# Vermilion Parish Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness



## Multi-Hazard

## **EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

ANNEX S
HURRICANE PLAN

June 2019

### **ANNEX S - HURRICANE PLAN**

#### I. PLOT AND WATCH

- ➤ The Vermilion Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (OHSEP) will monitor all advisories from National Weather Service, National Weather Bureau and review Hurricane Computer Model of Sea, Lake, and Overland Surge from Hurricanes (SLOSH)
- 1. Start Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Operational Log.
- 2. Plot coordinates on maps in EOC.
- 3. Notify Parish Police Jury President.
- 4. Hurricane in Gulf of Mexico
- 5. Notify Parish Police Jury President of advisory.
- > The Director of OHSEP will request the Parish Police Jury President to issue the Hurricane Proclamation and Disaster Declaration.
- 1. Call first meeting with all department heads, weather bureau, and other agencies involved, including media.
- 2. Meet with Police Jury President, Mayors, Elected Officials, Department Heads, Legal Counsel, Persons of Significance
  - a. City of Abbeville
    - Mayor
    - Chief of Police
  - b. City of Kaplan
    - Mayor
    - Chief of Police
  - c. Town of Erath
    - Mayor
    - Chief of Police
  - d. Town of Gueydan
    - Mayor
    - · Chief of Police
  - e. Town of Delcambre
    - Mayor
    - Chief of Police
  - f. Village of Maurice
    - Mayor
    - Chief of Police

- 3. Meet with Parish Fire Chiefs at EOC
- 4. The Director of OHSEP will contact the following agencies for the opening of shelters in Vermilion Parish, if needed:
  - a. American Red Cross
  - b. Salvation Army
- 5. The Director of OHSEP will be responsible for the coordination of sand and sandbag distribution with:

Department of Public Works

- 6. The Director of OHSEP will coordinate with these agencies for transportation of evacuees, if needed:
  - a. Council on Aging
    - Director
    - Assistant Director
  - b. Vermilion Parish School Board, Transportation Department Supervisor
- 7. The Director of OHSEP will notify schools in Vermilion Parish:
  - a. Public
  - b. Catholic
  - c. Private
- II. THE DIRECTOR OF OHSEP SHOULD BE IN CONTACT WITH PUBLIC UTILITY COMPANIES REGARDING THEIR STATUS, ETC.

See Basic Plan

- III. THE PARISH POLICE JURY PRESIDENT OR THE DIRECTOR OF OHSEP WILL COORDINATE ACTIVITIES WHERE AIR SURVEILLANCE MAY BE IMPLEMENTED.

  See Basic Plan
- IV.IT MAY BECOME NECESSARY TO CONTACT OTHER AGENCIES FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

#### These agencies may include:

- A. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
  - KEVIN DAVIS: (W) 225-925-7500
- B. LA STATE POLICE (TROOP I) 337-262-5880
- C. DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, CORPS OF ENGINEERS (NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT)
  - -: (W) 504-862-2358 / 504-862-2244

V.In the event of a disaster, hospitals may have to be contacted to obtain the number of injuries, fatalities, etc.

Refer to Annex O

VI.IT MAY BECOME NECESSARY TO EVACUATE SOME AREAS OF VERMILION PARISH THAT MAY CONTAIN NURSING HOMES

Refer to Annex O

VII.KEEPING THE GENERAL PUBLIC CONTINUALLY INFORMED OF THE SITUATION IS VERY IMPORTANT.

These contact persons/agencies and methods are:

- 1. Emergency Communications Network (ECN)
- 2. Public Information Office
- 3. Emergency Alert Station, Media and AM/FM Radio Stations will provide warning and dissemination of informational advisories.
- 4. Several public service announcements will give hurricane preparedness guidelines and will include road conditions/closures, shelter locations, emergency telephone numbers, and evacuation information.

# VIII. EACH AGENCY IN THE EOC WILL GIVE PERIODIC BRIEFINGS OF THE PROCEDURES THEIR RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENT IS INVOLVED WITH

- A. ALL AGENCIES SHOULD HAVE THEIR EMERGENCY SUPPLIES, FUEL, EQUIPMENT, ETC. IN PLACE.
- B. THE PARISH POLICE JURY WILL BE KEPT ABREAST OF THE LATEST SITUATION.
- IX. If GALE FORCE WINDS FROM A HURRICANE AFFECT THE VERMILION PARISH AREA, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE DONE:
- A. UPDATE ALL INFORMATION IN THE EOC, AS WELL AS TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.
- B. CEASE ALL OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES AND SECURE ALL PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT.
- C. ACTIVATE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT TEAMS AND AIR SURVEILLANCE TEAMS AS SOON AS THE WEATHER PERMITS.

#### X. RECOVERY PHASE

- A. THE PARISH POLICE JURY PRESIDENT OR OHSEP DIRECTOR WILL ISSUE AN "ALL CLEAR".
- B. ALL EOC STAFF WILL COMPILE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT INFORMATION.
- C. UPDATE REPORTS, LOGS, AND ACTIVATE EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL FOR RECOVERY OPERATIONS.
- D. UPDATE PUBLIC REGARDING RECOVERY OPERATIONS, RE-ENTRY, ROAD CLOSURES, ETC.

#### XI.HURRICANE SURVIVAL CHECKLIST FOR CITIZENS

#### A. WHEN A HURRICANE WATCH IS ISSUED

#### 1. CHECK SUPPLIES:

a. Transistor radio with fresh batteries.

Your radio will be your only reliable source of information. Have enough batteries to last several days. There may be no electricity.

2. Flashlights, candles, fuel-burning lamps, and matches.

Store matches in a waterproof container. If you use lanterns or lamps, have sufficient fuel for several days and know how to use safely. Have extra flashlight batteries.

3. Full tank of gasoline.

Remember the energy crisis. Never let the tank be less than half full during the hurricane season. Fill up as soon as a hurricane watch is posted. Remember, when there is no electricity, gas pumps won't work.

4. Canned goods and non-perishable foods.

Store-packed food can be prepared without cooking and needs no refrigeration. There may be no electricity or gas for days.

5. Containers for drinking water.

Have enough clean containers to store sufficient drinking water for several days. The city supply will probably be interrupted or contaminated. Keep bottled water well stocked.

6. Materials for protecting glass openings.

Have suitable shutters or procure stout lumber for protecting large windows and doors; have masking tape available for use on small windows.

#### B. WHEN A HURRICANE WARNING IS ISSUED

- 1. BEGIN A CONTINUOUS COMMUNICATIONS WATCH.
  - a. Act Promptly.
  - b. Monitor TV and AM radio broadcasts or VHF/FM continuous weather broadcasts. Keep a log of official information on hurricane position, intensity, and expected landfall.
  - c. Discount rumors. Use the telephone sparingly.
- 2. IF YOU LIVE IN A MOBILE HOME:

Check your tie-downs and leave immediately for safer refuge.

- 3. PREPARE YOUR RESIDENCE AND PROPERTY FOR HIGH WINDS.
  - a. SECURE ALL OUTSIDE OBJECTS.

Garbage cans, awnings, garden tools and loose objects can become lethal projectiles. Anchor them securely or bring them indoors.

b PROTECT LARGE WINDOWS AND OTHER EXPOSED GLASS.

If shutters are not available, board up large windows. Tape windows which are not boarded or shuttered to reduce shattering. Draw drapes across windows and patio doors to protect against flying glass if shattering does occur.

#### c. MOVE SMALL BOATS ON TRAILERS CLOSE TO THE HOUSE.

Fill them with water to weight them down. Lash boats securely to trailer and use tiedowns to secure the trailer to the ground or to the house.

- d. CHECK MOORING LINES OF BOATS IN THE WATER AND THEN LEAVE THEM.
- e. MOVE VALUABLES AND PERSONAL PAPERS TO HIGHEST POINTS.

It is good insurance for irreplaceable documents to place them in a high spot and, if possible, in a waterproof container.

- 4. CHECK YOUR SURVIVAL SUPPLIES ONCE AGAIN.
- 5. IF YOU DECIDE TO REMAIN AT HOME:
  - a. REMAIN INDOORS.

Don't venture out during the lull. When the eye arrives the lull sometimes ends suddenly as winds return from the opposite direction. Winds can increase to 75 mph or more in a few seconds.

b. STAY AWAY FROM EXPOSED WINDOWS AND GLASS DOORS.

Move furniture away from exposed doors and windows during the hurricane.

c. STAY ON THE MOST INWARD PART OF THE HOUSE.

If your home has an "inside" room, remain there during the height of the hurricane. Closets, bathtubs, and hallways are usually a safe haven.

d. KEEP A CONTINUOUS COMMUNICATIONS WATCH.

Keep the radio or television tuned for hurricane information from official sources. Unexpected changes can sometimes call for last minute evacuations or relocations.

e. KEEP CALM.

Your ability to meet emergencies will help others maintain control of their situation.

#### C. AFTER THE HURRICANE PASSES

#### Many dangers remain:

1. BEWARE OF OUTDOOR HAZARDS.

Watch out for LOOSE OR DANGLING POWER LINES. Many lives are lost by electrocution.

2. WALK OR DRIVE CAUTIOUSLY.

Debris-filled streets are dangerous. Snakes and poisonous insects will be a hazard. Washouts may weaken roads and bridge structures which may collapse under the weight of passing vehicles.

GUARD AGAINST SPOILED FOOD.

Food in refrigerators may begin to spoil if power is off for more than a few hours. Home freezers will keep food frozen for several days if the doors are not opened after a power failure. You should not re-freeze food once it begins to thaw.

4. DO NOT USE WATER UNTIL YOU ARE SURE IT IS SAFE.

Use your emergency drinking water, or boil other water before drinking until you receive official word that the city water supply is safe.

5. TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT FIRES.

Until all services return to normal, lowered water pressure in city mains and the interruption of their services may make fire fighting extremely difficult after a hurricane.

#### XII. PARISH HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

#### A. HURRICANE WATCH

- 1. Notify the Director of OHSEP and the Parish Police Jury President who will activate the EOC in accordance with local, State, and Federal ordinances.
- 2. Ensure that appropriate information and instructions based on the latest hurricane advisories are broadcast by radio and television. For example:
- 3. "Radio Stations and Television Channels will broadcast latest hurricane advisories. Your local government will advise and instructions will also be issued over these stations by the Parish Police Jury President and/or the Director of the Vermilion Parish Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness (OHSEP)."
- 4. Add information from the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) tracking the storm to Step B, if available.
- 5. Assess the situation and review preparedness procedures for evacuation and other possible local alternate plans.
- 6. If possible, determine probable risk area. Initiate reporting of situation to industries, utilities, schools, and other facilities in the probable risk area. Dispatch Emergency Service field personnel (particularly police) to alert exposed settlements and trailer parks to maintain a constant radio watch for further instructions.
- 7. Provide continuing instruction to the public, such as:
  - a. Advise public of safe havens if they are ordered to evacuate.
  - b. Routes to use when area is ordered to evacuate. (Provide map of proposed evacuation routes to assist the announcer.)
- 8. Maintain contact with GOHSEP.
- Have state highway and public works departments make preparations for placing emergency directional and detour signs as called for under evacuation and traffic control plans.

#### XIII.HURRICANE WARNING

A. PLACE THE EOC IN FULL-SCALE OPERATIONS, INCLUDING EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS, PLANS, AND PROCEDURES.

- B. Step up broadcasts over radio and television channels to remind public to:
  - 1. Remain calm.
  - 2. Remain at home.
  - 3. Make preparations for evacuation, if ordered to do so.
  - 4. Stay tuned in continuously for information.
  - 5. Begin precautionary measures.
- C. NOTIFY ALL AGENCIES AND INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED.
- D. Advise the Superintendent of Schools to consider canceling classes for the duration of the emergency.

#### E. EVACUATION AND SHELTERING

- 1. Put the appropriate hurricane emergency plan in operation, depending on the expected force of the wind. Alternate plans, developed by local government, should include: areas to be evacuated, shelter locations for evacuees, feeding, and other requirements for taking care of evacuees.
- 2. Remind appropriate Emergency Responder personnel to position equipment, fuel, and other essential supplies outside the anticipated storm area for use after the storm.
- 3. Check auxiliary generators and other power/lighting equipment. Place reserve EOC supplies and equipment where they can be obtained following the storm.
- 4. Place into effect a highway traffic control plan to expedite movement from areas ordered to evacuate to hurricane shelters. The plan should include designation of exit routes for evacuees and provision for broadcasting information to the public.
- 5. Set up patrols to secure evacuated areas to prevent fires, looting, and property damage.
- 6. If the hurricane strikes, commence Search and Rescue and other emergency operations, as soon as possible and as required, in accordance with appropriate logs or checklists.
- 7. After passage of the hurricane, broadcast advice and instructions to the public:
  - a. Remain in shelters until informed that they may return to their homes.
  - b. Where assistance may be obtained.
- 8. As soon as situation permits, resume normal routine and notify EOC staff of damage assessment.