

Terms & Definitions to Know

Tropical Depression.. An organized system of clouds and thunderstorms with a defined circulation and maximum sustained winds of 38 mph (33 knots) or less.

Tropical Storm...An organized system of strong thunderstorms with a defined circulation and maximum sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph (34-63 knots).

Hurricane...An intense tropical weather system with a well defined circulation and maximum sustained winds of 74 mph (64 knots) or higher. In the western Pacific, hurricanes are called "typhoons," and similar storms in the Indian Ocean are called "cyclones."

NWS Watches/Warnings

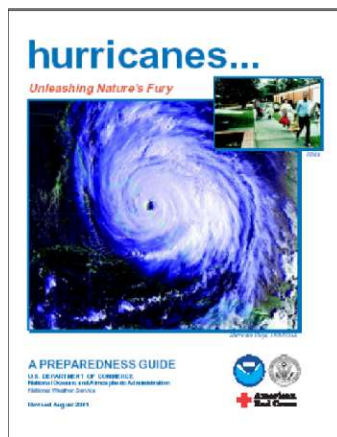
Tropical Storm Watch...Issued when a tropical storm or tropical storm conditions pose a threat to coastal areas within 36 hours.

Tropical Storm Warning...Issued when tropical storm conditions with sustained wind speeds of 39 mph to 73 mph are expected in the coastal area within 24 hours.

Hurricane Watch...Issued for a coastal area when there is threat of hurricane conditions within 24 to 36 hours.

Hurricane Warnings...Issued when hurricane conditions are expected in the coastal area in 24 hours or less. Hurricane conditions include winds of 74 mph or higher, and/or dangerously high tides and waves. Action for protection of life and property should begin immediately when a warning is issued.

Inland Hurricane Wind Warning...Issued when hurricane force winds, greater than 74 mph, are expected to occur beyond the coastal area and outside of the traditional hurricane warning area on the coast. Major hurricanes typically produce hurricane force winds over inland areas.



A 16 paged PDF format brochure of hurricanes...Unleashing Nature's Fury can be downloaded from the WFO New Orleans/Baton Rouge website at <http://www.srh.noaa/lix>.

Hurricane Preparedness

Before the Hurricane Season



- ✓ Know the hurricane risk in your area.
- ✓ Learn Safe routes inland.
- ✓ Learn location of official shelters.
- ✓ Review needs and working conditions of emergency equipment, such as flashlight battery-powered radios, etc.

- ✓ Keep trees and shrubbery trimmed.
- ✓ Ensure that enough non-perishable food and water supplies are on hand
- ✓ Review your insurance policy. .

During the Storm

When in a Watch Area...

- ✓ Frequently listen to radio, TV, or NOAA Weather Radio for official bulletins of the storm's progress.
- ✓ Fuel and service family vehicle.
- ✓ Inspect and secure mobile home tie downs.
- ✓ Prepare to cover all window and door openings with shutter or other shielding materials.



When in a Warning Area..

- ✓ Closely monitor radio, TV, or NOAA Weather Radio for official bulletins.
- ✓ Complete preparation activities.
- ✓ Follow instructions issued by local officials. **Leave immediately if told to do so!**
- ✓ Leave mobile homes in any case.
- ✓ If evacuating, leave early (if possible, in daylight). Stay with friends or relatives, at a low rise inland hotel/motel, or go to a predesignated public shelter.

If Staying in a Home...



- ✓ Turn refrigerator to maximum cold and open only when necessary.
- ✓ Turn off utilities if told to do so by authorities.
- ✓ Turn off propane tanks.
- ✓ Unplug small appliances.
- ✓ Fill bathtub and large containers with water for sanitary purposes.

After the Storm...

- ✓ Keep listening to radio, TV, or NOAA Weather Radio.
- ✓ Wait until an area is declared safe before entering.
- ✓ Roads may be closed for your protection. If you come upon a barricade or a flooded road, **turn around and go another way!**
- ✓ Do not drink or prepare food with tap water until you are certain it is in contaminated.
- ✓ Avoid using candles and other open flames indoors.



A PDF format brochure can be downloaded from WFO New Orleans/Baton Rouge website at <http://www.srh.noaa/lix>

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NOAA Extends Hurricane Forecasts From Three To Five Days

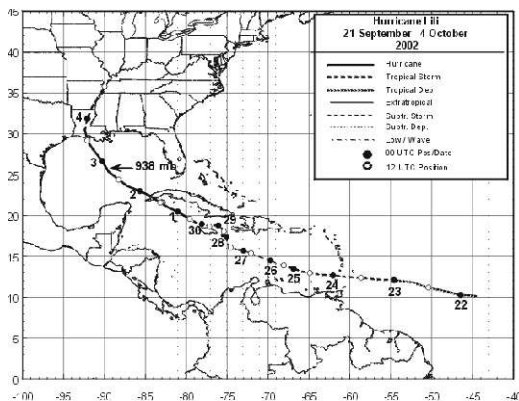
Additional Planning Time Critical For U.S. Navy And Others

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) will begin issuing five-day hurricane forecasts this year, extending the three-day forecasts issued since 1964. The NWS, part of the Department of Commerce, is charged with protecting life and property against tropical cyclones by issuing timely and accurate hurricane forecasts, watches and warnings. The agency is extending the forecasts after a two-year test. The agency cited customer needs for longer-range forecasts, and major improvements in track forecasting skill over the past few decades as reasons for lengthening the forecasts.

Max Mayfield, NOAA National Hurricane Center (NHC) director, said, "NHC and the Central Pacific Hurricane Center have been working closely with our customers since 1999 to extend the forecasts, and went through a rigorous set of experiments during the 2001 and 2002 Atlantic and eastern and central North Pacific hurricane seasons to test this capability. These experiments were successful largely because of improved modeling techniques developed jointly by [NOAA's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory](#), [Environmental Modeling Center](#), and other researchers." Data from the 2001 and 2002 seasons indicate the five-day track forecast will be as accurate as the three-day forecast was 15 years ago.

NOAA's National Weather Service is the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for the United States and its territories. NOAA National Weather Service operates the most advanced weather and flood warning and forecast system in the world, helping to protect lives and property and enhance the national economy. To learn more about the NOAA National

Weather Service, please visit [Http://www.nws.noaa.gov](http://www.nws.noaa.gov).



Hurricane Flooding: A Deadly Inland Danger

"In the last 30 years, inland flooding has been responsible for more than half the deaths associated with tropical cyclones in the United States."

**Ed Rappaport
National Hurricane Center**

Consider the following:

When it comes to hurricanes, wind speeds do not tell the whole story. Hurricanes produce storm surges, tornadoes, and often the most deadly of all -- inland flooding.

While storm surge poses the greatest potential threat of loss of life in coastal areas, more people have died from inland flooding in the last 30 years. Intense rainfall is not directly related to the wind speed of tropical cyclones. In fact, some of the greatest rainfall amounts occur from weaker storms that drift slowly or stall over an area.

Inland flooding can be a major threat to communities hundreds of miles from the coast as intense rain falls from these huge tropical air masses.

The United States has a significant hurricane problem. More than 60% of our Nation's population live in coastal states from Maine to Texas, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico.

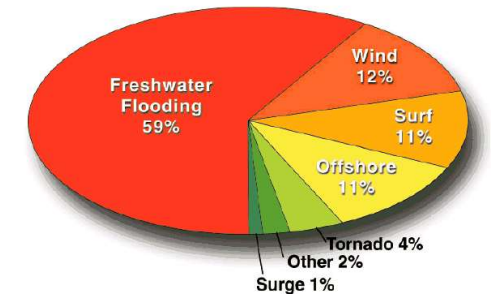
Tropical Storm Alberto (1994) drifted over the Southeast United States and produced torrential rainfall. More than 21 inches of rain fell at Americus, Georgia. Thirty-three people drowned. Damages exceeded \$750 million.



What can you do?

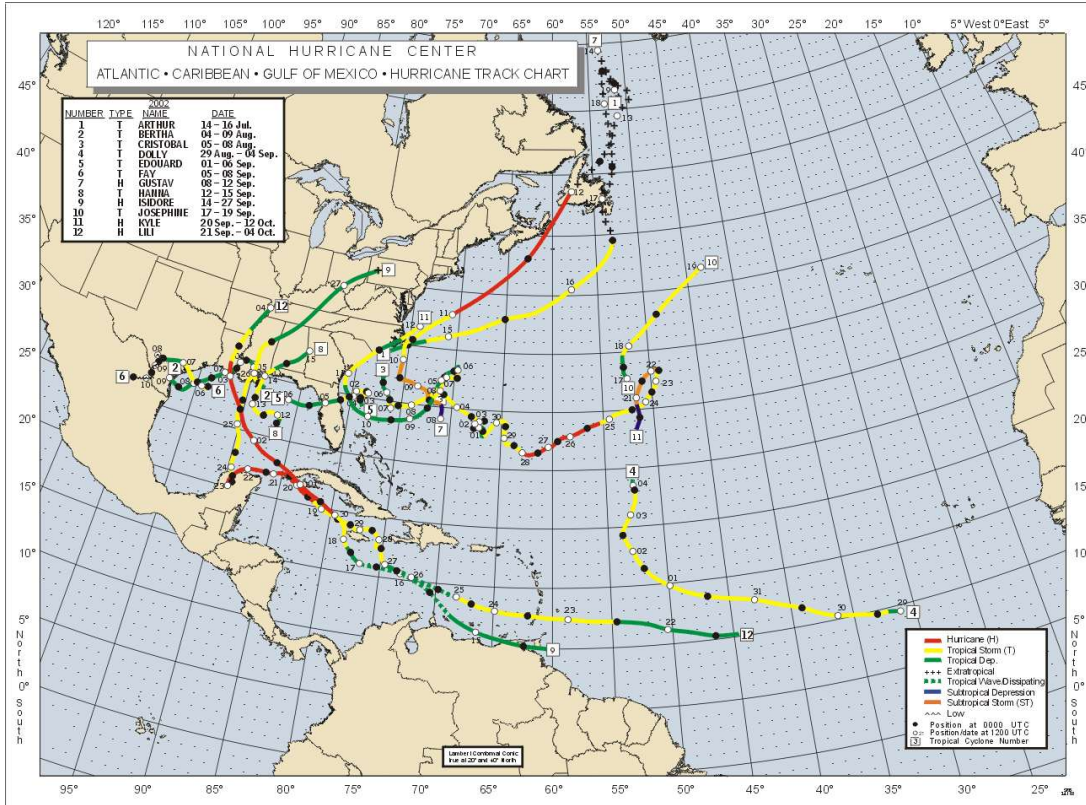
- When you hear hurricane, think inland flooding.
- Determine whether you live in a potential flood zone.
- If advised to evacuate, do so immediately.
- Keep abreast of road conditions through the news media.
- Move to a safe area before access is cut off by flood water.
- Develop a flood emergency action plan with your community leaders.

Leading Causes of Tropical Cyclone Deaths in the U.S. 1970-1999



Source: Edward Rappaport—Chief, Technical Support Branch, Tropical Prediction Center

THE 2002 ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON



National Weather Service Forecast Office
 New Orleans/Baton Rouge
 62300 Airport Road
 Slidell, LA 70460



Louisiana Hurricane Preparedness



A Preparedness Effort of the
National Weather Service



Louisiana Hurricane Preparedness Week

Hurricane season officially begins on June 1st and lasts through November. The National Weather Service would like to call attention to the threat posed by hurricanes to the residents of Louisiana.

During the early part of the hurricane season, everyone is urged to use Hurricane Preparedness Week to formulate and review hurricane preparedness plans for their families and their workplace. Residents of Louisiana, especially those living in vulnerable coastal areas, should review hurricane preparedness plans. While residents of coastal Louisiana are most vulnerable to storm surge flooding and high winds associated with a hurricane, heavy rain, deadly flooding, and tornados accompany hurricanes as they move inland.

Now is the time to develop a hurricane preparedness plan for you and your family: When developing your plan, ask yourself these basic questions:

Do I need to evacuate when a hurricane threatens? Many residents of low lying coastal areas may be requested to evacuate by local officials, even if they live behind hurricane protection levees.

If I evacuate; Where will I go?, What route would I take? How long will it take?

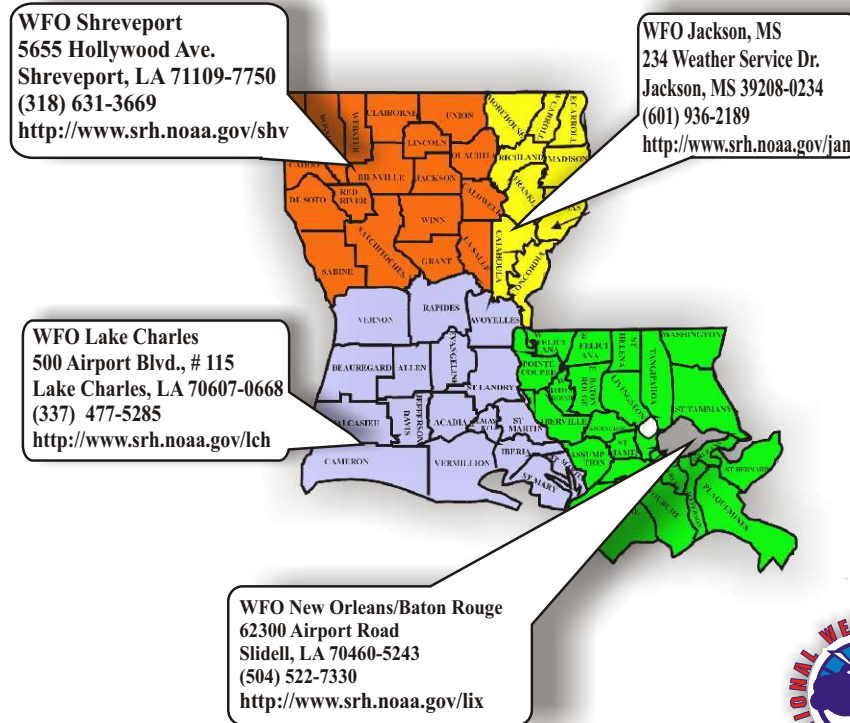
If I stay in an area away from storm surge flooding and I stay, do I have provisions of food and water to last from several days to a week or more without normal services?

Remember, it only takes one hurricane striking land to cause widespread property damage and loss of many lives. Develop a personal hurricane preparedness plan and be prepared.



**National Weather Service Forecast Office
New Orleans/Baton Rouge
62300 Airport Road
Slidell, LA 70460**

National Weather Service Area Map



Hurricane Statistics

Average Annual Number	
Tropical Storm & Hurricanes	10
Hurricanes Only	6
Greatest Number of Tropical Storms & Hurricanes	21 in 1933
Louisiana Hurricanes	
Direct Hurricanes Strike 1900-2000	27
Major Hurricanes (Catagory 3/4/5)	12

Hurricane Names For 2003

Ana	Fabian	Kate	Rose
Bill	Grace	Larry	Sam
Claudette	Henri	Mindy	Teresa
Danny	Isabel	Nicholas	Victor
Erika	Juan	Odette	Wanda
		Peter	

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