



Central Pacific Hurricane Center, Honolulu, HI
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Remembering Iniki 20 Years Later *Tropical Cyclone Preparedness*

In the Central Pacific we average between 4 and 6 tropical cyclones per year. Our official hurricane season runs from June 1st through November 30th, but during the past 40 years a tropical cyclone has been recorded in every month of the year except February and May. This means it is never too early to get prepared for the season.

The climatological peak of our season runs from July through early October. There have been three direct hurricane landfalls in the state since 1950. Two of the storms (Dot '59, and Iniki '92) occurred in September, while the third (Iwa '82) happened in late November. Our goal in Hawaii should be to be prepared year round, so when the next hurricane approaches we'll be ready.

Getting prepared for a tropical cyclone can be done in three steps.

1. Get informed
2. Make a plan
3. Get a kit

Get and Stay Informed: The first step in preparedness is to understand what you're preparing for. Seek out opportunities to learn more about tropical cyclones through online resources, visit one of the many preparedness fairs around the state, or attend a National Weather Service training session. By understanding the threat you'll know how best to get ready. There are many online resources available. Here are just a few.

<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/cphc/pages/hurrsafety.php>

<http://www.getreadyhawaii.org/>

<http://www.scd.hawaii.gov/preparedness.html>

<http://www.ready.gov/>

When a tropical cyclone forms and threatens the state, stay informed by following the latest statements produced by the Central Pacific Hurricane Center (www.weather.gov/cphc) and by following local media. Text messaging and email alerts are available free from www.nixle.com.



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Make a Plan: Do you know what you'll do before, during, and after a hurricane? Putting together plans of where you'll be, what you'll do, who you'll contact, and what you'll prepare is essential for surviving a storm. It is recommended that you put together individual, family, and business plans. If you have keiki, get involved with their schools to find out the type of plans they have. Contact your local Civil Defense or Department of Emergency Management personnel to find out where to find storm shelters.

Get a Kit: Whether your plan says you'll be staying home or traveling to a shelter, putting together a disaster kit is essential to being prepared. In Hawaii because we are so far from the mainland U.S. there could be significant delays in the arrival of supplies and resources if significant tropical cyclone impacts were to occur. You should be able to survive on your own, without going to the store, for 5 to 7 days. Use these helpful links on what to put in your kits.

[-http://www.getreadyhawaii.org/index.php/prepare#simple4](http://www.getreadyhawaii.org/index.php/prepare#simple4)

[-http://www.scd.hawaii.gov/dp_kit.html](http://www.scd.hawaii.gov/dp_kit.html)

[-http://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit](http://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit)

Get prepared now! It's never too early to start your planning.



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