

**Governor's Office of Homeland Security
and Emergency Preparedness**
State of Louisiana

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HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK MAY 5-11

BATON ROUGE (May 3, 2019) – The 2019 Atlantic Hurricane Season begins June 1st. Governor John Bel Edwards and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) urge everyone to Get a Game Plan. Gov. Edwards has proclaimed May 5-11 as Hurricane Preparedness Week in Louisiana. Now is the time to make sure you have an emergency plan in place for you, your family, your pets and your business.

"This is a great time to recheck your emergency plans and supplies," said Gov. Edwards. "Sadly, recent floods, tornadoes and other severe weather have claimed lives and damaged homes and businesses. As our partners at the National Weather Service often say, it only takes one storm to change the outlook. Since 2017, Hurricane Nate and Tropical Storm Gordon caused flooding and destruction just a few miles from our eastern border, and Hurricane Harvey caused widespread problems at our western border. We must remain vigilant. We have vastly improved the way we prepare for a storm, but we also need the public to understand their role in preparedness. That includes being aware of the risks you face and knowing what steps to take before, during and after an event."

GOHSEP Director Jim Waskom said, "Get your emergency kits ready and include at least three days of supplies. Try to maintain an emergency fund in case you are forced from your home with little notice. As we have seen with past storms, each event is different and includes different challenges. Being prepared means planning now, and

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not waiting for an emergency. An emergency plan can help protect your family and make recovery easier if we do face a tropical threat.”

“Last year, Hurricane Florence and Michael reminds us again of the damage and destruction from various hazards such as wind, storm surge, heavy rainfall and flooding that hurricanes can bring to not only coastal areas but inland areas where flooding from heavy rainfall can be especially deadly,” said Frank Revitte, Warning Coordination Meteorologist- National Weather Service New Orleans/Baton Rouge. “Now is good time to make sure you have a hurricane plan ready for this upcoming season.”

During a tropical event, the state could be impacted by tidal surge, flooding and wind damage. It is important that you listen for crucial information from GOHSEP, other state agencies, local officials and your local weather experts.

A list of hurricane supplies, evacuation information and other critical information can be found on the www.getagameplan.org website. Here are some examples of what you and your family may need in the event you must evacuate or shelter in place:

- A three to five day supply of water (one gallon per person per day) and food that won't spoil
- One change of clothing and footwear per person, and one blanket or sleeping bag per person
- A first aid kit that includes your family's prescription medications
- Emergency tools including a battery-powered radio, flashlight and plenty of extra batteries
- An extra set of car keys and a credit card, cash or traveler's checks
- Sanitation supplies
- Special items for infant, elderly or disabled family members
- An extra pair of glasses
- Important family documents in a portable, waterproof container
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, paper towels
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food and extra water

Hurricane season ends November 30.

Find more tips on weather and preparedness on GOHSEP's Facebook and Twitter accounts. Listen to conversations on all aspects of emergency management by downloading GOHSEP's The Get A Game Plan Podcast. You can receive emergency alerts on most smartphones and tablets by downloading the new Alert FM App. It is free for basic service. The Get A Game Plan App is another resource available to help you and your family prepare for any type of emergency. You can download the

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Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Guide and find other information at www.getagameplan.org.

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