

COVID-19 & Hurricane Preparation

Information on this page is from Governor's Office of Homeland Security, Louisiana Office of Public House and Center for Disease Control websites.

The CDC, as well as the Louisiana Office of Public Health, have been proactively preparing for the introduction of this virus since it was first identified in China earlier this year.

**For COVID-19 Alerts
Text LACOVID to 67283**

If you have questions about coronavirus, please contact the Louisiana 211 Network by dialing dial 211. Or, text the keyword LACOVID to 898-211 for the most current information about the outbreak as it becomes available.

Defending Against Covid-19

- Defend Against COVID-19. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and shortness of breath. Recognize the symptoms. Cover your cough. Wash your hands. Stay home especially if you are sick.
- Maintain a Social Distance of 6 ft. Social distancing means keeping 6 ft. of physical space between yourself and others. This helps to prevent the spread of illness.
- Stay home if you are sick. If you are sick, stay home. Especially if you have fever greater than 100 degrees Fahrenheit. Try to isolate yourself to one room and stay away from others in the household.

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Hurricane Preparation, Especially During COVID-19

Planning for hurricane season and other potential disasters can be stressful, and because the 2020 hurricane season comes during the coronavirus disease

2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, it may be especially so.

Public health and emergency response professionals have advice to help you safely prepare, evacuate, and shelter for severe storms while protecting yourself and others from COVID-19. Here are some tips to help you and your family stay safe during hurricane season this year.

Prepare for Hurricane Season

- Understand that your planning may be different this year because of the need to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.
- Give yourself more time than usual to prepare your emergency food, water, and medicine supplies. Home delivery is the safest choice for buying disaster supplies; however, that may not be an option for everyone. If in-person shopping is your only choice, take steps to protect your and others' health when running essential errands.
- Protect yourself and others when filling prescriptions by limiting in-person visits to the pharmacy. Sign up for mail order delivery or call in your prescription ahead of time and use drive-through windows or curbside pickup, if available.
- Pay attention to local guidance about updated plans for evacuations and shelters, including shelters for your pets.
- When you check on neighbors and friends, be sure to follow social distancing recommendations (staying at least 6 feet from others) and other CDC recommendations to protect yourself and others.

Prepare to Evacuate

- If you may need to evacuate, prepare a "go kit" with personal items you cannot do without during an emergency. Include items that can help protect you and others from

COVID-19, such as hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, bar or liquid soap, disinfectant wipes (if available) and two masks for each person. Masks should not be used by children under the age of 2. They also should not be used by people having trouble breathing, or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or unable to remove the mask without assistance.

- Find out if your local public shelter is open, in case you need to evacuate your home and go there. Your shelter location may be different this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- If you need to go to a disaster shelter, follow CDC recommendations for staying safe and healthy in a public disaster shelter during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Make a plan and prepare a disaster kit for your pets. Find out if your disaster shelter will accept pets. Typically, when shelters accommodate pets, the pets are housed in a separate area from people.
- Follow safety precautions when using transportation to evacuate. If you have to travel away from your community to evacuate, follow safety precautions for travelers to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

Staying With Friends or Family

If you will be staying with friends or family outside your household to evacuate from the storm, talk to the people you plan to stay with about how you can all best protect yourselves from COVID-19.

www.cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/covid-19/prepare-for-hurricane.html

REMEMBER

