

JRTC & Fort Polk

Hurricane Season 2021

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JRTC & Fort Polk Hurricane Season 2021



As Fort Polk continue to take precautions to keep Soldiers, Civilians and Family members safe from the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, it is important to stay prepared for other disasters. Hurricane season begins on June 1, and the time to prepare is now.

Hurricanes are dangerous and can cause major damage because of storm surge, wind damage, and flooding. They can happen along any U.S. coast or in any territory in the Atlantic or Pacific oceans. Storm surge is historically the leading cause of hurricane-related deaths in the United States. While many preparedness tools are the same, certain actions may look different while COVID-19 remains a concern.

- Determine Your Risk
- Develop an Evacuation Plan
- Assemble Disaster Supplies
- Get an Insurance Check
- Strengthen Your Home
- Help Your Neighbor
- Complete a Written Plan
- Those with Disabilities
- Recognize Warnings and Alerts
- Review Important Documents
- Returning Home After a Hurricane





Determine Your Risk

Hurricane Preparedness

DETERMINE YOUR RISK



Hurricanes bring many hazards to U.S. coastlines and inland areas, including storm surge along the coast, inland flooding due to heavy rainfall, tornadoes, strong wind, rip currents and large waves.



Storm surge



Strong winds



Tornadoes



Inland flooding



Rip currents

[weather.gov/hurricane](https://www.weather.gov/hurricane)



The threats from hurricanes to you and your family can vary widely depending on where you live. It's not just those along the coast that can experience significant, life-threatening impacts. Evaluate what you need to do to protect your home and family NOW, before the first storm of the season even forms.





Develop An Evacuation Plan

Hurricane Preparedness

DEVELOP AN EVACUATION PLAN



Find out today if you live in a hurricane evacuation zone and identify trusted sources for receiving evacuation orders. Plan for multiple options on where to go and how to get there. Have a go bag for supplies and a plan for your pets. Be prepared to leave immediately if ordered to evacuate.



Find out if you live in an evacuation zone



Plan several routes



Have a go bag for supplies



Plan for your pets



Follow evacuation orders if given

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The first thing you need to do is find out if you live in a storm surge hurricane evacuation zone or if you're in a home that would be unsafe during a hurricane. If you are, figure out where to go and how to get there if told to evacuate. Identify someone who doesn't live in a zone or unsafe home as your evacuation destination. Be sure to account for your pets, as most local shelters do not permit them



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Know your Evacuation Zone

Many kinds of emergencies can cause you to have to evacuate. In some cases, you may have a day or two to prepare while other situations might call for an immediate evacuation. Planning is vital to making sure that you can evacuate quickly and safely no matter what the circumstances. Learn your evacuation routes, practice with household, pets, and identify where you will stay.



Before an Evacuation

- Learn the types of disasters that are likely in your community and the local emergency, evacuation and shelter plans for each specific disaster
- Plan how you will leave and where you will go if you are advised to evacuate
- Check with local officials about what shelter spaces are available, COVID-19 may have altered availability
- Identify place(s) you could go in an emergency. If needed, identify a place to stay that will accept pets. Most public shelters allow only service animals





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Know your Evacuation Zone (cont.)

Before an Evacuation (cont.)

- Be familiar with alternate routes and other means of transportation out of your area
- Always follow the instructions of local officials and remember that your evacuation route may be on foot depending on the type of disaster
- Come up with a family/household plan to stay in touch in case you become separated; have a meeting place and update it depending on the circumstance
- Assemble supplies that are ready for evacuation
- Keep a full tank of gas if an evacuation seems likely. Consider downloading a fuel app to check for outages along your route

During an Evacuation

- Listen to a battery-powered radio and follow local evacuation instructions
- Take your emergency supply kit
- Leave early enough to avoid being trapped by severe weather
- Take your pets with you but understand that only service animals may be allowed in shelters
- Be familiar with alternate routes and other means of transportation out of your area
- Always follow the instructions of local officials and remember that your evacuation route may be on foot depending on the type of disaster
- Secure your home by closing and locking doors and windows





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Know your Evacuation Zone (cont.)

During an Evacuation (cont.)

- Call or email the out-of-state contact in your family communications plan. Tell them where you are going. Leave a note telling others when you left and where you are going
- Unplug electrical equipment such as radios, televisions and small appliances. Leave freezers and refrigerators plugged in unless there is a risk of flooding
- Be alert for road hazards such as washed-out roads or bridges and downed power lines. Do not drive into flooded areas

After an Evacuation

If you evacuated for the storm, check with local officials both where you're staying and back home before you travel

- If you evacuated for the storm, check with local officials both where you're staying and back home before you travel
- If you are returning to disaster-affected areas, after significant events prepare for disruptions to daily activities and remember that returning home before storm debris is cleared is dangerous
- Let friends and family know before you leave and when you arrive.
- Charge devices and consider getting back-up batteries in case power-outages continue
- Bring supplies such as water and non-perishable food for the car ride
- Avoid downed power or utility lines, they may be live with deadly voltage. Stay away and report them immediately to your power or utility company





Assemble Disaster Supplies

Hurricane Preparedness

ASSEMBLE DISASTER SUPPLIES



Make a list of supplies and assemble them before hurricane season begins. Have enough food and water for each person for at least three days. Fill your prescriptions and have medicine on hand. Radios, batteries and phone chargers are also must-haves. Gas up your vehicle and have cash on hand.



Food & water



Medicine & prescriptions



Keep gas tank full



Radio, batteries, phone chargers



Cash on hand

[weather.gov/hurricane](https://www.weather.gov/hurricane)



You will need supplies to make it through what could be a LONG recovery period for the potentially lengthy and unpleasant aftermath. Have enough non-perishable food, water and medicine to last each person in your family a MINIMUM of one week. Electricity and water could be out for at least that long. You'll need extra cash, a battery-powered radio and flashlights. Also consider a portable crank or solar powered USB charger to charge cell phones.



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Basic Disaster Supplies

The following are recommendations for your emergency kit. Assemble items for your kit and store in an airtight plastic bags, plastic bins or a duffel bag. Once you take a look at the basic items, consider what unique needs your family might have, such as supplies for pets or seniors.

- Water (one gallon per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation)
- Food (at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food)
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert
- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Extra batteries
- Whistle (to signal for help)
- Dust mask (to help filter contaminated air)
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape (to shelter in place)
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties (for personal sanitation)
- Wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities)
- Manual can opener (for food)
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery



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Get An Insurance Check

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GET AN INSURANCE CHECKUP



Check in with your insurance agency before hurricane season. Remember that flood insurance must be obtained separately. Prepare your home and vehicles according to your policy. Know where your insurance documents are located and take them with you if evacuating. Visit [floodsmart.gov](https://www.floodsmart.gov) for more.



Check with your agent



Keep documents with you



Know your policy



Consider flood insurance

[weather.gov/hurricane](https://www.weather.gov/hurricane)



Call your insurance company or agent and ask for an insurance check-up to make sure you have enough homeowners insurance to repair or even replace your home. Don't forget coverage for your car or boat. Remember, standard homeowners insurance doesn't cover flooding. Act now as flood insurance requires a 30-day waiting period.





Strengthen Your Home

Hurricane Preparedness

STRENGTHEN YOUR HOME



There's a lot you can do around your home to help protect it from hurricane winds. Before hurricane season, trim trees on your property and get approved window coverings. Ahead of storms, collect loose outdoor items, secure all doors on your property, and find a safe location for your vehicle.



Cover windows



Secure loose outdoor items



Trim trees



Move vehicle to a safe location



Secure all doors

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If you plan to ride out the storm in your home, make sure it is in good repair and up to local hurricane building code specifications. Many of these retrofits do not cost much or take as long to do as you may think. Have the proper plywood, steel or aluminum panels to board up the windows and doors. Remember, the garage door is the most vulnerable part of the home, so it must be able to withstand the winds.





Help Your Neighbor

Hurricane Preparedness

HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR



Many people, especially senior citizens, rely on the assistance of neighbors before and after hurricanes. Help your neighbors collect the supplies they'll need before the storm. Assist them with evacuation if ordered to do so, or check on them after it's safe for you to head outside.



Help your neighbors prepare



Help your neighbors evacuate



Check-in after the storm passes

weather.gov/hurricane



Many people, especially senior citizens, rely on the assistance of neighbors before and after hurricanes. Help your neighbors collect the supplies they'll need before the storm. Learn about all the different actions you and your neighbors can take to prepare and recover from the hazards associated with hurricanes.





Complete A Written Plan

Hurricane Preparedness

COMPLETE A WRITTEN PLAN



Writing down your hurricane plan will help you avoid mistakes during an emergency, and ensure everyone in your home is prepared for the storm. Have a list of essential contacts, including outside the potential impact area. Review and practice your plan with your family and friends.



Have a contact list (family, friends, doctor, vet, utilities)



Keep your important documents together for quick access



Have at least one contact outside of the impact area



Share your plan

[weather.gov/hurricane](https://www.weather.gov/hurricane)



The time to prepare for a hurricane is before the season begins, when you have the time and are not under pressure. If you wait until a hurricane is on your doorstep, the odds are that you will be under duress and will make the wrong decisions. Take the time now to write down your hurricane plan. Know where you will ride out the storm and get your supplies now. Being prepared, before a hurricane threatens, makes you resilient to the hurricane impacts of wind and water. It will mean the difference between your being a hurricane victim and a hurricane survivor.





Those With Disabilities

If you or anyone in your household is an individual with a disability identify if you may need additional help during an emergency.



- Create a support network. Keep a contact list in a watertight container in your emergency kit
- Be ready to explain to first responders that you need to evacuate and choose to go to a shelter with your family, service animal, caregiver, personal assistant and your assistive technology devices and supplies
- Plan ahead for accessible transportation that you may need for evacuation or getting to a medical clinic
- Inform your support network where you keep your emergency supplies

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Recognize Warnings and Alerts (cont.)

SAFFIR-SIMPSON HURRICANE WIND SCALE		
CATEGORY	WIND SPEED	DAMAGE
1	74-95 mph	Very dangerous winds will produce some damage
2	96-110 mph	Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage
3	111-129 mph	Devastating damage will occur
4	130-156 mph	Catastrophic damage will occur
5	156+ mph	Catastrophic damage will occur

Hurricane Season: June – November
Early 2021 analysis from NHC: 17 named storms, 8 hurricanes and 3 to 4 major hurricanes, with 4 to 5 United States hurricane landfalls in 2021 – two of which will be dangerous major impact Category 3 to 4 hurricanes

Tornado Season (Fort Polk):
 October to December & March to May



Download the digital garrison APP !!!

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JRTCANDFORTPOLK

<https://twitter.com/FortPolkPAO>

https://www.instagram.com/jrtc_and_fort_polk/ Instagram



Alert Notification Set-up

STEP 1: Login to self-registration: <https://alert.csd.disa.mil/>. Click the DoD and All Services Icon.

STEP 2: Add Personal Information. First & Last Names are required fields.

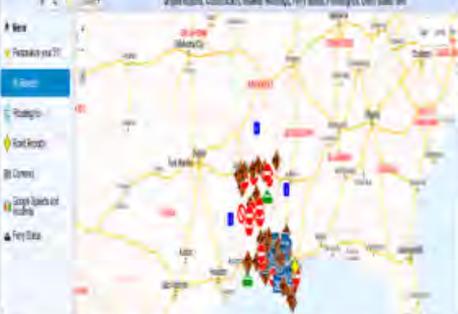
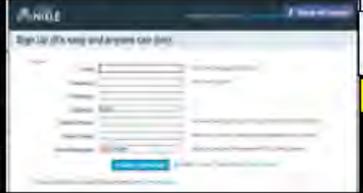
STEP 3: Add Contact Methods. You must add at least one valid

STEP 4: Add Associations. Add Military Location



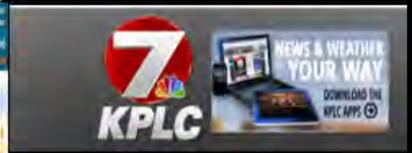
<https://local.nixle.com/register/>

- Provides Current updates from local emergency agencies
- Can be tailor to fit locations across the state
- Warning include weather, Fire danger, crime alerts, etc..



Cameras

<http://www.sp.dotd.la.gov/Pages/default.aspx>



<http://www.kpictv.com>



<https://www.kalb.com>

Build a kit, Make a Plan, Be Informed!
<https://ready.army.mil/index.htm>





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Review Important Documents

Store important documents either in a safety deposit box, an external drive or on the cloud to make it easy to access during a disaster.

Household Identification

- Photo ID, Birth certificates, Social Security cards (to prove identity and apply for disaster assistance)
- Military service documents, Pet ID tags

Financial and Legal Documentation

- Housing payments, Insurance policies, Sources of income (to maintain payments and credit)
- Tax statements (to provide contact information for financial and legal providers and to apply for FEMA disaster assistance)

Medical Information

- Physician information, Copies of health insurance information, Immunization records, Medications

Insurance Information

- Having insurance for your home or business property is the best way to make sure you will have the necessary financial resources to help you repair, rebuild or replace whatever is damaged

Household Contact Information

- Banking institutions
- Insurance agents
- Health professionals
- Service providers
- Place of worship



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Returning Home After a Hurricane

- Listen to local officials for information and special instructions
- Be careful during clean-up. Wear protective clothing and work with someone else
- Do not touch electrical equipment if it is wet or if you are standing in water. If it is safe to do so, turn off electricity at the main breaker or fuse box to prevent electric shock
- Avoid wading in flood water, which can contain dangerous debris. Underground or downed power lines can also electrically charge the water
- Save phone calls for emergencies. Phone systems are often down or busy after a disaster. Use text messages or social media to communicate with family and friends
- Document any property damage with photographs. Contact your insurance company for assistance
- Only use generators outside and away from your home and NEVER run a generator inside a home or garage

For Additional Information, contact Mr. Tommy J. Morris, DPTMS, Chief, Protection Branch, (337) 531-4875 or tommy.j.morris2.civ@mail.mil

