U.S. Department of Homeland Security United States Coast Guard Auxiliary



District Commodore First Coast Guard District Southern Region Staff Symbol: DCO

02 MAY 2025

MEMORANDUM

- FROM: Michael S. Klacik, DCO 014
- TO: All Hands—District 014

SUBJ: AUXILIARY PREPARATIONS FOR THE 2025 HURRICANE SEASON

- REF: (a) ALCOAST 178/25: 2025 Hurricane Season- Ensuring Personnel Readiness
 - 1. In conjunction with REF (a) ALCOAST 178/25: 2025 HURRICANE SEASON -ENSURING PERSONNEL READINESS, it is important for all USCG Auxiliarists in First District- Southern Region to become familiar with basic severe weather preparations and resources available to them.
 - 2. The 2025 Atlantic Hurricane Season begins on 01JUN and continues through 30NOV.
 - 3. To ensure the readiness of all USCG Auxiliarists in First District- Southern Region, the following basic practices and routine preparations are recommended at this time for the upcoming 2025 Atlantic Hurricane Season:
 - 4. Be sure your personal contact information is up to date in AUXDATA II.
 - a. Everbridge is our critical communications platform. It relies on your personal information in AUXDATA II to contact you in the event of an emergency notification or other urgent message from the District.
 - b. Acknowledging receipt of an Everbridge message is *mandatory* for accountability, but the system can only reach you if your contact information is current and correct.
 - 5. <u>Make a Plan.</u> Know the hurricane risks for your area. Severe storms not only impact coastlines, but can produce heavy rains, winds, floods, and even tornadoes far inland from where a hurricane or tropical storm makes landfall.
 - a. Have an emergency plan for you, your family members, and pets covering both mandatory evacuations and shelter-in-place requirements for extended periods of time. Review, update, and practice your plan.
 - b. Know potential evacuation routes, zones, and possible shelters in and around your area considering your common locations such as home, work, and school.

- c. Have a family communications plan to identify alternate ways of staying in contact with family and loved ones in case roads are impassable and cellular or Internet coverage is disrupted. Suggestions include:
 - i. Choose an out-of-town friend or relative as an emergency point of contact.
 - ii. Decide on a safe, alternate meeting place in case you cannot return home.
 - iii. Keep important phone numbers with you at all times.
- d. Stay connected with official alerts from your local authorities. Monitor official weather and local news broadcasts. Understand the types of alerts that may be issued and react accordingly.
- 6. <u>Build a Go-Bag.</u> A "Go-Bag" allows you and your family to take essential, ready-to-use items with you in the event of an emergency evacuation.
 - a. Since you cannot predict when and where an emergency may occur, a "Go-Bag" should be available from your home, work/school, car, or facility. Prepare for your family's particular needs to cover at least 3 days of necessary supplies in the event of an evacuation.
 - b. Also stock a supply kit with adequate supplies for 7-10 days in case you and your family have to shelter-in-place following a disaster. Store supplies in easily accessible yet secure containers or storage bins. Update your kits regularly.
 - c. Some of the essential items in a basic emergency supply kit may include:
 - i. Non-perishable, ready-to-eat foods and potable water. Store one gallon of water for drinking and sanitation for each person per day.
 - ii. Personal hygienic supplies, including sanitizers, disinfecting wipes, first aid kits, and an ample supply of prescription medication.
 - iii. Personal electronics and battery chargers, including cellular phones, flashlights, and battery-operated AM/FM or NOAA Weather radio.
 - iv. Adequate and appropriate clothing, towels, blankets, and bedding supplies. Include sturdy shoes and footwear.
 - v. Vital records and personal identification.
 - vi. Other specific supplies to care for older adults, young children, babies, pets, service animals, and those with dietary or functional needs.
 - d. More information is available at <u>https://www.ready.gov/kit</u>
- 7. Protect your family, home, and facilities
 - a. Take steps to prepare and protect your home and facilities from adverse effects of a tropical cyclone, including coastal flooding, storm surges, and water intrusion.
 - b. Backup and/or protect your important documents such as vital records, personal identification, insurance policies, medical information, and financial records.
- 8. Review your appropriate insurance policy(ies) to protect your home and personal assets in the event of severe weather or other disaster. Ensure you have adequate coverage before a potential loss occurs.
 - a. Many standard homeowner and renter's policies do not cover flood damage.
 - b. Flood insurance is often available separately from your insurance carrier. Consider your particular needs.

9. The safety, wellbeing, and protection of all USCG Auxiliarists and their families are of paramount concern at all times, and you are strongly encouraged to make routine preparations in advance of the upcoming hurricane season.

a. Additional resources are available on the following websites: <u>https://www.ready.gov/</u> <u>https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes</u> <u>https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies.html</u> <u>https://www.fema.gov/pdf/areyouready/appendix_b.pdf</u>

- b. More information is also available on our D1SR website under Hurricane Season through our Emergency Management program at the following link: <u>https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=014&category=em-fema-web</u>
- 10. DCO Michael Klacik, District Commodore 014, sends.