

# Fort Bragg Protection Branch <u>EMERGENCY</u> <u>MANAGEMENT</u>

16 Apr 21



# Hurricane Preparedness

#### Know your Hurricane Conditions—HURCONs!

HURCON V - General Hurricane Season HURCON IV - 96 hours prior to the forecast arrival of sustained 58 mph winds HURCON III - 72 hours prior to the forecast arrival of sustained 58 mph winds HURCON II - 48 hours prior to the forecast arrival of 58 mph winds HURCON I - 24 hours prior to the forecast arrival of sustained 58 mph winds

## Additional information can be found at:

https://www.ready.gov https://readync.org Download the free mobile app

#### **Hurricane Watch**

- Conditions possible within 36 hours
- Fill gas tank, ensure Emergency Kit(s) are ready

VS

#### **Hurricane Warning**

- Conditions expected within 24 hours
- Secure loose items
- Set freezer to coldest temperature
- Continue monitoring weather
- Stay indoors unless evacuating area

Every year on June 1<sup>st</sup>, the Atlantic Hurricane season is listed to begin and expected to last until November 30<sup>th</sup>. Last year this was not the case as the season started in mid-May and turned into the worst season ever with a record 30 storms, 31 tropical depressions and 13 hurricanes (6 turned into major hurricanes).



Will 2021 be a repeat of 2018, 19 or 20? Hurricanes impact the NC area are on an

average of 2 per year. The National Weather Service will published their 2021 season prediction in late May. NOAA has published a new average for Hurricane Season with: 15 Named storms, 8 hurricanes and 4 major hurricanes. The Department of Atmospheric Science at Colorado State is predicting an above average season with 17 named storms, 8 hurricanes with 4 turning into major hurricanes.

Even if we are not impacted by a major hurricane. Its effects can cause damage to the area, your home and your family/self. This can occur from tornadoes, lightning, high winds, flooding, and uprooted trees. Additional impacts can be felt long after the storm has moved on.

Information included will assist you with NC's adverse weather: to include tornadoes, hurricanes, tropical storms, flooding, lightning, and hail. Now ask yourself, "Are you ready?", many are not. Are you ensuring your family is prepared and know what to do? Where would you go, do you have food, water, medical supplies or even cash (no power, no ATM's or charging)? What about the pets? Proof that many of us were not prepared for the prolonged COVID shutdown is the simple shortage on toilet paper during the initial phase of COVID. This was a small glimpse of what could occur in the event a natural or man-made disaster cuts off basic need items from this region.

You cannot prepare for all events but you can do your best by remaining prepared. Some simple items could make things less stressful in the event you must remain home or even evacuate. Start by building and maintaining a Shelter Kit. The kit can be utilized for multiple situations. A list

attached will assist you on basic items for building a kit. Rembert the saying "*Have a Kit, Make a Plan*". Develop plans for sheltering inplace, evacuations, rally location (if not at home when event happens) and emergency contacts. Build a network of friends that can be contacted or assist you in time of need. If power is out or there is no cell service. A NOAA radio is a great source of information and can warn you when a natural disaster is heading your way. Staying informed on the

current/approaching situations will give you an edge on what to prepare for.



### Build a Kit/Make a Plan (some useful tips):

**Before-** Build an emergency kit to include food and bottled water, make a family communications plan, fuel vehicles, place important documents in waterproof containers, take photos of property, obtain cash, plan an evacuation route and location if told to evacuate, bring in all outdoor furniture, decorations, garbage cans and anything else not tied down.

A NOAA radio is a great investment. Ensure to test the batteries monthly and keep fresh ones on hand. There is also solar and hand operated radios that you can get on line or at most retail stores.

If you have a generator, ensure it is serviced and never run it in your home or garage. Do not reverse feed a line into your home. If you plan to have a stub put into your circuit breaker, have a professional install it.



During- Listen to the radio, social media or TV for information. Secure your

home, turn off utilities if instructed to do so, turn the refrigerator and freezer thermostats to their coldest setting and keep the doors closed, fill the bathtub and other large containers with water for sanitary purposes, stay indoors and away from windows, evacuate if instructed to do so or if the structure sustains damage.

If caught outside, seek shelter in a safe location. Avoid flooded areas and try to make contact with others to let them know where you are. A text may get out easier than a phone call. If you have an emergency kit in your vehicle, it could assist you while waiting out the storm.

After- Continue to listen to a NOAA Weather Radio or local news for updates, stay alert for flooding, drive only if necessary, avoid flooded roads and washed out bridges, keep away from downed power lines and report them immediately to the power company, walk carefully around the outside of your home and check for sink holes, gas leaks, and structural damage. NEVER use a generator inside homes, garages or similar areas.

Monitor your local news, NOAA, Fort Bragg AM Radio Channel 1700, ALERT, ADPASS and social media sites.

Additional information is available at the following link:

https://dodtelework.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/FortBraggEMCoordinator/ErysDmjk4elKg3ie3Awy0CYBblavn1Be2FxX3SLd wwBDOw?e=eSy3LP

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The Fort Bragg Emergency Management Office is here to assist!

Community Preparedness Representative: Emergency Management Specialist: Bob Lacey, 910-643-6253

Installation Emergency Manager: Adam F. Buehler, 910-432-6814 Emergency Manager: Shane Woodmancy, 910-908-1086 Emergency Management Plans Specialist/Web EOC: Jason Faragoi, 910-396-4125



## DISASTER PREPAREDNESS INFORMATION FOR Fort Bragg NC

#### When a Hurricane, Flood, Tornado or Tropical Storm has the potential to strike the area. Will you and your family be ready?

**<u>REMAIN CALM.</u>** To ensure your safety, and the safety of your family, take the following steps:

Make sure you and your family are prepared to either shelter in place or evacuate to a safe location.

#### If possible, stay at home and enact your Family Emergency Plan

#### Monitor the media. Installation and local officials will tell you if there is a need to evacuate.

#### \*\*\* NOTE \*\*\* Cell towers may be down. It is suggested to purchase a NOAA radio for information.

- Secure outdoor objects that might be blown away or uprooted. Garbage cans, garden tools, toys, signs, lawn furniture, and other harmless items can act like missiles during hurricane winds. Anchor or store them inside before the storm strikes.
- If possible store a min 3-7 day supply of water (one-two gallon per person per day) in jugs, bottles, and other utensils. Fill the bathtub to use to clean utensils and put water in your toilets tank to flush. Your water supply may become contaminated by floods. Maintain a one-week non-perishable food supply and nonelectric can opener.
- Ensure your car has a full gas tank. NOTE: Never drive through flooded areas or water running across a highway. Water displaces 1,500 pounds of weight for every foot that it rises. For example, if a car weighs 3,000 pounds, it takes only two feet of water to float it.
- Set your freezer and refrigerator to their coldest settings. In the event of a short-term power outage, this will prevent your perishables from spoiling.
- Ensure you have a battery-powered radio and flashlight and the batteries are fresh.
- Monitor the storm by listening to local news, NOAA radio broadcasts, Fort Bragg social networking sites, and by visiting https://readync.org.
- Contact someone outside the hurricane strike area and give him or her, your location and contact number/address. Ensure all family members know the phone number of your contact and their location in the event you are separated.
- Check backup generators for fuel and perform an ops check. Check fuel levels, oil, extra fuel (fire hazard) and exhaust. If outside, secure the generator as they become a highly sought after item.

#### Remain indoors away from windows, skylights and glass doors.

#### If you are told to evacuate, follow the instructions of Installation/State/Local officials:

- Obey the instructions of Emergency Management, police, and fire dept. officials. They will instruct you on sheltering, safe havens or evacuation procedures. *NOTE:* Fort Bragg does not operate shelters but will establish Safe Havens. These are temporary areas for you to evade the event (if activated) and assist you in getting situated. Safe Havens do not offer lodging, food or medical. No pets allowed.
- Pets should be taken to animal shelters, kennels or friends located in a safe area away from the impact zone.
- If possible, fasten an up-to- date ID tag to your pet's collar. Carry a current photo of your pet for ID.
- Take essential medications, extra eye glasses (if required), sturdy shoes, important documents (in waterproof containers), special needs items (for those requiring them: infants, elderly, etc.), bedding, clothing and cash.
- Secure your home before you leave, if time permits.

#### SAFE HAVEN/SHELTER LOCATIONS

- Fort Bragg will list Installation Safe Haven(s) for residents, off post you will be directed to go to the nearest county shelter. Information
  will be posted on social media sites and in WebEOC.
- Once the *All-clear* is sounded, carefully assess damage to your surrounding area. Make contact with your direct leadership and update them to your status.



## **Emergency Kit Checklist**

Being prepared will assist you during a very stressful situation. Plan accordingly and don't be caught off guard!

References used: <u>http://flash.org/peril\_inside.php?id=84;</u> <u>https://readync.org;</u> <u>https://www.ready.gov;</u> <u>https://ready.army.mil</u>

## **Basic Items**

- □ Water 1 gallon per person per day for 3 to 7 days (water filter system may also be helpful)
- □ Food non-perishable and canned food supply for 3 to 7 days
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio with extra batteries (rechargeable flashlights may not how power to recharge, look to solar or hand crank)
- Cell phone with charger (solar charger or hand crank charger is preferred)
- ☐ First aid kit and first aid book
- ☐ Flashlight and extra batteries
- □ Manual can opener for food
- Anti-bacterial hand wipes or gel
- □ Wrench or pliers to turn off water
- □ Blanket or sleeping bag min 1 per person
- □ Prescription medications and glasses
- $\Box$  Seasonal change of clothing, including sturdy shoes
- □ Sanitary items: toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, feminine supplies, toilet paper, paper towels
- Extra house and car keys
- Important documents insurance policies, copy of driver's license, Social Security card, bank account records
- ☐ Fire extinguisher
- □ Cash and change
- $\Box$  Books, games or cards
- Emergency contact list (have your child memorize your cell number(s))

## Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Emergency Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## Emergency Contact Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**First Aid:** It is important to know basic first aid skills to assist anyone who may be injured during an emergency. Remember, during a hurricane emergency services may not be accessible for several hours.

- Two pairs of latex or other germ-free gloves (if you are allergic to latex)
- Germ-free bandages to stop bleeding
- □ Cleansing agent/soap and antibiotic towels
- Antibiotic cream
- Burn cream
- Adhesive bandages in a variety of sizes
- Eye wash solution to flush the eyes
- Thermometer
- Prescription medications you take every day such as insulin, heart medicine and asthma inhalers. You should periodically rotate medicines to account for expiration dates.
- Prescribed medical supplies such as glucose and blood pressure monitoring equipment and supplies
- Scissors
- Tweezers
- □ Tube of petroleum jelly or other lubricant

## Non-prescription drugs:

- Aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever
- Anti-diarrhea medication
- Antacid
- Syrup of Ipecac (use to induce vomiting if advised by the Poison Control Center)
- Laxative
- Potassium Iodide (for those who live near nuclear plants; use only as ordered by the State Health Director)

**Unique Needs:** there may be those with special needs that are required during the emergency. Ensure you plan to be sheltered in place or evacuated for 3 to 7 days.



## For Baby/Infant:

- Formula
- Bottles
- Diapers
- Baby wipes
- Pacifier
- □ Soap/Baby powder
- Clothing
- Blankets
- Canned food and juices
- G TOYS, BOOKS and GAMES (board games, electricity may not be available)

## For Adults/Elderly:

- Contact lenses and supplies
- Extra eye glasses
- Dentures
- □ For people with Functional Needs:
- □ Container for hearing aid/cochlear implant processor (to keep dry)
- Extra batteries for hearing aid/choclear implant

#### Pets:

- Canned or dry pet food
- Water for 3 to 7 days
- Food dishes
- Muzzle (proper fitting), Pet carrier, collar and leash:
- Immunization records
- Identification tag (should contain pet name and phone number)
- Gurrent photos of your pets in case they become lost
- Medicine your pet requires
- Pet beds and toys
- $\Box$  List of veterinarians, friends or hotels that accept pets