

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
United States Coast Guard
Sector / Air Station Corpus Christi

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16471
13 Jun 2017

Dear Sector Corpus Christi Family Member:

The 2017 Hurricane Season began June 1st and will end November 30th. Hurricane season creates unique challenges and uncertainties for the residents of the Coastal Bend. One of the most challenging circumstances for the dependants of Coast Guard members is the possibility your spouse may be called to establish a Continuity of Operations site or perform other necessary missions rather than be with the family during an evacuation. I hope to reduce your stress and anxiety by providing information to aid in your planning and preparation for this season. Please review the information in this letter as well as the enclosed hurricane checklists for some suggestions to aid in your preparations. ***My top priority is to ensure you and your family are safe at all times.***

Highways departing the Corpus Christi area will be very congested once an evacuation order is issued. There are multiple route options, so please research what will be the best option for you and your family. I urge you to consider leaving early, but realize reimbursement is not authorized until the evacuation order for dependents has been issued by the Eighth District Commander. If you are employed in the local economy, ask your employer about their hurricane policy. Civilian employees may not want you to evacuate until the last minute, even though an order has been issued. In any case, fill up your gas tank, pack your bags, and have your supply kit ready to go.

In preparation for evacuation, Coast Guard Base New Orleans Personnel Support Team will coordinate logistics at our primary safe haven. For members stationed in the Corpus Christi area the primary safe haven is San Antonio and for members stationed in South Padre Island or Brownsville the primary safe haven area is McAllen. If a unit designated lodging location is not identified or if there is no room at the designated location, members are able to identify alternate lodging and will be reimbursed not to exceed \$121 per night in San Antonio or \$94 per night in McAllen. Please realize that if you choose to claim safe haven in another location, you will only be reimbursed at a rate equal to that of your primary safe haven. Sector's Administrative Staff and Personnel Accountability Unit (PAU) will ensure family members' safety and address any and all needs. If you have any questions or need assistance please contact the PAU at PeopleCell@gmail.com or, if Sector Corpus Christi has evacuated, call 361-438-0652/3359.

All active duty, reserve, and civilian personnel shall register with the Coast Guard Personnel Accountability and Assessment System (CGPAAS). CGPAAS will be activated in the event of a catastrophic event and will provide a mechanism for your Coast Guard spouse to account for

themselves and their dependents. Once activated, you will receive an automated text message and/or phone call that will allow you to provide your status.

Once you have evacuated, you will not be able to return home until the local government allows you to return. Make sure to plan and pack accordingly. Personnel who are ordered to return to their units may do so with the proper credentials and identification. Those who are cleared to return should be prepared for worst case conditions.

Sector / Air Station Corpus Christi will be hosting a Hurricane Preparedness Family Night on June 21, 2017 at the Catalina Club aboard NAS-Corpus Christi. The enclosed flyer contains additional information with regards to this event. I hope you are able to come out to learn more about hurricane preparations and how the Coast Guard will help in keeping you and your family safe. Additionally if you are unable to attend this event or have any questions with regard to hurricane preparations, please contact LT Joe Anthony, Contingency Planner, at 361-939-6243 or LCDR Andrew Hawthorne, Chief of Contingency Planning and Force Readiness, at 361-939-6204.

I cannot emphasize enough the need to prepare early for a safe hurricane season. Let us make sure we are all prepared for this hurricane season!

Sincerely,



R. A. HAHN
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard

2 Enclosures



US Coast Guard Sector / Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

General Preparedness Tips

- Ensure vehicle gas tanks remain at least ½ full throughout hurricane season.
- Draft a power of attorney (contact Coast Guard's Eighth District Legal Assistance Office at 504-671-2331 or at the Legal Assistance Office on board NAS Corpus Christi at 361-961-3765).
- Ensure insurance is adequate. At a minimum verify;
 - Whether you own, rent, or live in government housing all members should have personal property insurance to include replacement coverage that provides for full replacement at today's prices
 - You have comprehensive vehicle insurance (Coast Guard policy will cover vehicle damage but is limited to \$3,000 and only when on approved travel).
 - Your premiums are paid and the type and amount of coverage is adequate.
 - You have a Special Power of Attorney (SPA) so you can file an insurance claim on behalf of your spouse (Legal Assistance Offices mentioned above can help draft SPAs)

Evacuations Tips -

- Know where to go. If you are ordered to evacuate, know the available hurricane evacuation route(s).
- Build a mobile emergency supply kit, to include: jumper cables, flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies, and road map. Place one in each vehicle.
- If you are in an area that is *not* ordered to evacuate and you decide to remain at home, plan for adequate supplies in case you lose power and water for 72 hours and you are unable to leave home due to flooding or blocked roads.
- Make copies of important documentation (birth certificates, power of attorney, etc.)
- Make a family emergency communications plan.
- Have a plan for your pets, do not leave them at home!
- Take proof of residency for re-entry; a copy of your utility bill / driver's license w/ Corpus Christi address will be sufficient to grant you access back into the area once authorized by officials to do so.
- Prepare your home: secure loose rain gutters, cover windows with plywood, consolidate loose items inside garage (bbq grilles, chairs, tables, etc.)

Shelter in Place Tips -

- Build an emergency home supply kit, to include: flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies, non-perishable food items, and a battery-operated NOAA weather radio.
- Have enough food and water on hand for at least 72 hours (one gallon of water per person, per day is recommended).
- Consider the purchase of a generator. Electric power could be out for several days.
- Store at least one full gas can as fueling opportunities may be limited.
- Prepare your home: secure loose rain gutters, cover windows with plywood, consolidate loose items inside garage (bbq grilles, chairs, tables, etc.).

Visit the following websites for additional resources:

- <https://www.dps.texas.gov>
- <http://www.ready.gov/hurricanes>
- <http://www.fema.gov>

2017 Hurricane Preparedness Family Night

Date:

June 21st, 2017

Time:

5:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Location:

Catalina Club—NASCC

301-323 Dimmit Dr

Corpus Christi, TX 78418

U.S. Coast Guard Sector / Air Station Corpus Christi



You are invited to join us for the annual Sector / Air Station Corpus Christi **Hurricane Preparedness Family Night**. Our goal is to ensure all members all prepared for the 2017 Atlantic Hurricane season!

Families Welcome!

Agenda:

- ◆ *Opening Remarks— CAPT Tony Hahn, Sector / Air Station Commander*
- ◆ *Presentation from City of Corpus Christi Office of Emergency Management*
- ◆ *Presentation from Sector's Contingency Planning & Force Readiness Dept.*
- ◆ *Questions & Answers*
- ◆ *Closing Remarks*



POC: LT Joe Anthony / 361.939.6243 / joseph.p.anthony@uscg.mil