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September 2005: Hurricanes

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Government Documents at Dacus Library

September is National Preparedness Month

The Department of Homeland Security and the American Red Cross encourages you to prepare for disasters in your homes, businesses, schools and libraries. “Get a kit, make a plan, be informed and get involved.” <http://www.ready.gov/npm/index.htm>.

NOAA has raised the prediction of the 2005 Atlantic hurricane season outlook. The months of August through November are expected to have 11 -14 more named storms, 7-9 becoming hurricanes. This summer has already seen the most dramatic increase in named storms – July had 5 named storms, breaking the record for named storms during that month. This years’ Hurricane Season total expected Tropical Storms is 18-21 and is broken down in the following: 9-11 Tropical Storms will become Hurricanes, and 5-7 of those Hurricanes will be major Hurricanes. At present we have had 3 major Hurricanes – Dennis, Emily and Katrina. For your convenience, NOAA has added “Podcasts” in mp3 files reporting updates of the Atlantic Hurricane Season: <http://www.podcast.noaa.gov/>.

Our Government Documents Department at Dacus Library will be displaying Hurricane Preparedness materials on the table outside our office along with a list of websites to keep you updated on the status of tropical storms, hurricanes and cyclones.

Some of the featured Documents published by FEMA are:

Building a Disaster Resistant Community (FEM 1.2: IM 7/2)

Project Impact (FEM 1.2: IM 7)

Hurricane Initial Actions Checklist for Key Staff (FEM 1.2: H 94/3/2000)

HERMAN, P.I.C. and the Hunt for a Disaster-Proof Shell(FEM 1.2: H 42)

**Taking Shelter from the Storm: Building a Safe Room in Your House
(FEM 1.2: SH 4/5)**

**Tropical Storm Floyd Interagency Hazard Mitigation Team Report
(FEM 1.2: M 69/2)**

The government also has a wealth of information concerning hurricanes and other disasters online. Just in case some of you have forgotten Hurricane Hugo, Fran or Bertha, NOAA has published online reports of each Hurricane.

Hurricane Hugo

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/assessments/pdfs/hugo1.pdf>

Hurricane Bertha

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/assessments/pdfs/bertha.pdf>

Hurricane Fran

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/assessments/pdfs/franrpt.pdf>

Federal Severe Weather Information

NOAA's National Weather Service, National Hurricane Center, Tropical Prediction Center.

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/index.shtml>

NOAA's homepage – Please click on the map listed on the sidebar to get your local area weather or Podcast.

<http://www.noaa.gov/>

FEMA's homepage – FEMA has disaster and recovery plans listed as well as a readiness guide to prepare you for Hurricane season.

<http://www.fema.gov/>

Disaster Help.gov provides information and resources for all disasters ranging from natural to terrorism.

<https://disasterhelp.gov/portal/jhtml/index.jhtml>

South Carolina

http://www.myscgov.com/SCSGPortal/static/home_tem4.html (State Employees Weather Alert Button is on the sidebar)

<http://www.weatherforyou.com/weather/South+Carolina/Rock+Hill.html>

Rock Hill

<http://www.heraldonline.com/local/hurricane/> (Links to NOAA)

Winthrop University

<http://www.winthrop.edu/katrinarelief/>

The above websites will help you devise a family plan for Hurricane season. Please remember to stay calm and be prepared if you are required to evacuate an area for your safety. Please also remember to make alternative accommodations for your family and pets if you chose not to use the provided shelters. Whatever disasters this Hurricane season may bring, we hope that you find this information helpful in preparing for it.

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