



## Press Release Hinds County EMA

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Hinds County Department of Emergency Management

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Hurricane Preparedness Information

Hinds County, MS – Friday, May 27, 2016: The 2016 Atlantic Hurricane begins on June 1, 2016, and preparing for severe storms is an important part of ushering in the hot summer days. The Atlantic Hurricane Season runs from June 1 – November 30. An average season is expected this year, however it only takes one storm to make it a bad season. Below is a list of tropical terms and a list of names that will be used during this season.

- **Tropical Depression:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 38 mph (33 knots) or less.
- **Tropical Storm:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph (34 to 63 knots).
- **Hurricane:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 74 mph (64 knots) or higher. In other basins they are called typhoons, cyclones, etc.
- **Major Hurricane:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 111 mph (96 knots) or higher, corresponding to a Category 3, 4 or 5 on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale.

#### 2016 Storm Names

Alex	Bonnie	Colin	Danielle	Earl
Fiona	Gaston	Hermine	Ian	Julia
Karl	Lisa	Matthew	Nicole	Otto
Paula	Richard	Shary	Tobias	Virginia
Walter				

History teaches that not being prepared and aware are common denominators before, during and after a major hurricane disaster. There are many forms of hazards that come from hurricanes, including heavy rainfall, high winds, tornadoes, inland flooding, rip currents and storm surge.

Everyone needs to be prepared for the unexpected. Your friends and family may not be together when disaster strikes. How will you find each other? Will you know if your children or parents are safe? You may have to evacuate or be confined to your home. What will you do if water, gas, electricity or phone services are shut off?

First step for being prepared is to write a Family Emergency Plan. Before an emergency happens, sit down with your family and decide how you will get in contact with each other, where you will go and what you will do in an emergency. Keep a copy of this plan in your emergency supplies kit or another safe place where you can access it in the event of a disaster. You can start working on your plan by going to Ready.Gov's emergency plan webpage at <http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>

Another step to being prepared is to always have a family disaster kit ready. Disasters can strike at any time, and response could be delayed as much as 72 hours after the disaster, depending on the type. Plan beforehand what your family should do and be sure each family member knows. Be prepared for any disaster before it strikes because you likely won't have time afterwards.

- **Water:** Store at least one gallon of water per person per day (two quarts for drinking, two quarts for food preparation/sanitation).
- **Food:** Store at least a three day supply of non-perishable food. Select foods that require no refrigeration, cooking and preparation.
- **First Aid Kit:** You should have two first aid kits - one for your home and one for your car. Check with the American Red Cross or your pharmacist about what to include in your kits. Be sure to include nonprescription drugs like aspirin, laxative, emetic, antacid, hydrogen peroxide, etc.
- **Clothing and Bedding:** Include at least one complete changing of clothes and footwear for everyone. Include rain gear, blankets or sleeping bags, sunglasses, cold weather gear, sturdy shoes or work boots.
- **Tools and Supplies:** Miscellaneous items are needed in your disaster kit also. These would include but are not limited to: mess kits or paper plates and cups, plastic utensils, radio and fresh batteries, flashlights and fresh batteries, can-opener, fire extinguisher (ABC type), tent, pliers and a shut off wrench, matches (in waterproof container), garbage bags, compass, aluminum foil, sanitation items, soap, household chlorine bleach, small shovel.
- **Special Items:** Family members with special needs - such as infants, disabled individuals, or the elderly - will need certain items that you might not normally consider. Be sure that cash, medications, glasses, diapers, formula and bottles are included. Have some type of entertainment for children and adults. Keep important family documents or copies of such in waterproof, portable containers, such as wills, insurance papers, passports, immunization records, household inventories, birth\death certificates, bank\credit card information.

For more detailed information regarding Hurricane Preparedness go to: [www.ready.gov/Hurricanes](http://www.ready.gov/Hurricanes)

For additional information about this press release, please contact the Hinds County Emergency Management Director, Ricky J. Moore at 601-968-6771.

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