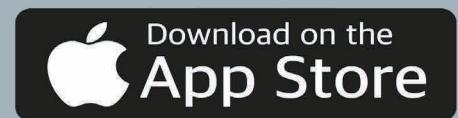
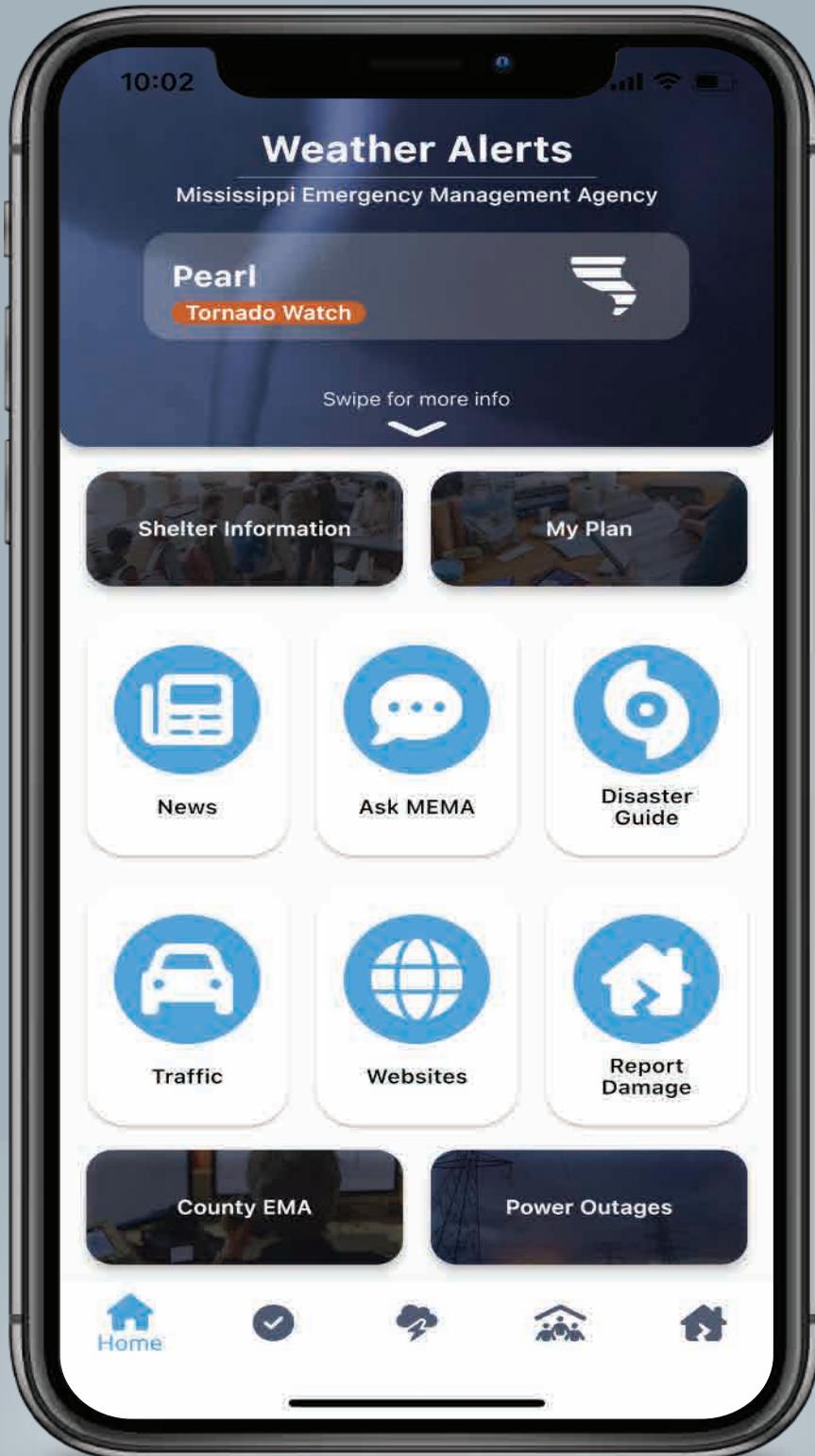


# Mississippi Emergency Management Agency

# HURRICANE GUIDE

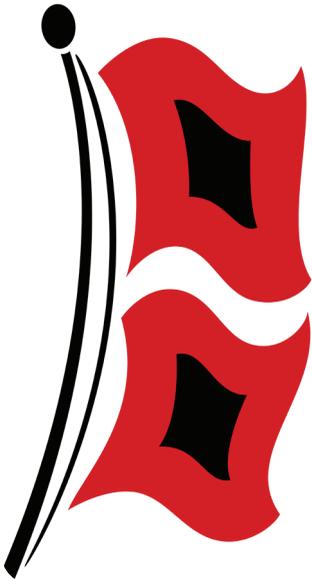


# DOWNLOAD THE MEMA APP!



# Watches and Warnings

The National Hurricane Center issues watches and warnings for specific areas of danger. Local National Weather Service offices may issue additional watches and warnings to provide detailed information on specific threats such as severe storms, tornadoes and flash flooding.



## STORM SURGE:

Life-threatening flood from rising water moving inland from the shoreline

## TROPICAL STORM:

An organized system of powerful thunderstorms and a defined circulation and maximum sustained winds of 39-73 mph.

## HURRICANE:

Winds that have reached a constant speed of 74 mph or above and blow a large spiral around a relatively calm center known as the "eye."

## SAFFIR-SIMPSON SCALE BREAKDOWN

 <b>STORM STRENGTH</b>	 <b>WIND SPEED</b>	 <b>POWER OUTAGES</b>
<b>CATEGORY 1</b>	74-95 MPH	Outages could last <u>several days</u>
<b>CATEGORY 2</b>	96-110 MPH	Outages could last <u>several days to weeks</u>
<b>CATEGORY 3</b>	111-129 MPH	Outages could last <u>several days to weeks</u>
<b>CATEGORY 4</b>	130-156 MPH	Outages could last <u>weeks to months</u>
<b>CATEGORY 5</b>	157+ MPH	Outages could last <u>weeks to months</u>

ISSUED **48** HOURS AHEAD OF ANTICIPATED ONSET

## WATCHES

### STORM SURGE WATCH

POSSIBILITY OF LIFE-THREATENING STORM SURGE

### HURRICANE WATCH

HURRICANE CONDITIONS ARE POSSIBLE

### TROPICAL STORM WATCH

TROPICAL STORM CONDITIONS ARE POSSIBLE

### ACTIONS:

- PREPARE YOUR HOME
- REVIEW YOUR EVACUATION PLAN
- ORGANIZE YOUR DISASTER KIT
- STAY UP TO DATE ON WEATHER FORECASTS

**FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS FROM LOCAL OFFICIALS**

ISSUED **36** HOURS AHEAD OF ANTICIPATED ONSET

## WARNINGS

### STORM SURGE WARNING

LIFE-THREATENING STORM SURGE IS EXPECTED

### HURRICANE WARNING

HURRICANE CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED

### TROPICAL STORM WARNING

TROPICAL STORM CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED

### ACTIONS:

- FINISH STORM PREPARATIONS
- EVACUATE IF DIRECTED BY LOCAL OFFICIALS
- MAKE SURE YOUR DISASTER KIT IS READY TO GO

### EXTREME WIND WARNING:

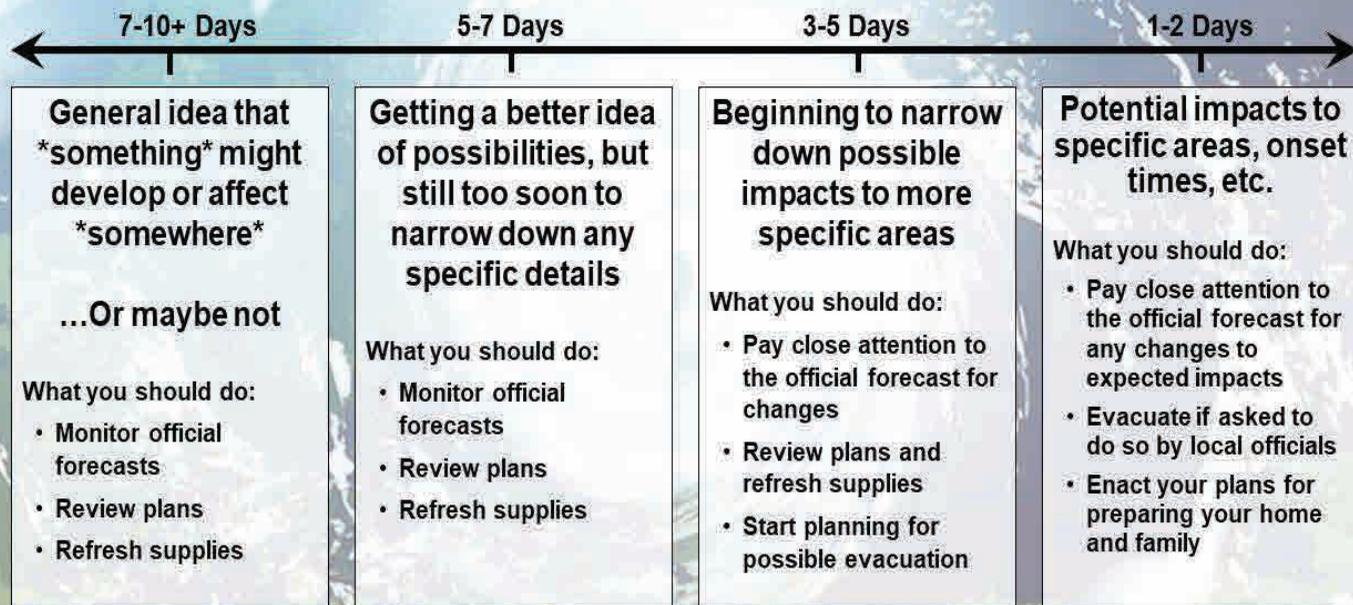
EXTREME SUSTAINED WINDS OF A MAJOR HURRICANE, USUALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE EYEWALL ARE EXPECTED TO BEGIN WITHIN AN HOUR.

### ACTIONS:

- TAKE IMMEDIATE SHELTER IN THE INTERIOR PORTION OF A WELL-BUILT STRUCTURE



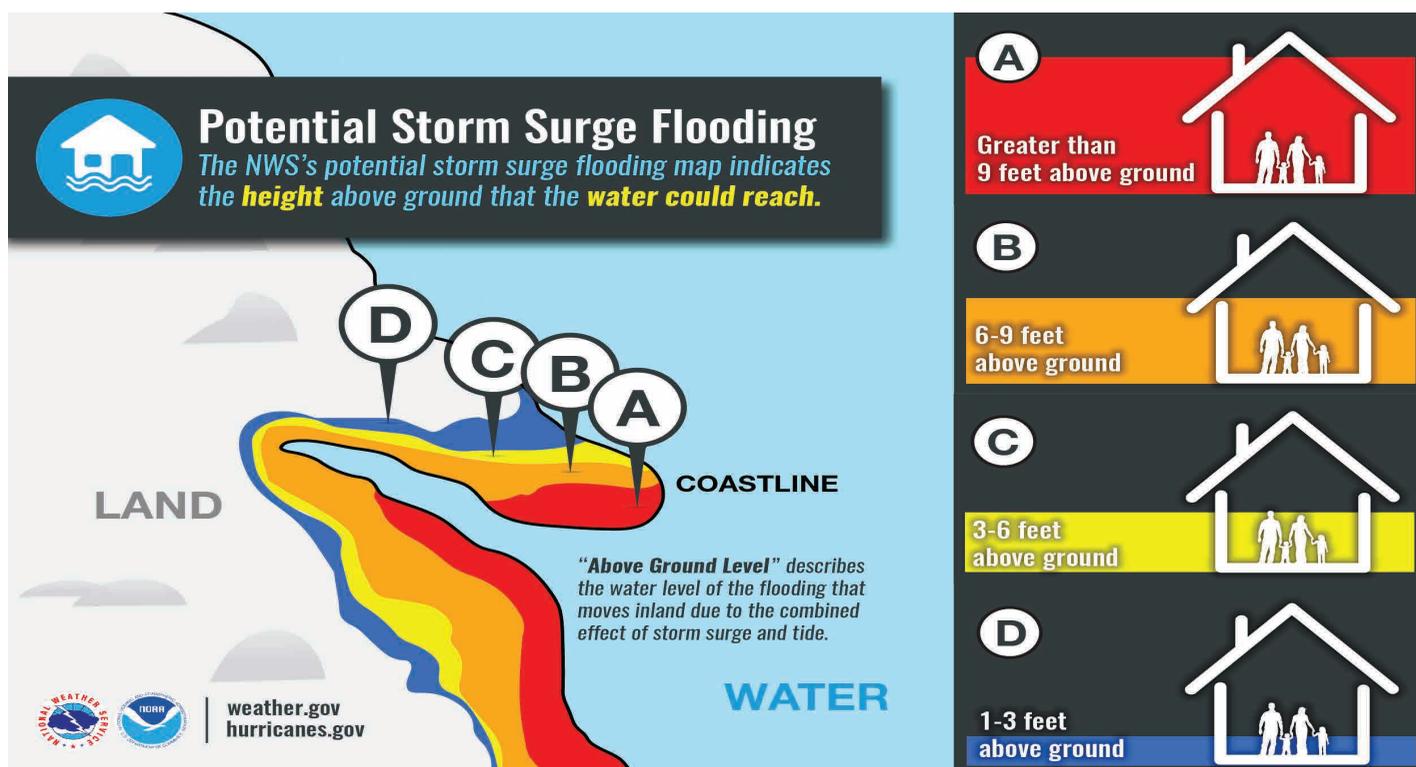
# What details can you REASONABLY expect from a hurricane forecast at different lead times?



NWS New Orleans/Baton Rouge

## STORM SURGE VS STORM TIDE

ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER, STORM SURGE IS AN ABNORMAL RISE OF WATER GENERATED BY A STORM, THIS RISE IN WATER LEVEL CAN CAUSE EXTREME FLOODING IN COASTAL AREAS PARTICULARLY WHEN STORM SURGE COINCIDES WITH NORMAL HIGH TIDE, RESULTING IN STORM TIDES REACHING UP TO 20 FEET OR MORE IN SOME CASES.



# THE FIRST 72 IS ON YOU

IN A DISASTER, IT MAY BE AS LONG AS 72 HOURS BEFORE FIRST RESPONDERS ARE ABLE TO ASSIST YOU. YOU SHOULD BE PREPARED TO SURVIVE FOR A **MINIMUM** OF 3 DAYS WITH YOUR OWN DISASTER SUPPLY KIT.

## **BUILD A DISASTER SUPPLY KIT**



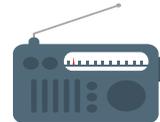
**3 DAY SUPPLY OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD**



**3 DAY SUPPLY OF 3 GALLONS OF WATER PER PERSON PER DAY**



**FLASHLIGHT**



**PORTABLE RADIO**



**EXTRA BATTERIES**



**PHONE CHARGER**



**FIRST AID KIT & MEDICATION**



**EXTRA CASH**



**PET FOOD & SUPPLIES**



**FACE MASKS**



**PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS**



**IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS**

\*TIP: It is best to use your radio and flashlight to preserve phone battery.

# DOCUMENT CHECKLIST

Personal Records (birth, marriage, divorce, adoption and death certificates, Wills)

Personal Identification (passports, driver's licenses, visas, etc.)

Social Security Cards

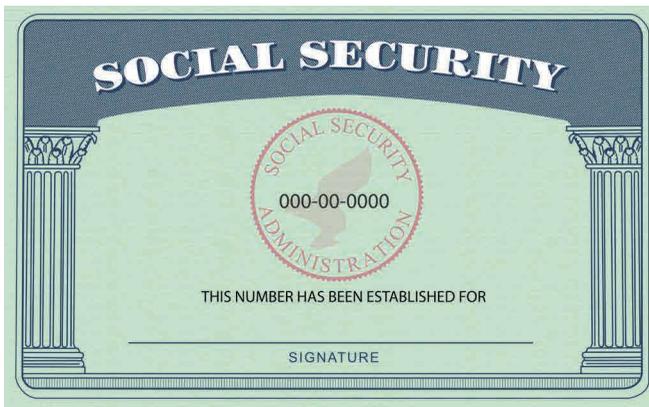
Housing documents (property leases, deeds, mortgages, home and auto titles, etc.)

Financial documents (pay stubs, bank statements, retirement statements and safe deposit box keys and tax information)

Debit and Credit Cards

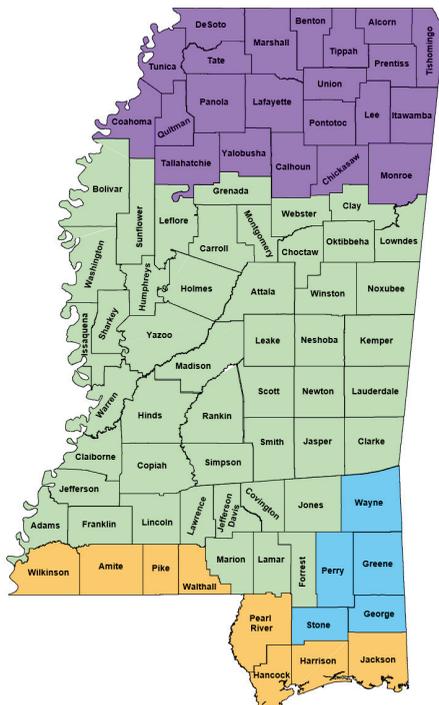
Medical records (prescriptions, copies of health records, copies of insurance cards, health care provider contact, etc.)

Family Photos, Keepsakes, and Other Mementos



**STORE ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS AND COPIES IN A SAFE, DRY PLACE**

## NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICES OFFICES IN MS



**NWS MEMPHIS**  
 @NWSMemphis  
 www.weather.gov/meg

**NWS JACKSON**  
 @NWSJacksonMS  
 www.weather.gov/jan

**NWS MOBILE**  
 @NWSMobile  
 www.weather.gov/mob

**NWS NEW ORLEANS**  
 @NWSNewOrleans  
 www.weather.gov/lix

You can find Hurricane Forecasts at [hurricanes.gov](http://hurricanes.gov)

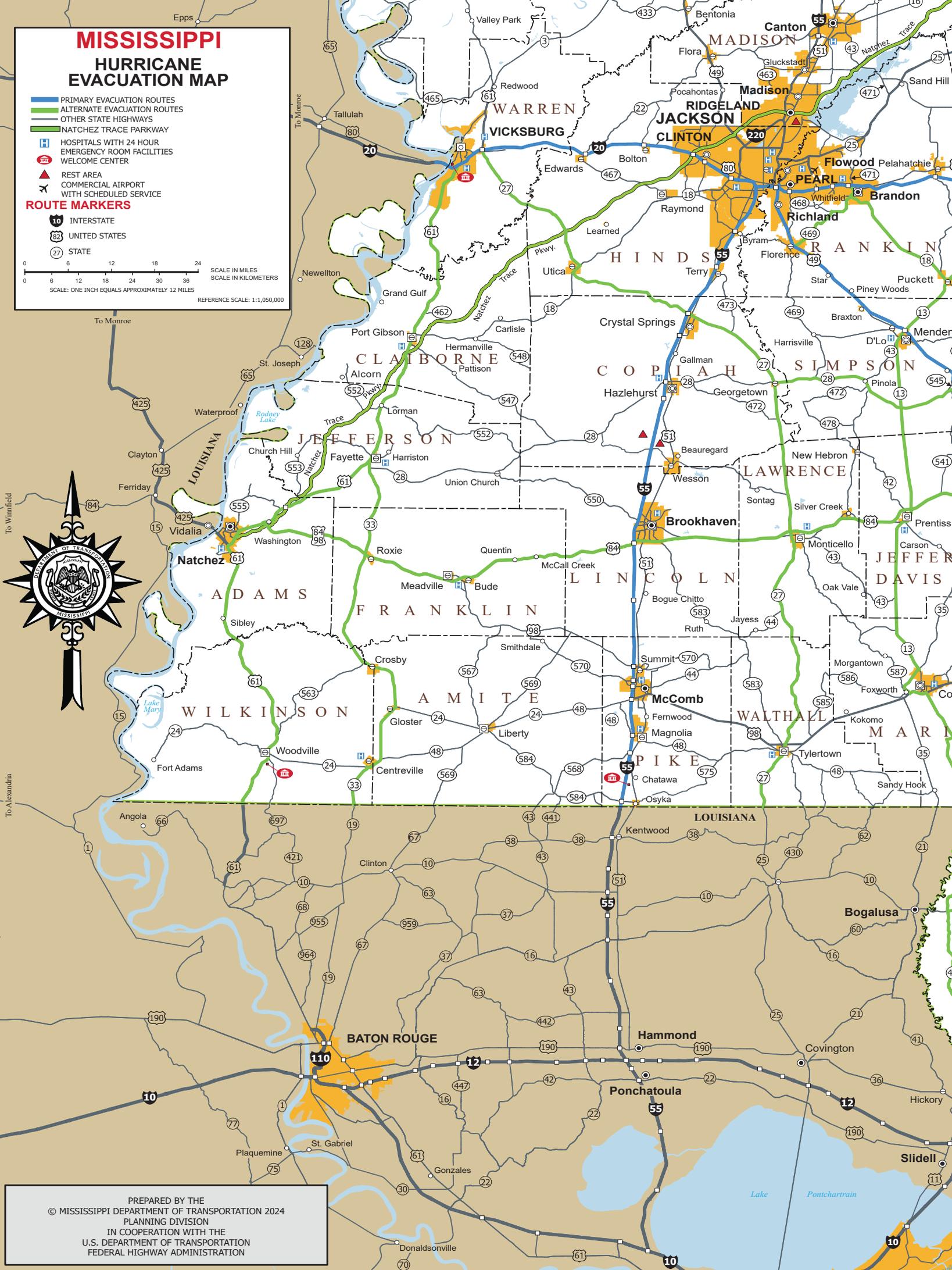
# MISSISSIPPI HURRICANE EVACUATION MAP

- PRIMARY EVACUATION ROUTES
- ALTERNATE EVACUATION ROUTES
- OTHER STATE HIGHWAYS
- NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY
-  HOSPITALS WITH 24 HOUR EMERGENCY ROOM FACILITIES
-  WELCOME CENTER
-  REST AREA
-  COMMERCIAL AIRPORT WITH SCHEDULED SERVICE

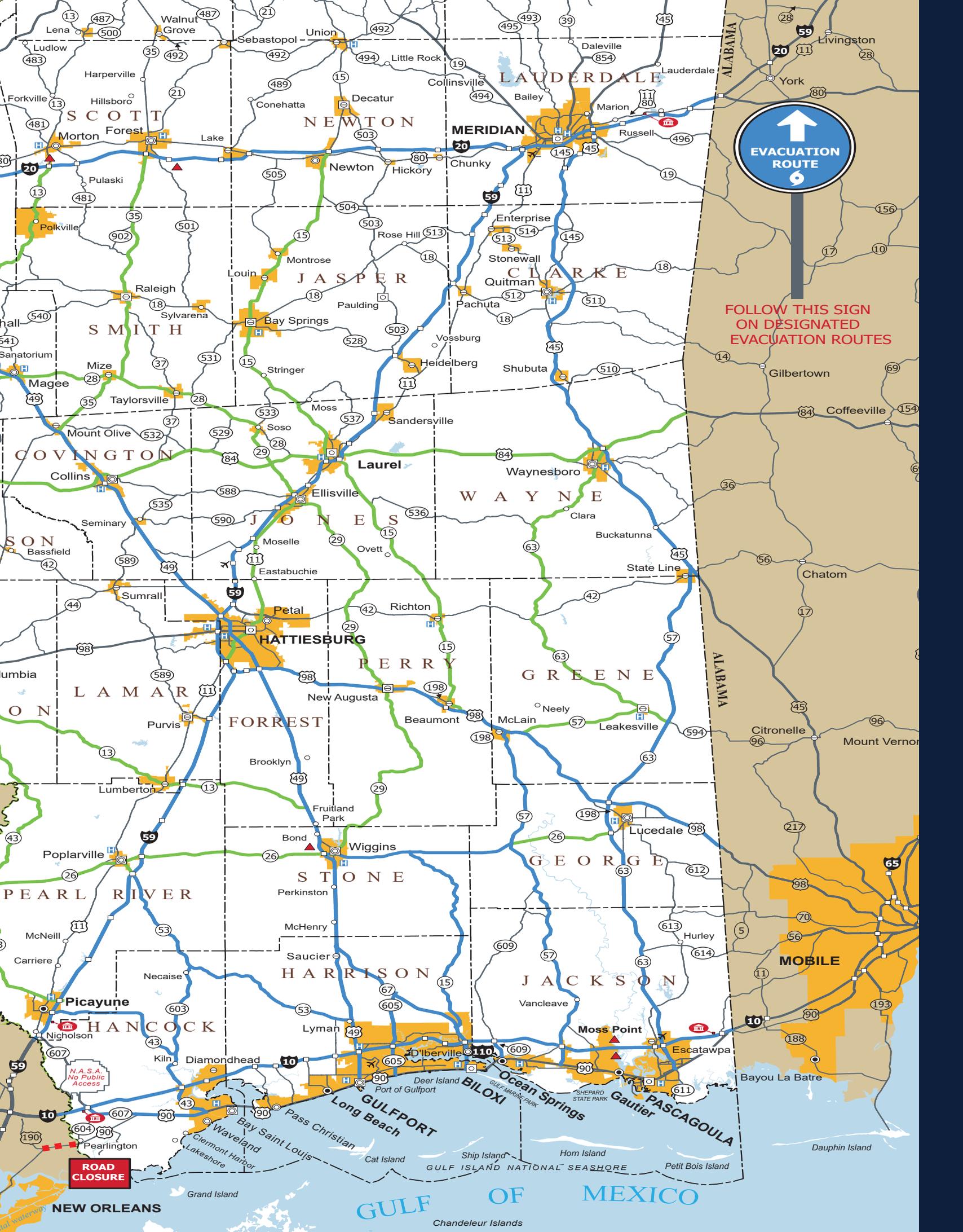
## ROUTE MARKERS

-  INTERSTATE
-  UNITED STATES
-  STATE

0 6 12 18 24  
SCALE IN MILES  
SCALE IN KILOMETERS  
SCALE: ONE INCH EQUALS APPROXIMATELY 12 MILES  
REFERENCE SCALE: 1:1,050,000



PREPARED BY THE  
© MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 2024  
PLANNING DIVISION  
IN COOPERATION WITH THE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION



FOLLOW THIS SIGN ON DESIGNATED EVACUATION ROUTES

ROAD CLOSURE

NEW ORLEANS

GULF OF MEXICO

Chandeleur Islands

# EVACUATION TIPS

## BEFORE

- Know where you will go whether it is a family member's house, a shelter or hotel
- Review your primary evacuation route and have a secondary route planned just in case
- Make arrangements for your pets (*pets are **not** allowed in most shelters*)
- Seek information from local officials regarding road closures and additional emergency information
- Fill up your gas tank and have cash on hand

## DURING

- Stay on official evacuation routes (*A GPS may misdirect you to roads that are closed*)
- Tune to local radio stations for emergency information updates:

### FM Radio Stations:

- Biloxi - 90.3
  - Bude - 88.9
  - Meridian - 88.1
  - Jackson - 91.3
  - Greenwood - 90.9
- Take your time and be patient

# OTHER EVACUATION RESOURCES

For more information on evacuation routes and other travel resources during a storm, visit [gomdot.com/hurricanes](http://gomdot.com/hurricanes) or use this QR code below.



For live traffic updates 24/7 visit [mdottraffic.com](http://mdottraffic.com) or download the MDOT traffic app. It's free in the Google Play Store and the Apple Store. Or call 866-521-6368

# MENTAL HEALTH DURING A DISASTER

### *Tips for Taking Care of Yourself During a Disaster*

- Practice self-care
- Get good information, but not too much (Limit news consumption)
- Take time for yourself
- Connect with family/community

### *Tips for Talking to Children During a Disaster*

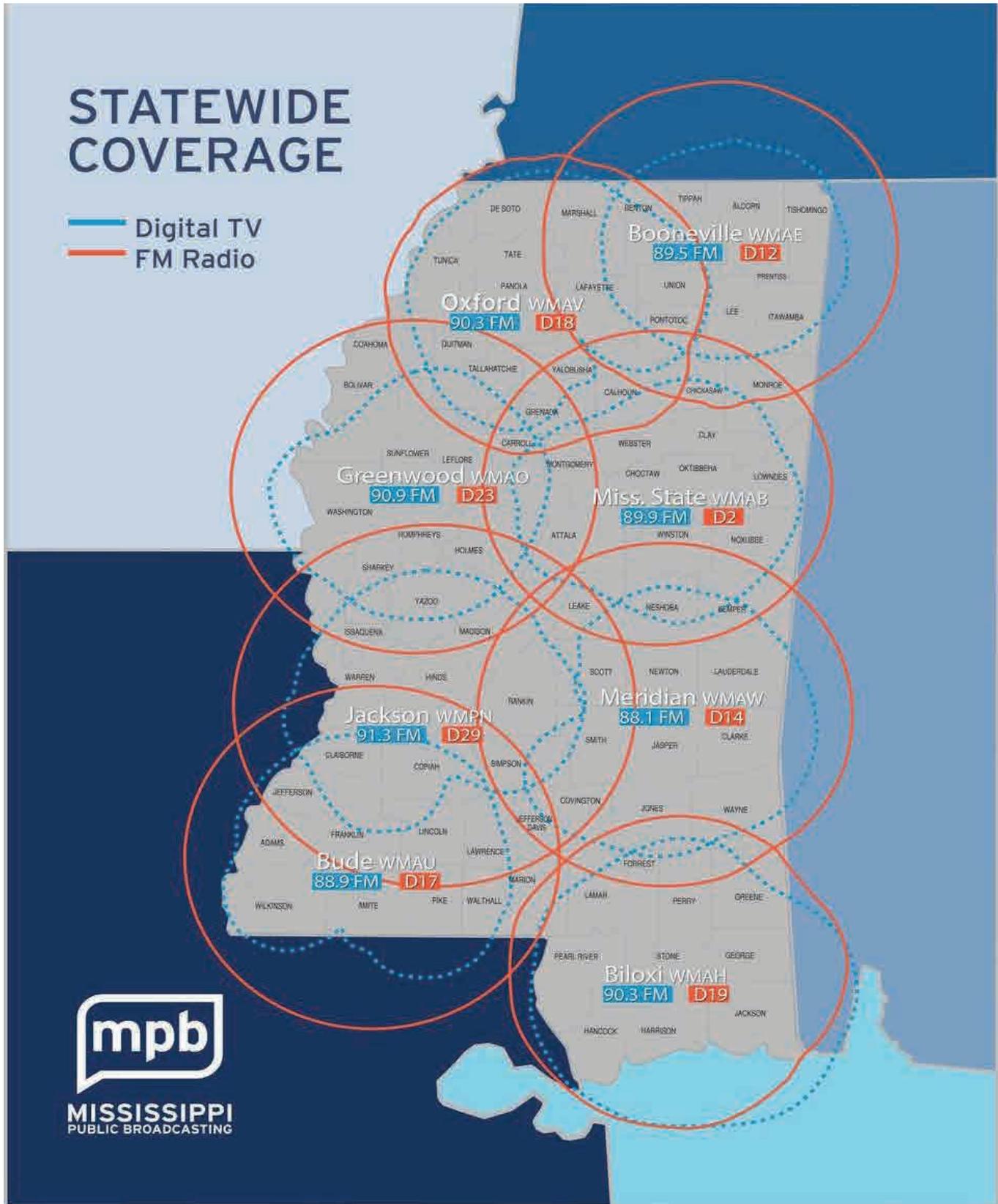
- Encourage them to ask questions
- Reassure your child that they are safe
- Ask how they are feeling and share your feelings
- Be reassuring but don't make unrealistic promises

### *If you or a family member are struggling mentally, use these resources for help:*

- Disaster Distress Helpline: 1-800-985-5990
- National Crisis Lifeline, call 988, text 988, or chat at [988lifeline.org](http://988lifeline.org).
- Crisis Textline: Text TALK to 741741
- Mississippi Department of Mental Health: 1-877-210-8513



# RADIO COVERAGE AREAS



MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC BROADCASTING FM RADIO STATIONS

# SAFE ROOMS

CALL YOUR LOCAL EMA DIRECTOR FOR MORE INFORMATION

## Hancock County

- Dedeaux Shelter - 1095 Road 350 Kiln, MS
- Leetown Shelter - 28900 Leetown Road, Picayune, MS
- Kiln Shelter - 18320 Highway 43 Kiln, MS
- Flat Top Shelter - 24075 Highway 43, Picayune, MS
- Necaise Shelter - 30360 Highway 601 Perkinston, MS 

The Community Shelter at the Necaise Shelter welcomes family pets such as small domesticated animals, cats, dogs, iguanas and other small reptiles.

### Pet owners are required to:

- Bring cages/kennels to house your animals
- Bring water, food, and food bowls for your animals
- Bring any medication required for your animals
- Animals must be current on all vaccinations, including the rabies vaccination and the owner **must** provide a copy of current vaccination records in order to house animals at the shelter.

## Pearl River County

- Poplarville Shelter - 124 Rodeo Street, Poplarville, MS
- Carriere Shelter - 7431 Highway 11, Carriere, MS
- Picayune Shelter - 501 Laurel Street, Picayune, MS

## George County

- Benndale Storm Shelter - 5207 Highway 26 West, Lucedale, MS
- Agricola Storm Shelter - 3161 Cooks Corner Road, Lucedale, MS

STORM  
SHELTER



## Harrison County

- County Farm Shelter - 15038 County Farm Road, Gulfport, MS 
- Lobouy Shelter - Lobouy Road, Pass Christian, MS
- Saucier Lizana Road Shelter - 23771 Saucier Lizana Road, Saucier, MS
- Orange Grove Shelter - 14416 Dedeaux Road, Gulfport, MS
- D'Iberville High School - 15625 Lamey Bridge Road, Biloxi, MS
- West Harrison High School - 10399 County Farm Road, Gulfport, MS

## Jackson County

- East Jackson County - 18413 Highway 613 Hurley, MS
- Central Jackson County - 5500 Ballpark Road Vancleave, MS
- West Jackson County - 13000 Walker Road Ocean Springs, MS
- Jackson County Animal Shelter - 4400 Audobon Drive, Gautier, MS (call shelter for information about sheltering pets 228-497-6350) 

## Stone County

- Stone High School - 400 East Border Avenue, Wiggins, MS
- Stone Middle School - 532 East Central Avenue, Wiggins, MS
- Stone Elementary School - 1652 Central Avenue East, Wiggins, MS
- Perkinston Elementary School - 40 2nd Street, Perkinston, MS
- New Hope Road Shelter - 1084 New Hope Road, Wiggins, MS

## Forrest County

- Forrest County Multipurpose Center - 946 Sullivan Drive, Hattiesburg, MS

 = Pets allowed

# EMA DIRECTOR CONTACTS

## Hancock County

☎ 228-255-0942

## Harrison County

☎ 228-865-4002

## Jackson County

☎ 228-769-3111

## George County

☎ 601-947-7557

## Pearl River County

☎ 601-795-3058

## Stone County

☎ 601-928-3077

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

- **MEMA**  
601-933-6362  
msema.org
- **American Red Cross**  
800-733-2767  
redcross.org
- **AARP**  
866-554-5382  
www.aarp.org
- **Mississippi Division of Medicaid**  
800-421-2408
- **Mississippi Insurance Department**  
800-562-2957 (Statewide toll free)
- **Salvation Army**  
800 -725-2769  
southernusa.salvationarmy.org
- **MDOT**  
866-521-6368  
mdottraffic.com
- **FEMA**  
800-621-3362  
disasterassistance.gov
- **Department of Human Services**  
601-359-4500
- **Catholic Charities of South MS**  
228-701-0555

## UTILITY CONTACTS

### POWER

- **Mississippi Power**  
800-532-1502
- **Coast Electric Power**  
877-769-2372
- **Centerpoint Energy**  
228-896-7500
- **Singing River Electric**  
601-947-4211 (Main Office)

### GAS

- **Centerpoint Energy**  
228-864-0103
- **Ferrell**  
877-776-9155
- **Pascagoula Utilities**  
228-938-6633
- **Blossman**  
228-264-1162
- **Neill Gas**  
228-832-2111
- **Atmos Energy**  
888-286-6700

**BEFORE YOU DIG**  
**CALL 811!**

# PETS AND EVACUATIONS

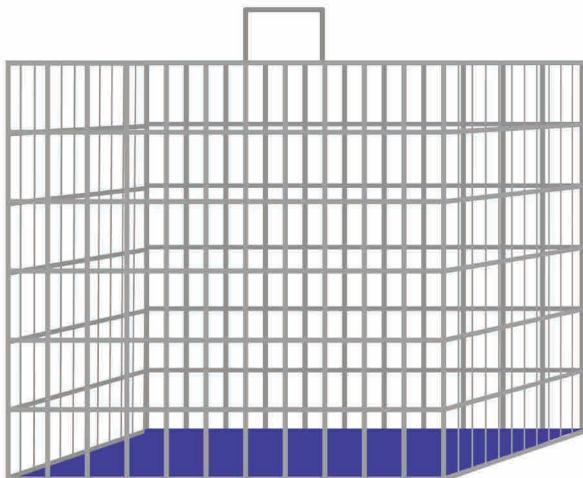
## Build a Kit

Here are some items to include in your pet emergency kit for your pet:

- **Food** (have at least a week of supply in an airtight container)
- **Water** (store a water bowl and at least a week of supply)
- **Medicine and medical records**
- **First aid kit**
- **Collar with ID tag and a harness/leash**
- **Travel bag, crate or sturdy carrier** (ideally one for each pet)
- **Grooming items**
- **Sanitation items** (pee pads, pet litter, litter box, newspaper, chlorine bleach etc.)
- **A picture of you and your pet together** (if you become separated from your pet, a picture helps you document ownership and assists you in identifying your pet)
- **Familiar items** (favorite toys, treats or bedding, items to help reduce stress)

## Crate Training

Traveling with a pet in a crate is always safer than having them loose in your vehicle. In addition to travel, wherever you evacuate to will most likely require your pet to be crated. If your pet is not crate trained, now is the time to do it.



## Tips for Large Animals

If you have pets such as horses, goats, or pigs on your property, be sure to prepare for a disaster.

- Ensure all animals have some form of ID
- Evacuate animals earlier, whenever possible. Have primary and secondary routes
- Have vehicles and trailers needed for transporting and supporting animals ready
- Ensure evacuation location have food, water, veterinary care and handling equipment
- If you cannot evacuate, animal owners must have a back up plan to secure their animals

**IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO EVACUATE TO A SHELTER OR HOTEL, CALL AHEAD TO ENSURE THEY ALLOW PETS**



## Microchipping

Many pets are separated from their owners during the chaos of a disaster. If your pet is not microchipped, it is a good idea to get your pet chipped. If you are unsure if your chip is current, take your dog to the vet to get the chip number then call the company to make sure it is up-to-date. It is also a good idea to get your pet scanned regularly. Chips can move throughout the dogs body and can even fall out over time.



# SENIORS AND ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

## Stay Informed

- Know what disasters could impact where you live and which ones would call for an evacuation or a shelter in place order
- Keep a NOAA Weather radio tuned to your local emergency station
- Monitor local tv news and radio stations for warnings about severe weather in your area

## Plan for Medical Needs

- Have **TWO WEEKS** of medications
- Know how to power medical equipment in your home that requires electricity, in case of a power outage.
- Talk with your power company about putting you on a priority list for power restoration
- Organize and secure your prescriptions and other important medications. Keep a list of medication and dosages in your emergency kit
- Wear a medical alert tag or bracelet
- Carry printed cards or store information on your phone to inform first responders and others how to communicate with you if you have a communication disability
- If you use assistive technology, plan for how you will evacuate with them or decide if you will replace the equipment if it is lost
- **HAVE ELECTRONIC COPIES OF YOUR RECORDS**

## Create a Network

- Make sure at least one person in your network has a key to your home
- Tell your support network where you keep your emergency supplies and knows how to use lifesaving equipment or administer medicine
- Know the location and availability of more than one shelter or medical facility that can help you
- Practice your emergency plan with your support network
- Don't forget your pets! Not all shelters accept animals. Be sure someone in your networks outside of your area can help with your animals

**INCLUDE OTHERS IN YOUR PLANS!**

## Other Important Tips

### PLAN FOR NEW ENVIRONMENTS

- Your household may include children and adults who have a hard time adjusting to chaotic environments. Have a plan to help them adjust. If you have support animals, you will need extra food, water and supplies for them as well

### CONSIDER TRANSPORTATION

- Plan ahead for accessible transportation needs. Ensure you have a way of getting around before, during and after a disaster

### GET YOUR BENEFITS ELECTRONICALLY

- A disaster can disrupt mail service for days or even weeks. If you depend on Social Security or any other benefits, consider switching to electronic payments if you have not.



# YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACT LIST

If you are in an emergency situation please call 911

## EMERGENCY CONTACT (LOCAL)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

## EMERGENCY CONTACT (OUT OF TOWN)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

## NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING PLACE

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

## OUT OF TOWN MEETING PLACE

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

## FILL OUT FOR EVERY MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY

### IMPORTANT MEDICAL INFO:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

### IMPORTANT MEDICAL INFO:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

### IMPORTANT MEDICAL INFO:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

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Medical Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

### IMPORTANT MEDICAL INFO:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_



# YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACT LIST

If you are in an emergency situation please call 911

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## HOSPITAL EMERGENCY (OUT OF TOWN)

Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## HOSPITAL EMERGENCY

Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## FAMILY DOCTOR

Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## ANIMAL CONTROL

Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## POISON CONTROL CENTER

Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## PHARMACY

Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## VETERINARIAN

Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## INSURANCE

Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_