

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS 2009



U.S. COAST GUARD
SECTOR CHARLESTON
AOR

PRE-STORM ASSISTANCE TEAMS

Incident Management Team (IMT) – Stands ready to activate whenever a natural disaster, such as a hurricane, severely threatens any part of the Seventh District area of responsibility. The IMT handles only hurricane operational and employee issues and is located in the Brickell Plaza Federal Building as part of the D7 Staff.

The IMT is a point of contact for any “Team Coast Guard” person who evacuates or is sent home because of a natural disaster. As soon as it is safe to do so following the emergency, all Coast Guard personnel including families or individuals who have evacuated due to the storm, are expected to check in daily with their supervisor. If unable to contact the supervisor, personnel should contact the IMT at the number listed below to report in, report your location, and to get return to work and other instructions as well as listen to radio and TV stations for information. Because Coast Guard command centers will be very busy handling emergencies, evacuees are not to call them except as a last resort.

IMT toll-free phone number: 1-800-582-5943, option 1 or 2

Hurricane Evacuation Assistance Team (HEAT) – Pre-Storm Evacuation. In an effort to minimize the anxiety levels of members, employees, and dependents during the hours and sometimes days leading up to a potential of a hurricane, the team is deployed to Orlando as the need arises. The purpose is to assist members, employees, and dependents with:

- Locating hotel accommodations if the evacuee has been unable to secure room(s) prior to arrival in Orlando.
- Preparation of orders and cash advances as required.
- Assistance to families with special needs.
- Provide check-in and check-out rosters services to evacuees.
- Disseminate information regarding storm passage and when evacuees may return to their homes.
- Maintains accountability rosters of personnel and families and reports every 2 hours to the IMT.
- Hands over all rosters, orders, and cash advance information to the Hurricane Assistance Team (HAT) when the HAT is deployed to the stricken area.
- Maintains constant communication with the HAT team leader and passes pertinent information regarding evacuee situations. HAT team leader passes information regarding the stricken area to the HEAT team leader as information becomes available.
- Evacuees must check in daily by 10:00 am with the HEAT team and must not return to the evacuated area until given the all clear to return by this team.

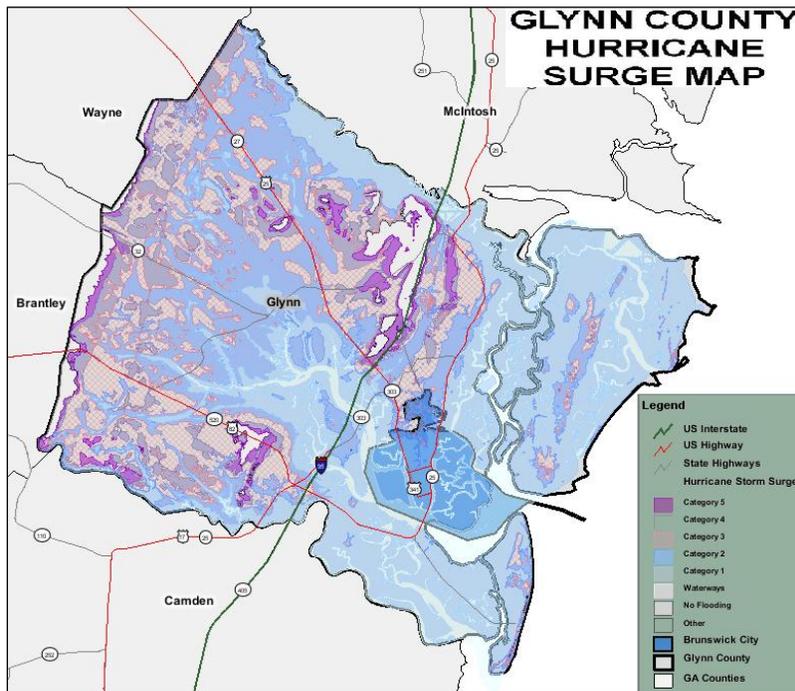
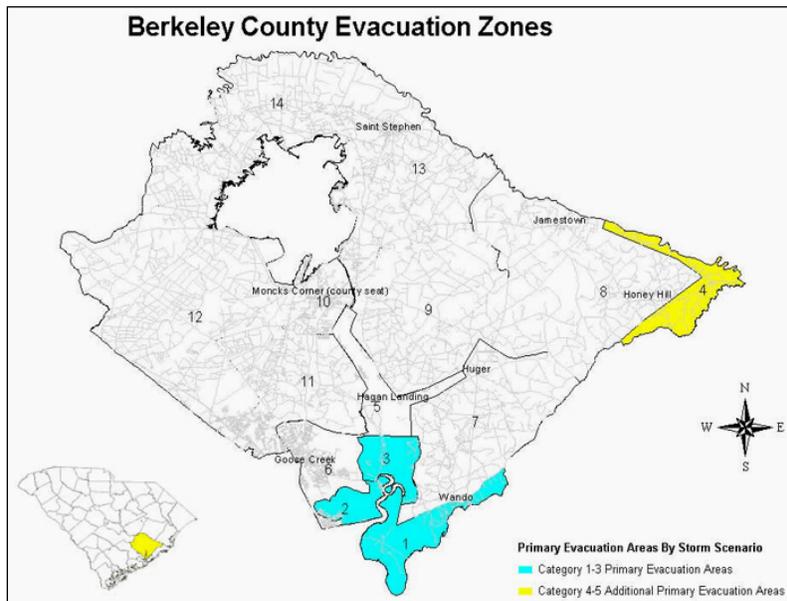
HEAT cell phone number: (786) 229-2931

CG Conditions

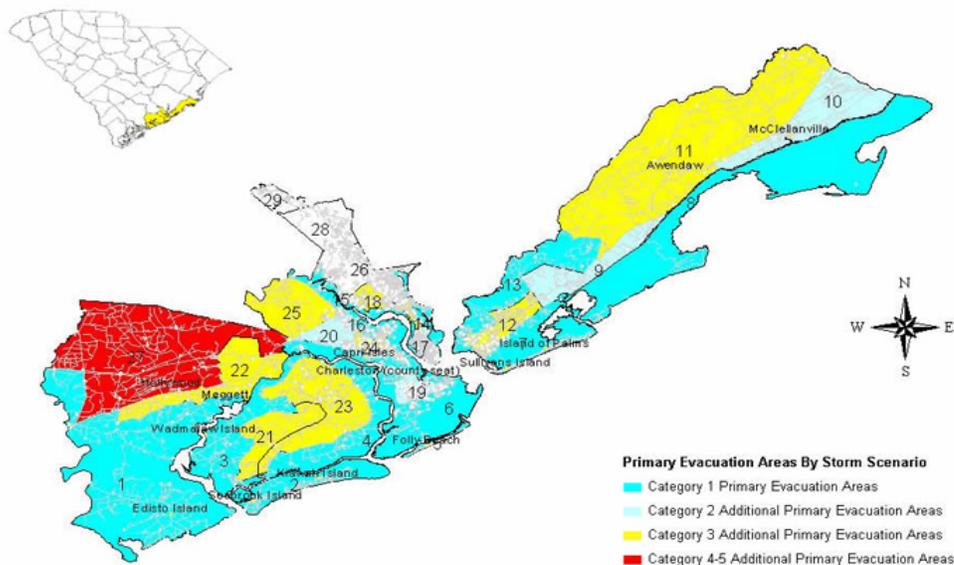
5 – 1 Dec-31 May
4 – 1 Jun – 30 Nov
3 – 48 hours prior to landfall
2 – 24 hours prior to landfall
1 – 12 hours prior to landfall

National Hurricane Center

Watch – 36 hours prior
Warning – 24 hours prior



Charleston County Evacuation Zones



CHARLESTON AREA

Edisto Island, Adams Run...

Evacuees will take SC 174 to US 17. They will then take US 17 south to SC 64. This will take them to Walterboro, and then on to North Augusta.

Yonges Island, Meggett, Hollywood, Ravenel... Use SC 165 to US 17, then US 17 south to SC 64.

Johns Island, Kiawah Island and Seabrook... Evacuees will use SC 700 to Road S-20 (Bohicket Road) to US 17. Evacuees will take US 17 south to SC 64 where they will go to Walterboro, then on to North Augusta.

James Island and Folly Beach... Use SC 171 to US 17. Evacuees should then travel south on US 17 to I-526 to the reversed lanes of I-26.

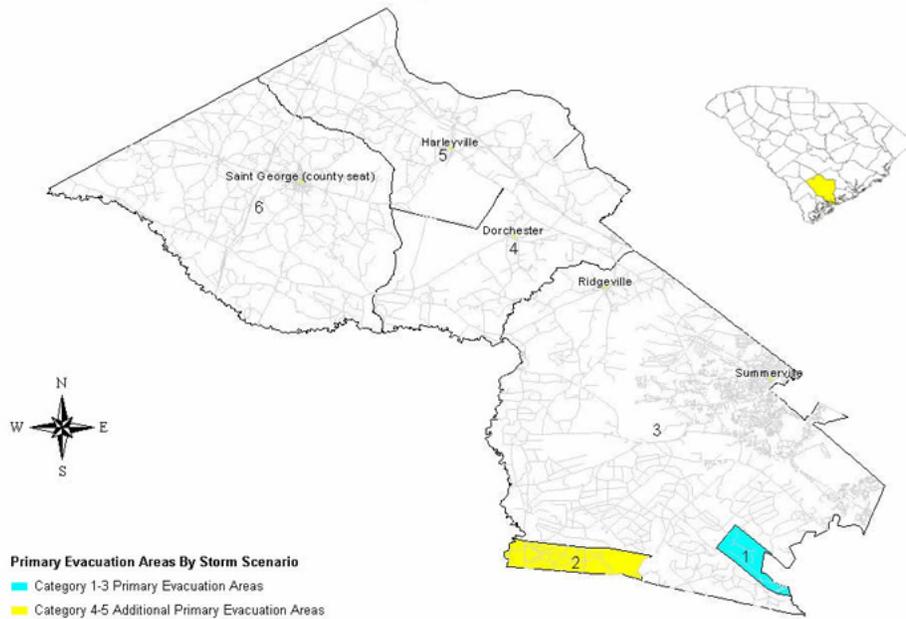
City of Charleston... The west side of the city (West Ashley) will use SC 61 to US 78, then to Aiken and North Augusta. Downtown will use the normal lanes of I-26.

North Charleston... Evacuees will take US 52 (Rivers Avenue) to US 78 to US 178 to Orangeburg or continue on US 52 to US 176 or continue north on US 52. The right lane of US 52 at Goose Creek will continue on to Moncks Corner. In Moncks Corner, it will be directed onto SC 6, where SC 6 will take evacuees toward Columbia. The left lane of US 52 at Goose Creek will go on to US 176 to Columbia. Evacuees using SC 642 will travel west toward Summerville and take Road S-22 (Old Orangeburg Road) to US 78 west.

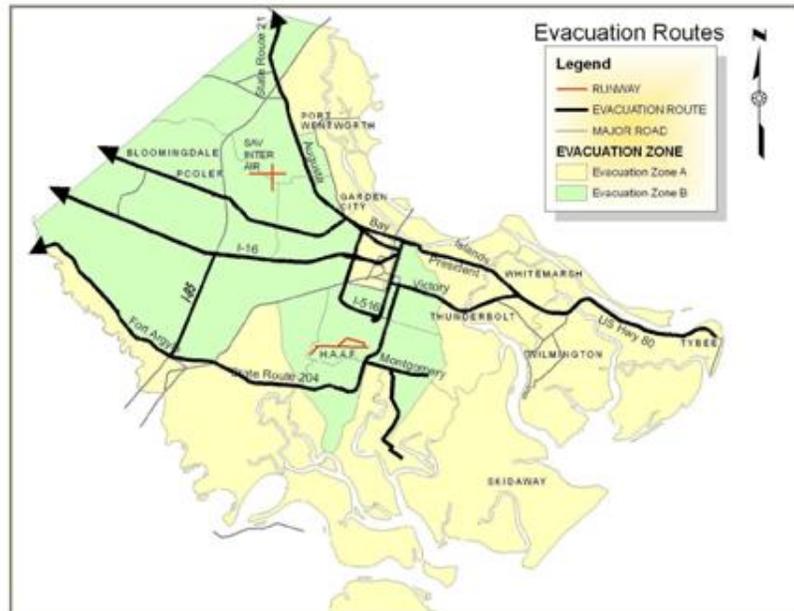
East Cooper... Evacuees leaving Mount Pleasant will take I-526 or US 17 south to I-26. Those leaving Sullivan's Island will use SC 703 to I-526 Business to access I-526, then I-26. Evacuees from the Isle of Palms will use the Isle of Palms connector (SC 517) to go to US 17, where the right lane will turn north on US 17, then proceed to SC 41, to SC 402, then to US 52 to SC 375, then to US 521, to SC 261 to US 378 to Columbia. Evacuees using the left lanes of the Isle of Palms connector will turn left to go to I-526 and then on to I-26. Evacuees on I-526 approaching I-26 from East Cooper will be directed to the normal lanes of I-26 if in the right lane of I-526. Those in the left lane of I-526 will be directed into the reversed lanes of I-26.

Awendaw and McClellanville... Evacuees will take SC 45 to US 52 where they will be directed right onto US 52 to SC 375 to US 521 to SC 261 to US 378 to Columbia.

Dorchester County Evacuation Zones



CHATHAM COUNTY



In Chatham County there are basically two levels of evacuation appropriate for hurricane conditions; "Partial" and "Full", depending on the severity of the storm.

Under a PARTIAL Evacuation, the following areas would be affected:

- All islands (not just "barrier islands")
- All waterfront properties (including rivers, creeks, canals)
- All low lying areas adjacent to marshes, wetlands, etc.
- All flood prone areas (including rainfall flooding)

All mobile/manufactured type parks and homes of unsteady construction

Under a FULL Evacuation, the following areas would be affected:

Entire County (No exceptions for the general public).

From these two levels of evacuation, two types of evacuation may be come necessary depending on the severity of the Storm; namely "Voluntary" and "Mandatory".

Under a VOLUNTARY Evacuation:

Government officials strongly urge and recommend persons in designated vacation areas to relocate to safer locations for their own safety. Personal discretion allowed, but not advised.

Under a MANDATORY Evacuation:

Government officials order all persons in designated evacuation areas to relocate to safer locations for their own safety. Personal discretion not to be a deciding factor. A mandatory evacuation order will apply to the public in general. Exceptions would include public safety officials, disaster response personnel and organizational, agency, business employees designated as "critical workforce" or "essential". However, all of these individuals will be expected to eventually seek adequate shelter prior to the onset of hurricane conditions. Persons who refuse to comply with a mandatory evacuation order will not be arrested nor forcibly removed from their homes. However they should not expect rescue or other lifesaving assistance after the onset of gale force winds. (The same will hold true for persons ignoring a voluntary evacuation order.)

Each storm threat will dictate its own combination of levels and types of evacuations to be authorized by government officials.

POST-STORM ASSISTANCE TEAMS

Damage Assessment Team (DAT). This team pre-stages in a geographic location just outside of the area the storm is projected to make landfall. When the winds subside and/or the water recedes this team moves in to determine damages to the Coast Guard facilities in that area. This team is the first team to arrive and reports back to the District the condition of the facilities and the surrounding communities. Many times this team arrives within a few hours of storm passage.

RT - Facility Repair Team (RT). This team may pre-stage to a location near where the storm is expected to make landfall and receives damage assessments to the Coast Guard facilities and surrounding communities from the DAT above. The team conducts emergent repairs to damaged USCG-owned ground facilities impacted by the storm. Such repairs are designed to minimize further damage and enable units affected by a hurricane to resume normal operations until long-term repairs can be completed. This team concentrates solely on operational facilities and not housing units; the Hurricane Assistance Team (Hat) concentrates on restoring the housing units to habitability or locating suitable alternative housing.

Post-Storm Recovery (HAT) – Hurricane Assistance Team. This team provides one stop support services for active duty members, employees, and dependents who have been adversely affected by the storm; thus allowing the operational unit to restore operations without the added burden of handling personnel support issues. This team is deployed to the affected area and is in place prior to the return of dependents and will remain until the majority of personnel needs have been serviced. Members of the team include personnel from the fields of housing administration and maintenance, transportation, worklife, MWR, personal services, procurement, legal, and financial areas. Team members come from all over the Coast Guard crossing operational commands, (i.e. D7, MLC, ISC, other ISCs, etc.) Services provided (depending on extent of damage) include: check in process for returning evacuees, preparation of orders, cash advances for travel (in cash), assessment of damage to homes for all personnel, assistance in locating alternative temporary and permanent quarters when homes are deemed uninhabitable, assistance in personal property claims, adjudication of claims, advance payment of personnel property claims up to a pre-established amount, provide mutual assistance loans, morale support, worklife assistance, and liaison with other government agencies who may provide additional support (Red Cross, FEMA, etc).

HAT cell phone number: (305) 216-8037

TERMS AND AUTHORITIES

Evacuation area – Determined by the local civil authorities and/or the Seventh District Commander. This may be an area within a city, an entire city, or an entire geographic area. See maps in brochure for mandatory evacuation areas within your geographic area.

Safe Haven – a specific location must be designated as a safe haven for evacuees. This is generally a city or county; the safe haven is normally outside of the immediate danger zone as determined by the local civil authorities or Seventh District Commander. A specific area must be specified for entitlement purposes.

Authorized Timeframe – an effective date to begin the limited or full evacuation that includes an estimated duration. A written termination of the evacuation is required when it is determined by the ordering authority that it is safe for dependents to return home.

Local civil authority order - This is a lawful order that local authorities use when a specific area is vulnerable to storm surge and flooding due to a natural disaster. It does not put into place evacuation entitlements for Coast Guard active duty and civilian employee's dependents; only the Seventh District Commander or a higher authority may order an evacuation for entitlement purposes. See evacuation types below:

Evacuation Types for Entitlement Purposes

Limited evacuation – the authorized/ordered movement of an active duty member or civilian employee's dependents from their residences to the nearest available accommodations which may be government quarters. Only the Seventh District Commander can authorize this evacuation and it is usually ordered in conjunction with a civil order by the local authorities. The purpose is to put in place entitlements for dependents who are forced to evacuate for the temporary avoidance of severe weather (hurricanes, floods, ice storms, etc.) and is expected to be of short duration (a few days to a few weeks).

Full evacuation – the authorized/ordered movement of dependents of an active duty member or civilian employee from one area to another. This is usually used in geographic areas that suffered extraordinary damage (i.e. New Orleans and the Gulf Coast). Ordering authorities are the District Commander or at the Commandant level and are ordered for entitlement purposes only.

Who is authorized evacuation entitlements and orders?

Active duty personnel – Are not given evacuation orders. Active duty personnel who evacuate the area are placed on TAD orders provided they are not deemed essential by the unit commanding officer and must stay through the natural disaster. If orders are authorized by the operational commander, then the member must return to the area when ordered to do so; this may mean returning without dependents.

Reserve personnel – Reservists performing active duty of 30 days or more are considered as active duty personnel and are given orders as defined above; dependents of these reservists are given orders as defined below.

Dependents - of active duty personnel, civilian employees, and reserve personnel as defined above are authorized evacuation orders and entitlements when the Seventh District Commander or higher authority issues a written evacuation order with a specific safe haven and duration.