8700  
 318-322-2641  
 504-274-2476  
 225-694-3737  
 318-445-5141  
 318-932-5981  
 318-728-0453  
 318-256-2675  
 504-278-4268  
 985-783-5050  
 225-222-3544  
 225-562-2364  
 985-652-2222  
 337-948-7177  
 337-394-2800  
 337-828-4100, ext 135  
 985-898-2359  
 985-748-3211  
 318-766-3992  
 985-873-6357  
 318-368-3124  
 337-898-4308  
 337-238-0815  
 985-839-0434  
 318-377-7564  
 225-346-1577  
 318-428-8020  
 225-635-6428  
 318-628-1160

## WEBSITE

[appj.org](http://appj.org)  
[allenparishso.com](http://allenparishso.com)  
[ascensionparish.net](http://ascensionparish.net)  
[assumptionla.com/OEP](http://assumptionla.com/OEP)  
[avoypj.org](http://avoypj.org)  
[beauparish.org](http://beauparish.org)  
[bienvilleparish.org](http://bienvilleparish.org)  
[bossierparishla.gov](http://bossierparishla.gov)  
[caddosheriff.org](http://caddosheriff.org)  
[cppj.net](http://cppj.net)  
 —  
[parishofcameron.net](http://parishofcameron.net)  
[catahoulaparish.org](http://catahoulaparish.org)  
[claiborneparish.org](http://claiborneparish.org)  
[conppj.org](http://conppj.org)  
[dpsso.org](http://dpsso.org)  
[brgov.com](http://brgov.com)  
 —  
[evangelineparishpolicejury.com](http://evangelineparishpolicejury.com)  
 —  
[grantso.org](http://grantso.org)  
[iberiaparishgovernment.com](http://iberiaparishgovernment.com)  
[ibervilleparish.com](http://ibervilleparish.com)  
[jacksonparishpolicejury.org](http://jacksonparishpolicejury.org)  
[jeffdavis.org](http://jeffdavis.org)  
[jeffparish.net](http://jeffparish.net)  
[lafayetteohsep.org](http://lafayetteohsep.org)  
[lafourchegov.org](http://lafourchegov.org)  
 —  
[lpoep.org](http://lpoep.org)  
 —  
[mpso.net](http://mpso.net)  
[npsheiff.org](http://npsheiff.org)  
[ready.nola.gov](http://ready.nola.gov)  
[oppj.org](http://oppj.org)  
[plaqueminesparish.com](http://plaqueminesparish.com)  
[pcpsso.org](http://pcpsso.org)  
[rppj.com](http://rppj.com)  
[redriverready.com](http://redriverready.com)  
 —  
[sabineparishpolicejury.com](http://sabineparishpolicejury.com)  
[sbpj.net](http://sbpj.net)  
[stcharlesparish-la.gov](http://stcharlesparish-la.gov)  
[sthelenaparish.la.gov](http://sthelenaparish.la.gov)  
[stjamesla.com](http://stjamesla.com)  
[sjbparish.com](http://sjbparish.com)  
[stlandryparish.org](http://stlandryparish.org)  
[stmartinohsep.org](http://stmartinohsep.org)  
[stmaryohsep.org](http://stmaryohsep.org)  
[stpgov.org](http://stpgov.org)  
[tangisafe.com](http://tangisafe.com)  
 —  
[tpcg.org](http://tpcg.org)  
[unionsheriff.com](http://unionsheriff.com)  
[vppj.org](http://vppj.org)  
[vernonso.org](http://vernonso.org)  
[washingtonparishalerts.org](http://washingtonparishalerts.org)  
[websterparishla.org](http://websterparishla.org)  
[wbrccouncil.org](http://wbrccouncil.org)  
 —  
[wfpso.org](http://wfpso.org)  
[winpparish.org](http://winpparish.org)

## SHERIFF'S OFFICE

337-788-8700  
 337-639-4353  
 225-621-8300  
 985-369-2912  
 318-253-4000  
 337-463-3281  
 318-263-2215  
 318-965-2203  
 318-675-2170  
 337-491-3700  
 318-649-2345  
 337-775-5111  
 318-744-5411  
 318-927-2011  
 318-336-5231  
 318-872-3956  
 225-389-5074  
 318-559-2800  
 —  
 225-683-5459  
 337-363-2161  
 318-435-4505  
 318-627-3261  
 337-369-3711  
 225-687-5100  
 318-259-9021  
 337-824-3850  
 504-363-5500  
 337-232-9211  
 985-449-2255  
 318-992-2151  
 318-251-5111  
 225-686-2241  
 318-574-1833  
 318-281-4141  
 318-352-6432  
 504-202-9339  
 318-329-1200  
 504-564-2525  
 225-694-3737  
 318-473-6700  
 318-932-4221  
 318-728-2071  
 318-256-9241  
 504-271-2501  
 985-783-6807  
 225-222-4413  
 225-562-2200  
 985-652-9513  
 337-948-6516  
 337-394-3071  
 985-384-1622  
 985-898-2338  
 985-345-6150 OR 985-902-2026  
 318-766-3961  
 985-876-2500  
 318-368-3124  
 337-898-4401  
 337-238-1311  
 985-839-3434  
 318-377-1515  
 225-343-9234  
 318-428-2331  
 225-784-3136  
 318-628-4611

RESPOND



9-1-1



EMERGENCY.LA.GOV



511LA.ORG  
 511 OR  
 888-ROAD-511  
 (888-762-3511)

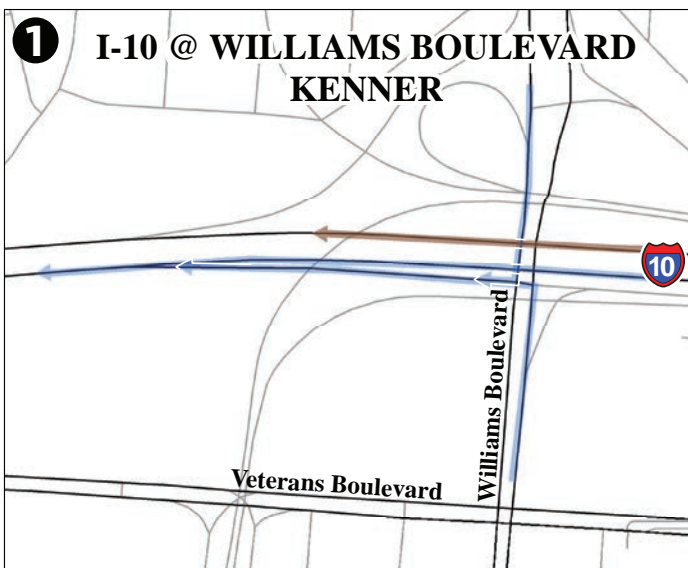


LSP.ORG  
 225-925-6006  
 1-800-469-4828  
 \* LSP OR \*577

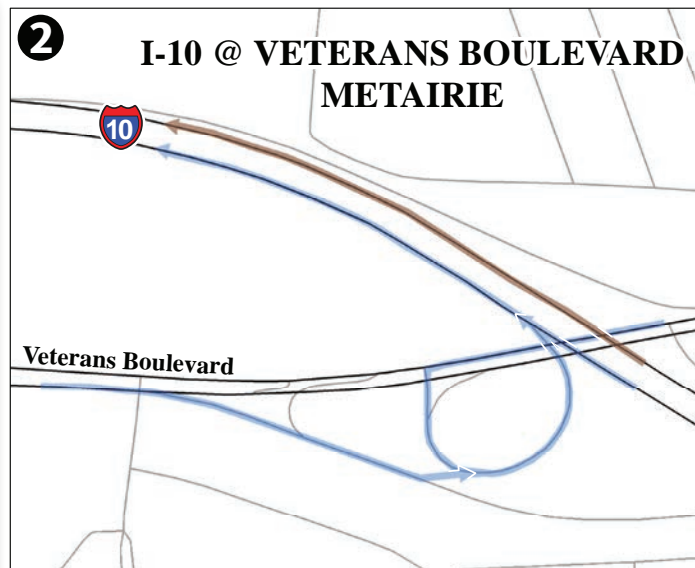


LOUISIANA211.ORG

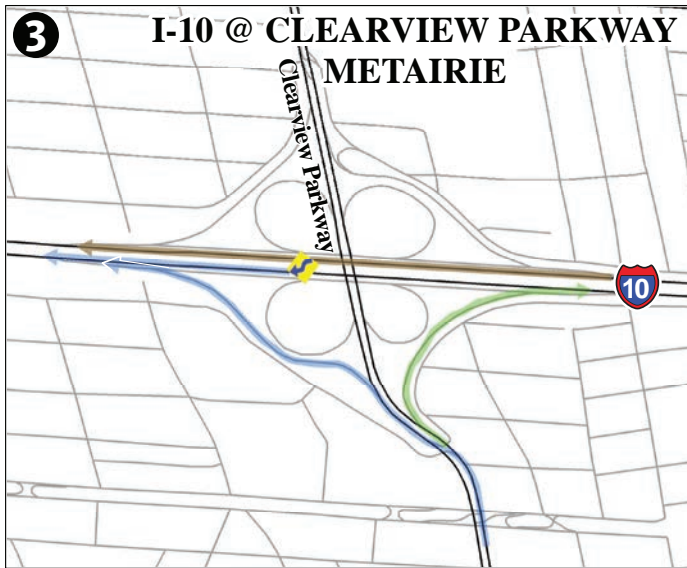
# Southeast Louisiana Contraflow



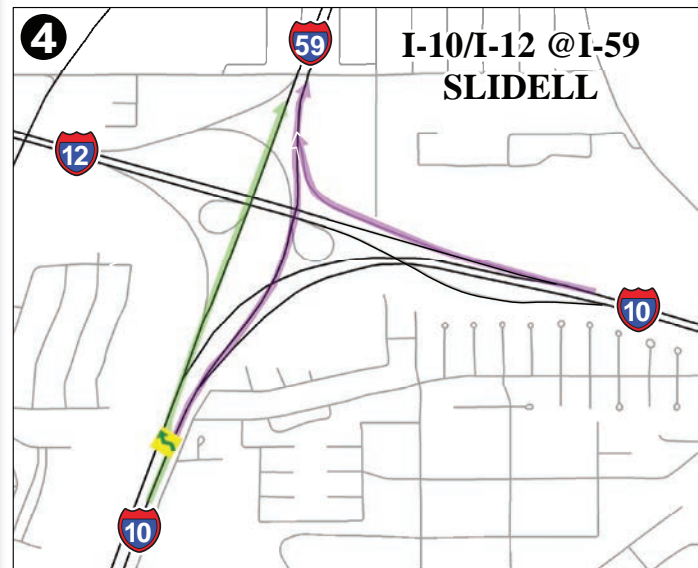
- ➡ Enter I-10 West Via the Normal Westbound Entrance Ramps.
- ➡ Enter I-10 CONTRAFLOW (From Northbound or Southbound Williams Blvd.) Via the I-10 East Exit Ramp at Williams Blvd.



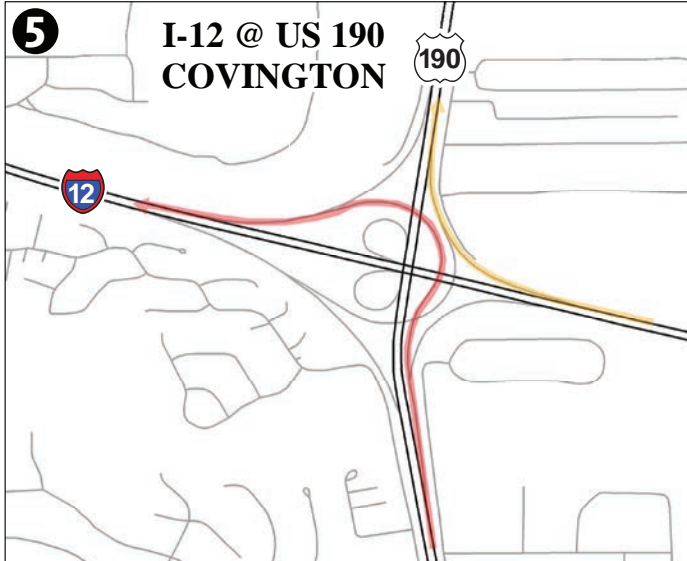
- ➡ Enter I-10 West Via the Normal Westbound Entrance Ramps.
- ➡ Enter I-10 CONTRAFLOW (From Eastbound or Westbound Veterans Blvd.) Via the I-10 East Exit Ramp at Veterans Blvd.



- ← Enter I-10 West Via the Normal Westbound Entrance Ramps.
- ← Northbound Traffic on Clearview Pkwy. Can Enter I-10 CONTRAFLOW Via the I-10 East Exit Ramp at Clearviw Pkwy.
- ← Enter I-10 East Via the Normal Eastbound Entrance Ramp From Clearview Pkwy.



- ← Two Lanes From I-10 East (Left and Center Lanes) and Proceed on I-59 North CONTRAFLOW.
- ← One Lane From I-10 East (Right Lane) Continues onto I-50 North.
- ← I-10 West (All Lanes) Diverts to I-59 North.



- ← US 190/Causeway Diverts to I-12 West.
- ← I-12 West Diverts to US 190 West.



- ← I-12 West (All Lanes) Diverts to I-55 North.
- ← I-55 North (All Lanes) Cross over and Proceed on I-55 North CONTRAFLOW.

To deal with the demands of traffic flow that would be created by a hurricane or other evacuation, contraflow freeway segments have been planned. Through the use of designated contraflow points, evacuation flow is enhanced through movement of all traffic in the same direction. This diversion enables some or all normally incoming lanes to serve as outgoing lanes to facilitate and speed evacuation. Several different routes and contraflow crossover points are planned for use in an evacuation of the Southeast Louisiana area.

# Evacuation + Sheltering + Staying Home

## EVACUATION

- Ahead of time, plan your route and what transportation you will use.
- Fuel up and check your car. Have extra keys.
- Take photos of your children with you.
- Give your **children identification information** to carry with them, including his or her name, date of birth, address, phone numbers, etc. If your children are too young or otherwise unable to speak for themselves, consider writing their name, date of birth and parents' names and phone numbers somewhere on his or her body in indelible marker.
- Give yourself plenty of time to evacuate. Do not wait until the last minute; traffic will most likely be heavy.
- Have three (3) to five (5) days of emergency supplies ready to travel.
- Bring cash; ATMs and credit cards may not work.
- Secure your home; lock up and turn off utilities at the source. **DO NOT turn off natural gas** at the meter unless instructed. A professional serviceman will be required to turn back on.
- If evacuation is voluntary and trusted neighbors will be staying behind, advise them of your plans and leave spare keys so they can check on your property.
- If evacuation is mandatory, let family, friends and neighbors know how you can be reached.
- Stay tuned to news broadcasts for traffic reports, updates and instructions; **listen to local officials**.
- Secure loose toys or furniture from the lawn.
- Don't leave your pet behind. The smell of smoke, high winds or lightning may make your pet more fearful and difficult to load into a crate or carrier. Evacuating before conditions become severe will keep everyone safer and make the process less stressful.
- The location of your evacuation destination may or may not accept pets, so call 2-1-1 or inquire at a shelter information point. Animal shelters will be set up in various parts of the State on an as-needed basis.

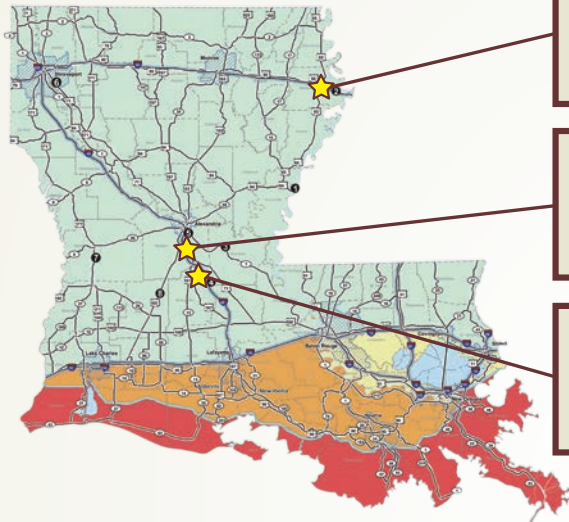
## SHELTERING

- Plan to **leave early** — preferably during daytime and several hours ahead of your desired arrival time — because travel will be slow due to worsening weather and heavy traffic.
- Be ready to use an alternate route to your shelter destination, in case primary evacuation routes become too congested. **Bring a map.**
- Pack what you need — and only what you need. Emergency shelters will not have space available to house your family treasures, so limit your packing only to **necessities**.
- Let family and friends know exactly which shelter you plan to use and where it is located. Make a plan to get in touch and let loved ones know you've arrived safely.
- Be sure your vehicle is filled with **gas** and in good operating condition.
- Register at the shelter as soon as you arrive.
- Follow the shelter guidelines at all times and make sure your children understand the rules as well.

## STAYING HOME

- Designate alternate locations for children in case adults are unable to make it home.
- **Secure your home.** If severe weather is approaching, you may want to board windows, bring in outdoor furniture — minimize what could become flying debris. If a biothreat, chemical or toxic spill is likely, consider whether you want to cover windows and doors with plastic sheeting.
- Have your family survival kit ready at all times.
- Stay tuned to radio and television news broadcasts; **listen for instructions from local officials.**
- Limit phone use to important calls and emergency communication.
- Make sure you have food and water and other supplies to last **72 hours**. Use the checklist on pages 5 and 6 to prepare your disaster kit.
- Prepare for **loss of communications** and **electricity**.
- Ensure you have blankets and medical supplies on hand.
- Stay in **high places** in case of flooding; in the case of high winds, stay away from **walls**.
- **Emergency response may be limited when sustained wind speeds reach 35-45 mph.**

# Emergency Shelter Information Points



**TA Truck Stop**  
Tallulah  
Exit 171 – I-20 at U.S. 65

**Y-Not Stop**  
Alexandria  
US 71 - LA 3179

**Sammy's Truck Stop**  
Bunkie  
Exit 53 – I-49/3601 LA 115 W



LA DOTD uses Variable Messaging Signs (VMSs) to send messages to drivers.

## SPECIAL NEEDS

- Those who are **hearing impaired** may need to make special arrangements to receive emergency warnings.
- For the **hearing or speech impaired**, carry a laminated personal communication board if you might need assistance with being understood.
- Carry medical alert tags or bracelets or written descriptions of your **disability** and support needs in case you are unable to describe the situation in an emergency.
- If you receive **dialysis** or other life-sustaining medical treatment, identify the location and availability of more than one (1) facility and work with your provider to develop your personal emergency plan.
- **By law**, service animals are allowed in all shelters, even those that do not allow pets.
- If you use a motorized **wheelchair**, have a lightweight manual chair available for emergencies. Know the size and weight of your wheelchair in addition to whether or not it is collapsible, in case it has to be transported.
- Even if you do not use a computer yourself, consider putting important information onto a **portable drive** for easy transport in an evacuation.

Emergency shelter information points are planned to function when shelters are opened. To confirm that information points are open or to confirm locations visit [RedCross.org](https://www.redcross.org), use the **RedCross Emergency App** or call 2-1-1.



Shelters are not opened in areas that are in the predicted path of a storm.

# Louisiana Emergency Information

REMEMBER TO CALL 911 IN ANY SITUATION THAT REQUIRES IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE FROM THE POLICE, FIRE OR AMBULANCE SERVICES

## LOUISIANA EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

In the event of an emergency, turn to your local radio station for emergency information.

### FOR TRAFFIC INFORMATION, ROAD CLOSURES, EVACUATION ROUTES AND OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION, VISIT:

Alert FM  
[alertfm.com](http://alertfm.com)



National Weather Service  
[weather.gov](http://weather.gov); for Doppler radar images navigate to [radar.weather.gov](http://radar.weather.gov)



Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development  
[511la.org](http://511la.org) or dial 511 or 888-ROAD-511 (888-762-3511)



Get A Game Plan  
[getagameplan.org/evacinfo.htm](http://getagameplan.org/evacinfo.htm)



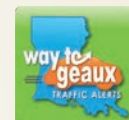
[emergency.la.gov](http://emergency.la.gov)



Louisiana State Police  
[lsp.org](http://lsp.org) or dial 800-469-4828



Way to Geaux; a new hands-free, eyes-free smartphone application providing Louisiana travelers access to around-the-clock, real-time traffic and road condition updates.



[wwwsp.dotd.la.gov/Residents/Pages/Travel\\_Information.aspx](http://wwwsp.dotd.la.gov/Residents/Pages/Travel_Information.aspx)

American Red Cross  
[redcross.org/prepare/mobile-apps](http://redcross.org/prepare/mobile-apps)



2-1-1 is an easy-to-remember telephone number that connects callers to information about critical health and human services available in their community during crisis and at any time.

The 2-1-1 call is answered by an Information and Referral (I&R) specialist who assesses the caller's needs and refers the person to the appropriate community, social, health and/or government services. The caller is provided with phone numbers, programs and available services, location, hours of operation and whatever other information is relevant to the caller's inquiry.

For more information about 2-1-1 in Louisiana visit [louisiana211.org](http://louisiana211.org).

## COORDINATED DISASTER INFORMATION

Food, Clothing // Shelters // Special Needs Housing  
Volunteer Management // Evacuation Routes  
Transportation Assistance // Crisis Counseling  
Prescription Assistance // Missing Persons  
Post Disaster Child Care // Rebuilding Assistance

## HOW DOES 2-1-1 WORK IN LOUISIANA?

- Call 2-1-1 from any landline or mobile phone in Louisiana.
- 2-1-1 is staffed 24/7 with trained specialists to guide you to vital resources.
- 2-1-1 provides multilingual services and information for the hearing impaired.
- 2-1-1 maintains a computerized database of more than 15,000 resources and services statewide.

# After the Storm – Returning

Downed power lines, broken water, sewer or gas lines, clogged roadways and dangling tree limbs are just a few of the lingering hazards that must be dealt with after a storm has moved through the area. So in addition to making a plan in advance for how your family will prepare for weather emergencies, you should create a family plan for safely navigating your way back to normal life after the weather threat has ended.

## AFTER THE STORM

- Wait until an area is **declared safe** before entering; **listen to local officials**.
- Do not drive in areas where roads are closed. Do not drive around barricades.
- Avoid weakened bridges and washed out roads.
- Keep monitoring radio and TV if possible.
- Check with local officials to determine if water is safe. **Do not drink or prepare food with tap water until you are certain it is not contaminated.**
- Floodwater can pick up sewage and chemicals from roads, farms and factories. If your home has been flooded, protect your family's health by cleaning your home immediately.
- **Make sure that your children do not play or swim in floodwater.**
- Two (2) weeks after floodwater subsides, drain wells, sanitize well and water lines and test water.
- Never try to touch or move downed lines or repair broken electric or gas connections.

- Be extremely careful clearing storm debris, which may camouflage downed power lines, serve as hiding places for wild animals or be contaminated with raw sewage or other hazards.
- **Check all canned or stored dry goods** for quality before consuming them. Toxins can form quickly in the form of bacteria or mold in the hot, humid days after a storm.

If you have the slightest doubt about the water's safety for drinking, **purify** it by using one of the following methods:

- Boil for 10 minutes and pour between containers to replenish oxygen.
- Add eight (8) drops of plain liquid chlorine bleach (5.25% sodium hypochlorite/no soap) per gallon and wait four (4) hours before drinking.
- Add water purification tablets per the manufacturer's instructions.

## LOCATING FAMILY AFTER A DISASTER

If your child is missing, or you are caring for a lost child, contact the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) at 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678).

[missingkids.org](http://missingkids.org)



## The National Emergency Family Registry and Locator System (NEFRLS):

To register with NEFRLS, or if you wish to find out about someone's status, call 1-800-588-9822.

<https://gateway.fema.gov/inter/nefrls/home.htm>

(Please note: The system is only activated to support Presidentially declared disasters and mass evacuations, and is not active at any other time.)

## RED CROSS SAFE AND WELL SITE

You can search for a missing person or child, or register information about your status and well-being, at the Red Cross Safe and Well site. [safeandwell.communityos.org/cms](http://safeandwell.communityos.org/cms)



# Recovery Assistance

Successful recoveries depend upon personal and business disaster-preparedness planning. The need for individual and community **self-reliance** cannot be overstated. When personal resources become overwhelmed, look to **family, neighbors, local community resources** and **faith-based organizations** first for help.

In the event of a **Presidentially declared major disaster**, Federal assistance may also be available. The FEMA *Individuals and Households Program* (IHP) provides financial assistance to individuals and households affected as a **direct result of the Presidential declared major disaster** or emergency. Assistance is available for those who are uninsured or underinsured, have necessary expenses and serious needs and are unable to meet those expenses or needs through other means. Up to **\$31,900** is available in financial help (adjusted yearly), although some forms of IHP assistance have other limits.

This program supports recovery by providing the financial means to disaster survivors to secure adequate interim and long-term housing, in addition to other necessary expenses and serious needs.

Applicant eligibility for IHP has **qualifiers**. Visit **fema.gov/response-recovery** for more information.

Generally, assistance may be available to those:

- Who are in Presidentially declared emergency or major disaster areas.
- Whose primary residence has been damaged or destroyed.
- Whose losses are **not covered by insurance** and were caused by the disaster.
- Who are citizens of the United States (U.S.), non-citizen nationals or qualified aliens, or are in a household where a member of the household is a citizen of the U.S., a non-citizen national or a qualified alien.

In the aftermath of disasters, FEMA may establish a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) as a location where individuals impacted by disaster may go for information about **FEMA** and **other disaster assistance programs**, or for questions related to an individual case. DRCs include staff from FEMA, State and local government agencies, voluntary agencies and other Federal agencies. The range and type of disaster assistance services offered in a DRC is contingent upon the characteristics of the declared incident, specific recovery activities and the availability of local resources. The types of disaster assistance services that are typically in a DRC include access to:

- FEMA disaster assistance programs.
- U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) loan programs.
- Information about rebuilding and repairing property.
- Other Federal, State and local government programs (e.g., tax assistance, unemployment information and social services benefits).

## HOW DO I APPLY FOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE?

A number of different services and special programs are made available when the President signs a major disaster declaration. Contact the **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** for assistance.

To apply for the FEMA IHP call FEMA or apply online at **DisasterAssistance.gov**.

FEMA  
**fema.gov**  
 1-800-621-FEMA (3362)  
 (TTY: 1-800-462-7585)



FEMA provides information on disaster assistance programs at a DRC.



To apply for SBA disaster loans, individuals who are homeowners or renters must register with FEMA.



When existing facilities are not available, FEMA may deploy a mobile DRC.

### WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE ANY OR ENOUGH INSURANCE?

You may qualify for grants from FEMA, low-interest loans from the SBA or the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA), or you may qualify for tax refunds for items that were not covered by insurance.

For more information, call the USDA/FSA Louisiana State Office: 318-473-7721 or visit [disaster.fsa.usda.gov](http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov) and the Rural Development: 318-473-7721 or visit [rd.usda.gov](http://rd.usda.gov).

For Federal tax information and assistance, contact the **Internal Revenue Service** at 1-800-829-1040 (TTY: 1-800-822-4059) or visit [irs.gov](http://irs.gov).

**SBA** provides loans to homeowners, renters, businesses and organizations to repair or replace real estate, personal property, equipment and business assets that have been damaged in a disaster. Through its office of Disaster Assistance, SBA provides low interest, long-term loans for physical and economic damage caused by a declared event.

[sba.gov/disaster](http://sba.gov/disaster)  
1-800-659-2955

### WHAT IF I LOST MY JOB OR CAN'T WORK BECAUSE OF THE DISASTER?

People who lose their jobs due to the disaster may apply for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA). DUA provides weekly benefits to individuals who are unemployed and not eligible for regular Unemployment Insurance Compensation.

For more information, contact FEMA or the local unemployment office or visit [workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/disaster.asp](http://workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/disaster.asp).

### IS CRISIS COUNSELING AVAILABLE?

The purpose of a crisis counseling program is to help relieve any grieving, stress or mental health problems caused or aggravated by the disaster or its aftermath. These are **short-term services**, provided by FEMA through supplemental funds granted to State and local mental health agencies and are available to eligible survivors of Presidentially declared major disasters. If you require this confidential service, inquire about it while **registering for disaster assistance**.

Crisis counseling services are also offered by the **American Red Cross**, the **Salvation Army**, **other voluntary agencies** and places of worship.

Additional mental health information may be found on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Center for Mental Health Services' website, [mentalhealth.org](http://mentalhealth.org).

# What Does Hazard Mitigation Mean?

Hazard mitigation is defined as **any sustained actions taken to eliminate or reduce future risk to people and property** from natural and man-made disasters. Mitigation **saves time and money**. Preventing damage in the first place is less expensive than restoring damaged property.

Examples of mitigation measures include:

- Trimming tree limbs.
- Installing shutters.
- Elevating electrical panels and air conditioners above flood levels.
- Strengthening your roof.
- Anchoring your manufactured home.
- Using corrosion-resistant hardware in areas prone to storm damage. In coastal environments, using connectors made of double-hot-dipped galvanized or stainless steel for best protection.
- Ensuring you or your contractor follows the manufacturer's installation instructions for any materials used in new home construction, repair or renovations.

## YOUR ROOF

Roofs catch the brunt of wind and wind-driven rain. Reinforce framing connections — from the rafters to the foundation — so they will hold together in the face of storms. The most common technique involves installing **anchor bolts** and **metal plates** and **straps** to strengthen connections. **Roof straps**, also called hurricane straps, more firmly affix the house's roof to load-bearing walls, resulting in the roof being **less likely to blow off in high winds**. Straps, not clips, should connect wall framing to each rafter or truss.

Install it right. Many roofing failures occur because the shingles are not installed properly. Something as simple as using all the required nails in a shingle or the addition of roof straps can make a big difference.

## SHUTTERS

The building code requires that windows be protected from flying debris when the building is located in an area where the design wind speed is 120 miles per hour or greater. Using **impact-resistant windows** or covering the windows with impact-resistant shutters can provide protection.

Think about adding window protection even if it's not required. It just makes good sense.



## ELEVATION

Elevation becomes a **requirement** when a building in a flood-prone area has been substantially damaged or is being substantially improved. Substantially damaged or improved is defined by the *Biggert-Waters Act of 2012* as when the cost of the improvement equals or exceeds 30 percent of the market value of the structure before the “start of construction” of the improvement.

## BUILDING CODES

Building codes are put into place to help you build safer, stronger and smarter. For better protection, use code requirements for **higher-risk zones**. This can help protect your home or business from future hazards, sometimes 10-20 years from now. Ask your developer, contractor or local building code official to help you identify the risks your home or business may have, as well as mitigation techniques that provide extra protection. Louisiana has adopted *International Residential Code (IRC) 2009* and uses this as the residential building code standard.

## INSURANCE

A significant mitigation strategy is insurance. Participate in the *National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)*.

Once roof protection is installed, contact your insurance agent to find out if discounts may be available to you. Some homeowners who implement mitigation measures may save a percent of the windstorm portion of their policy premium.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MITIGATION VISIT:

[getagameplan.org/planMitigate.htm](http://getagameplan.org/planMitigate.htm)

[lsuagcenter.com](http://lsuagcenter.com)

[FLASH.org](http://FLASH.org)

[blueprintforsafety.org](http://blueprintforsafety.org)

[disastersafety.org](http://disastersafety.org)

[NIBS.org](http://NIBS.org)

# My Emergency Preparedness Plan

## CREATE YOUR OWN PERSONAL PLAN + CHECKLIST

I have made a plan to **communicate with family members** through this out-of-state contact and have asked my family to keep this name and number with them at all times.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

I plan **not to evacuate** and will go to a friend's or family member's home in the area. I have notified them and made all of the appropriate arrangements.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

I plan **to evacuate** and will go to a friend's or family member's home outside of the area. I have notified them and made all of the appropriate arrangements.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to go to a **public shelter**. City: \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to stay in a **hotel/motel** as far north of I-10 as possible.

Name of hotel/motel: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Location and city: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate hotel/motel location north of I-10.

Name of hotel/motel: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Location and city: \_\_\_\_\_

I have calculated the **driving time** to my destination north of I-10 at approximately four (4) times the normal driving time, and it is:

\_\_\_\_\_ hours.

I have studied the evacuation route that best suits my needs. My

**evacuation route** will include the following: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If our family is separated and we need to regroup, the following location is where **we will meet**: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I have made plans for my **special needs** family members. My plans are the following: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I have made **plans for my pets**. My plans are the following: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I have completed my **property inventory** and placed it in a safe waterproof place. Location: \_\_\_\_\_

I have made an assessment of my **insurance needs**. I have the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ Homeowners insurance      \_\_\_\_\_ Wind and hail insurance

\_\_\_\_\_ Flood insurance      \_\_\_\_\_ Renters insurance

Insurance information: Name of company, agent, phone number and address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I have completed the necessary **precautions** for the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ Exterior windows      \_\_\_\_\_ Large windows and glass doors

\_\_\_\_\_ Garage doors      \_\_\_\_\_ Roof gable ends

\_\_\_\_\_ Roof protection      \_\_\_\_\_ Indoor hazard protection plan

\_\_\_\_\_ Outdoor property protection plan      \_\_\_\_\_ Trees

\_\_\_\_\_

I have identified any anticipated **extra expense** due to a disaster, and I have calculated an approximate amount of money that will be required to see my family and myself through. That amount is:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_



The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) is the agency responsible for coordinating the State's PREPARATION for, PREVENTION of, RESPONSE to, RECOVERY from and MITIGATION to lessen the effects of man-made or natural disasters that threaten Louisiana.

We are here to help  
– before + during +  
after an emergency  
or disaster.

Visit [gohsep.la.gov](http://gohsep.la.gov) // [getagameplan.org](http://getagameplan.org) // [emergency.la.gov](http://emergency.la.gov)  
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One of the most important things you can do to prepare for and lessen the impacts of a disaster is to identify and implement mitigation strategies.

Strengthen roofs, reinforce framing connections, properly tie down manufactured homes, add shutters, protect windows, elevate air conditioning units and electrical panels, buy insurance, include flood insurance and MORE!

**Louisiana. We can do this!**

This public document is published by the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), State of Louisiana. **243,000** copies of this public document were published in this **2nd printing** at a cost of **\$53,809.92**. The total cost of all printings of this document, including reprints is **\$121,415.52**. This document was published for the purpose of providing public information and education. This material was printed in accordance with standards for printing by State agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31. Printing of this material was purchased in accordance with the provisions of Title 43 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes. This document was prepared under grants from the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and Grant Programs Directorate (GPD). Grant Catalog of Federal Disaster Assistance (CFDA) numbers are HMGP 97.039, State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) 97.067 and Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) 97.042. Points of view or options expressed in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of DHS, FEMA, or GPD.