

Chatham County
EMERGENCY
OPERATIONS Plan
INCIDENT ANNEX

HURRICANE PLAN

APRIL 2006

Chatham Emergency Management Agency

FOREWORD

April 2006

The Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) is continuously striving to improve hurricane preparedness throughout Chatham County. These efforts include this revision of the County's Emergency Operations Plan Hurricane Annex. They also include incorporating the lessons learned from previous events, results of research studies on storm surge potential, clearance time requirements, inland wind-fields and behavioral analyses of attitudes toward evacuation as well as the particular requirements of the Special Needs population.

Over the last few years there has been a marked increase in public levels of hurricane awareness. This has been matched by a renewed dedication on the part of government, public safety and disaster response officials to work collaboratively to protect lives and property from the threat of tropical systems. However, the planning process remains ongoing. Due to the great potential for personal harm, property damage, economic loss and disruption of community activities, everyone with a role in hurricane preparedness must remain perpetually vigilant and proactive; we can never be over-prepared.

It is only through our continued efforts that Chatham County can meet and overcome the potentially devastating effects of a major hurricane.

Comments or questions concerning this plan should be addressed to CEMA at (912) 201-4500

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INTRODUCTION

The destructive potential of hurricanes poses a serious threat to the coastal areas of the United States. Although the Georgia coast has not been directly struck by a Category 3-5 hurricane in the past century, the possibility of such an occurrence is not remote. It is essential, that the population be informed of the potential danger of a severe hurricane, as well as the actions they should take to save lives and protect property. It is equally important that government officials are prepared to take appropriate protective actions.

PURPOSE

This is a comprehensive plan of action through which Chatham County has prepared for the threat and destructive impact of a hurricane. The purpose of this plan is to serve as a guide for local officials to ensure effective hurricane preparedness and response in conjunction with other emergency plans and procedures. This plan sets forth actions to be taken to save lives and protect property, including notification of emergency response personnel, evacuation of the public, designation of shelter areas and actions to mitigate damage from a storm.

ASSUMPTIONS

This plan is designed to accommodate the worst hurricane conditions assumed to be possible for Georgia's coast, as well as any lesser storms of hurricane intensity, including post-landfall storms from the Gulf of Mexico. Operational actions and decisions during a hurricane will be based to a large degree on the forecast intensity of the storm, likelihood of hurricane conditions and the lead-time available for evacuation and sheltering operations.

This plan assumes three governmental levels of emergency preparedness and response: local, State and Federal. Preparedness, warning, protection and relief are general responsibilities of all levels of government. However, emergency operations are initiated at the local level utilizing all available resources to assure effective response. State assistance is supplementary to local activation of resources and is made available in response to local requests for assistance.

This plan is based on several specific assumptions:

- A. Executive decision-makers will be well acquainted with the plan and its decision-making considerations and will act decisively when circumstances warrant.
- B. All parties with roles and responsibilities for hurricane preparedness, response and recovery will maintain a state of readiness throughout hurricane season, will actively participate in emergency operations when called to do so and will work collectively in a spirit of teamwork as circumstances require.
- C. Local governments and emergency response agencies may not be able to provide for all the immediate needs of the community especially when time is

- critical. Therefore, prioritization of response efforts may become necessary.
- D. Citizens, businesses and others at risk will generally take personal responsibility to follow instructions from local officials and take protective actions. However, this does not assume 100% participation and compliance will actually occur.
 - E. State and Federal assistance will neither be expected nor requested until local resources and capabilities are known or prove to be insufficient to satisfy emergency needs. However, such assistance will be made readily available when requested.
 - F. Sufficient lead-time will exist to implement this plan and mobilize available resources. This assumes a Hurricane Watch will be issued approximately 36 hours before expected landfall and/or a Warning approximately 24 hours prior.

AUTHORITIES

A. FEDERAL:

- 1. Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950, as amended (PL 81-920).
- 2. The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988, PL 93-288 as amended by PL 100-707.
- 3. Executive Order 12418, July 1979 (assigning PL responsibility to FEMA.)
- 4. National Response Plan, July 2004, as amended.

B. STATE:

- 1. Georgia Constitution
- 2. Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981, as amended.
- 3. Georgia Emergency Operations Plan (GEOP).
- 4. Governor's Executive Order, July 1995.
- 5. Georgia Warning Plan.
- 6. Georgia Hurricane Plan.

C. COUNTY:

- 1. Chatham County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).
- 2. Chapter 4, Article III, Chatham County Code Book, Emergency Management.
- 3. Chatham County Recovery Plan.
- 4. CEMA EOC Staff Manual.

IMPLEMENTATION

This plan will be implemented upon the recommendation of the Director of Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) with the approval of the Chairman, Chatham County Board of Commissioners and concurrence of the Mayors of the Municipalities as appropriate. Any level of activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) shall constitute implementation of this plan.

SCOPE

This plan is intended for countywide application of hurricane emergency operations affecting Chatham County. The effects of both storm surge and inland wind have been considered for hurricanes entering the County from either the Atlantic Ocean or the Gulf of Mexico. Although flooding is a damaging effect from hurricanes, it is likely that the effects of flooding may occur in Chatham County from other than just hurricanes. Therefore, this plan shall also be implemented to the degree necessary for tropical and lesser systems. This plan is an Annex to the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), and is to be used in conjunction with the EOP under the direction of CEMA, with the approval of the Chairman, Chatham County Board of Commissioners and Mayors as appropriate.

RESPONSIBILITY

In accordance with the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981 (as amended), The Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) Emergency Operations Plan (GEOP), the EOP and Chapter 4, Article III, Chatham County Code Book, Emergency Management, CEMA will prepare and update this Hurricane Preparedness Plan to respond to the threat of hurricane-related conditions.

Local governments, organizations and agencies, with roles in implementing this plan will revise and update their responsibilities, duties and operating procedures associated with this plan, the EOP, available resources, notification and EOC staffing lists, and specific needs on an annual basis. They will provide changes and revisions to CEMA prior to hurricane season each year. They will also participate in planning sessions, training, and exercises associated with the plan.

Through this plan local governments will use all available resources to protect against a threatening situation. They will establish intergovernmental mutual aid agreements as necessary for effective emergency operations response. Appropriate public officials specified in this plan will exercise direction and control. When local resources are not adequate to deal with a hazard, State assistance may be requested by CEMA through the State Operations Center (SOC). Requests for assistance will then be forwarded to GEMA for action and coordination. Local requests must be routed through the EOC to CEMA prior to being submitted at the State.

State emergency services supplement local efforts outlined in this plan. Upon request for assistance, the Governor may declare a State of Emergency and direct execution of the State Hurricane Plan and GEOP. Heads of State Departments and agencies will execute emergency service functions as appropriate to assist local officials.

Upon occurrence of an emergency or disaster beyond the capabilities and resources of both Chatham County and the State of Georgia, the Governor may request assistance from the President of the United States or other officials of the Federal government. Federal assistance will supplement State and local efforts and shall be provided under governing statutory authorities.

I. OPERATIONS

A. CONCEPT

Upon the recommendation of CEMA, emergency operations shall commence at the discretion of the Chairman, Chatham County Board of Commissioners, or if unavailable, the County Manager. The Mayors of the County’s Municipalities may also request that emergency operations commence prior to such recommendation. In unusual circumstances the Governor, through GEMA, may also recommend or order such action.

The extent of emergency operations conducted, including evacuations, sheltering and protective ordinances, will depend on the severity, magnitude, track and timing of the storm. The National Weather Service (NWS) will monitor and report on the status of the storm using the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale to categorize the severity.

SAFFIR-SIMPSON SCALE

CATEGORY	WIND		AVERAGE HEIGHT (FT)	MAXIMUM HEIGHT (FT)
	(MPH)	(KNOTS)		
1	74 - 95	64 - 83	4 - 5	5.3 - 9.5
2	96 - 110	84 - 96	6 - 8	11.3 - 15.4
3	111 - 130	97 - 113	9 - 12	15.7 - 18.0
4	131 - 155	114 - 135	13 - 18	18.4 - 21.4
5	> 155	> 135	18+	21.8 - 24.7+

* COASTAL STORM SURGE NORMS AT MEAN TIDE.

** COUNTY STORM SURGE (SLOSH) PROJECTIONS AT MEAN AND HIGH TIDES. This figure does not represent wave action on top of storm surge.

Early alerting of local officials and agencies with emergency operations responsibilities is essential. Information regarding warning or response actions will be coordinated with local governments in conjunction with GEMA. Increased readiness and mobilization actions will be initiated progressively as the threat increases, in accordance with the Hurricane Readiness Action Phases identified in this plan and in the Georgia Hurricane Plan. Status reports will be made to GEMA regarding events and activities that occur for the purposes of State-local coordination, and possible requests for a State of Emergency.

Whenever Emergency Operations are in effect they will be assigned the highest priority and take precedence over all other forms of routine government business. They shall be maintained at the appropriate levels until the threat has passed and reported as such by the NWS. In the event that the County is struck by a storm, emergency operations will be continued until the threat has been eliminated, essential government, transportation and utility services have been restored and the basic survival needs of the citizens have been met. Emphasis will then shift from emergency operations to long-term recovery operations, which are not specifically provided for in this plan.

History has shown that hurricanes can rapidly intensify at the last moment before landfall. This can render emergency operations geared up for one level of hurricane threat largely inadequate when a more severe storm actually arrives. The result greatly increases the danger because local shelters become unsafe and longer evacuation times leave people stranded on the roads when the storm hits. At the recommendation of the NWS, emergency operations conducted under this plan may be based on the requirements for the next higher category of hurricane than actually expected. In other words, subject to recommendation of the CEMA Director and approval of the appropriate elected officials, if the storm is anticipated to arrive at a Category 2 level the local response may be for a Category 3 storm.

B. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

1. STATE LEVEL: Under his statutory emergency powers the Governor has the authority to establish a safe level of hurricane preparedness. This includes voluntary or mandatory evacuation of the general public, protective Executive Orders, martial law or other specific actions. However, such steps will not generally be taken, particularly if local governments are willing and able to exercise direction and control necessary to manage the emergency.
2. COUNTY LEVEL:
 - a. The Georgia Emergency Management Act provides authority to the County Commission or elected officials to order evacuation when deemed necessary to protect lives. The Chatham County Resolution Pertaining To Emergency

Management specifically authorizes that: The Chairman, County Commissioners jointly with the Mayors of the affected cities, or in their absences their legally appointed successors, may determine that an emergency or disaster exists and thereafter shall have and may exercise for such period as such emergency or disaster exists or continues, the following powers:

- (1) To enforce rules, laws and regulations relating to emergency management, and assume operational control over all emergency management resources;
- (2) To seize or take for temporary use, any private property for the protection of the public;
- (3) To sell, lend, give, or distribute all or any such property or supplies among the inhabitants of the county and to maintain a strict accounting of property or supplies distributed and for funds received for such property or supplies; and, to perform and exercise such other functions and duties, and take such emergency actions as may be necessary to promote and secure the safety, protection and well being of the inhabitants of the county.

- b. Within this context the ultimate responsibility and authority for overall direction and control rests with the Chairman and Mayors or their successors. Critical decisions such as evacuation, emergency declaration or protective ordinances, will be made at their level, but may be assisted by other government officials of their choosing. The County Manager and the Municipality Administrators/Managers will exercise direction and control over their respective jurisdictions. The CEMA Director and Key Department Heads will assist them. The CEMA Director will have the authority and responsibility to provide the necessary coordination of emergency operations between jurisdictions as well as response organizations.

C. EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

Direction and Control functions will be conducted in the EOC under the general direction of the CEMA Director and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the CEMA EOC Staff Manual.

D. STATE AND LOCAL COORDINATION

Emergency operations throughout the County will be communicated to and coordinated with neighboring counties, inland counties and the State to ensure a smooth regional response. Interactions with the State will be made through the SOC.

The GEMA Director, acting on behalf of the Governor, is responsible for direction and control of operational response and coordination of the activities of State and local governments. Through his designated representatives in the SOC, situation reports will be received and disseminated, requests for assistance will be considered and processed and specific assets and resources will be allocated to assist local officials. The Director CEMA, the EOC Operations Officer or designated liaison officials, will make all requests for assistance from the EOC.

E. EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS & WARNING (Also see EOP ESF 2)

1. RECEIVING HURRICANE INFORMATION: Severe weather and hurricane information originates from the NWS and is disseminated to GEMA and CEMA by:

- National Warning System (NAWAS)
- Satellite Weather Wire
- NOAA Weather Alert Monitors

GEMA may communicate hurricane information directly to CEMA by:

- GEMA Radio Network
- NAWAS
- Facsimile
- Telephone
- Computer Network
- EM Net

CEMA may also receive hurricane information from other sources:

- Internet (NOAA et al.)
- HURREVAC
- HURRTRAK (Subscription Downloading Program)
- Storm Sentry (Satellite Subscription Weather Service)
- National Hurricane Center (Direct Phone Line)
- National Weather Service, Charleston (Direct Phone Line)
- Local Meteorologists

2. **LOCAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS:** (Also see **Appendix A, Hurricane Readiness & Response Notifications**) Information received by CEMA will be disseminated by a variety of methods:
 - Internet
 - E-mail
 - CEMA web site
 - Telephone
 - Facsimile
 - E-Fax Mass Facsimile System
 - Cellular and satellite telephone

A variety of radio equipment is located in the EOC for communicating with public safety and emergency response agencies operating within the County. This includes:

- All Low Bands
- UHF & VHF
- 800 MHz systems
- Amateur (Ham) radio

3. **EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM:** The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is the primary public system to provide citizens information on storm intensity, location and direction of travel. This information is provided to the media by the NWS. Until the EAS is activated, citizens rely upon routine broadcasts for weather bulletins and advisories. The NWS, GEMA or CEMA can activate the EAS on a regional or selective-area basis. It is the primary system for disseminating evacuation and reentry information to the general public.
4. **OTHER LOCAL ALERT AND WARNING SYSTEMS:** In addition to EAS, NOAA Weather Alert Monitors and self-initiated broadcasts by local media, the EOC has several capabilities for communicating directly to the public with warnings, evacuation orders and instructions, as well as other information. These include:
 - Radio controlled outdoor Warning Sirens
 - Audio override of cable TV
 - Local Emergency Information Network (LEIN)

The LEIN is a computerized radio system that can broadcast ongoing real-time information to local radio and TV stations for rebroadcast to the public. Private citizens can also monitor it with amateur radios or police scanners.

F. ACTION PHASES

Hurricanes tend to develop more slowly than most other natural disasters; therefore State and local governments have the opportunity to systematically mobilize and apply resources necessary to ensure effective response. In order to control and coordinate response efforts within and between the various levels of government, multi-levels of readiness or Action Phases have been established.

The Georgia Hurricane Plan specifies the minimum time frames and preparedness related activities for each Action Phase; local plans are required to be consistent with these minimum levels (See **Appendix B: Hurricane Response Timelines.**) Local jurisdictions are also expected to implement their own hurricane plans in conjunction with the State plan and to go to a corresponding Phase at the same time as the State. However, on behalf of the Governor the GEMA Director can order a local jurisdiction to go to a particular Action Phase to protect lives and property if local officials are unable or unwilling to take timely action. Local jurisdictions can initiate Phase related activities earlier than called for in the State plan if their unique circumstances require additional lead-time to complete those activities. This is necessary for Chatham County due to the amount of clearance time required for evacuation.

Appendix C: (Action Phase Activities), provides a detailed outline of Action Phases related activities and timetables. Individual plans and standard operating procedures should be developed around this framework, as applicable to each organization.

G. PUBLIC INFORMATION (Also see EOP ESF 15)

The timely, accurate dissemination of information and the control of rumors are vital to effective emergency operations, particularly when evacuation and sheltering issues are time critical. Both the EOP and Chatham County Code Book pertaining to emergency management assign this responsibility to the county Public Information Officer (PIO). In this regard the County PIO, will exercise direction and control over all emergency public information functions through PIOs assigned to the EOC. Upon implementation of this plan, all official public statements, interviews, press conferences and news releases will be scheduled, conducted and issued either by or through the PIO to ensure uniformity, consistency and accuracy. Official spokespersons representing individual organizations and senior government officials wishing to make independent public statements should coordinate those statements with the PIO.

A regular schedule of press conferences, situation reports and news releases will be established. Special announcements, instructions, advisories, alerts and warnings will be made as necessary. The media will be expected to adhere to procedural guidelines provided in advance and will be restricted from EOC access.

Issues of concern, unconfirmed reports, and unsubstantiated rumors will be directed to the PIO to be addressed as soon as possible. Misinformation will be promptly corrected. If questions by either the media or the public cannot be answered they will be researched and followed up with correct responses.

H. SCHOOL CLOSURE PROCESS

The decision to open or close Chatham County public schools is the responsibility of the Board of Education. CEMA participates in the process by providing information from a number of sources, to include the National Weather Service and a variety of local, State and Federal emergency management organizations. The Board decision is based not only on the projected availability of utilities and services during the school-day but also, on the safety of its students awaiting transportation to and from school.

Private schools operate independently but generally follow the lead of the Board of Education. *CEMA does not make the decision to open or close schools.*

I. CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES:

There are four major correctional facilities in Chatham County: Youth Detention Center, Chatham County Detention Center, Men's Transitional Center, and Coastal Correctional Institute. These facilities are required to have hurricane plans and should be self-sufficient during a storm. The Youth Detention Center and the Men's Transitional Center will transport residents to similar inland facilities; the other two facilities will shelter-in-place for all categories of storms.

II. SHELTERING (Also see EOP ESF 6)

A. TYPES OF SHELTERS

A variety of shelters may be utilized once a hurricane threat requires the issue of evacuation orders; these vary both in terms of location and purpose:

- Local Shelters
- Critical Workforce
- Inland Shelters
- Pet Shelters
- Special Needs Shelters

B. LOCAL

During a hurricane evacuation it is the National policy of the American Red Cross to not open any shelter in a coastal community regardless of the category of the storm.

C. CRITICAL WORKFORCE & FAMILY

Essential personnel needed to carry out evacuation and post-storm reentry and recovery operations will be expected to take shelter before gale force winds arrive. There are four designated shelters within and adjacent to Chatham County for that purpose. These shelters will not be staffed like local public shelters, but two of them will receive feeding assistance from the Salvation Army. The other two will have provisions on site. They will be opened for use after a Hurricane Warning has been issued. However, equipment staging may begin after a Hurricane Watch has been issued. They will be used for all categories of hurricane.

CRITICAL WORKFORCE SHELTERS

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CAPACITY</u>
N. Effingham HS	1589 Highway 119 S.	3000
SAV Intl. Airport	400 Airways Ave.	1,200
County Courthouse	133 Montgomery St.	400
Civic Center	Montgomery & Liberty	Equip only
SAV I & D Tmt. Plant	6183 Highway 21 N.	150

D. INLAND

Upon issuance of evacuation orders within Georgia or the influx of evacuees from other states, the State Operations Center will initiate shelter operations.

Evacuees will be instructed to follow inland evacuation routes and report to inland county Evacuation Centers where they will be provided information about motels, restaurants and other services in the community. In the event that a shelter begins to reach capacity, the shelter manager will communicate the need to local authorities. The local EOC will notify the State so they can plan how future evacuees will be directed to other shelters.

E. PETS (Also see EOP ESF 11)

There will be no local shelters for pets during any category of hurricane. Most, if not all veterinary clinics and kennels, as well as the Humane Society and Chatham County Animal Control, will not accept animals prior to a storm.

Many hotels and motels along the I-16 corridor will accept pets with guests during hurricane emergencies; public shelters will not. However, there are pet shelters in each of the counties where there are public shelters. Owners will be informed of these locations upon reporting to the evacuation centers.

Evacuees requiring public transportation to reach shelters will be allowed to bring the pets on buses if they are in travel carriers. In all cases when pets are evacuated

the owners must bring carriers, ID tags, food, immunization records and medicines.

III. **TRANSPORTATION** (Also see EOP ESF 1)

A. TYPES

Citizens requested or ordered to evacuate should either have their own transportation or arrangements to evacuate with others that do. A limited number of public transportation vehicles and drivers will be available to assist those who cannot evacuate on their own. Chatham Area Transit will coordinate this activity and operate service along scheduled bus routes.

B. SHELTERS

Some public transportation will be provided to inland shelters. Scheduled CAT bus routes will be operated with a schedule established and announced after Hurricane Warning and Mandatory-Full evacuation orders are issued. Evacuees will be transported by CAT to the Savannah Civic Center where they will board school buses for transport to designated inland shelters.

IV. **SPECIAL NEEDS** (Also see EOP ESF 8)

A. TYPES

Special Needs is defined as any person requiring comprehensive assistance with daily living and/or under the part or full-time care or charge of others. This definition goes beyond health-related or medical applications and is used for those requiring unusual or enhanced evacuation and sheltering assistance.

1. HOME CARE

For persons residing at home requiring transportation, a higher level of medical care than that provided in a public shelter and who do not have anyone to provide that care, evacuation and sheltering may be provided to the degree that resources permit.

The care and shelter of *Care One* patients will be accommodated by the Memorial Medical Center system; Candler/St. Joseph's will arrange for the care and shelter of *Care South* and *Advantage* patients.

The Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Division; United Way First Call for Help; and CEMA volunteers will develop and maintain a Special Needs Registry for persons that are not affiliated with local hospital health care systems. Immediately after a Hurricane Watch is issued and the EOC is fully activated, registrants will be contacted regarding their status and will be informed to begin preparing for possible evacuation if and when

Warning and Mandatory evacuation orders are issued. Once orders are imminent, they will be re-contacted and instructed to be ready to evacuate. They will be expected to have extra clothing, medical equipment, supplies and medicines, ready to take with them. If they have a personal caregiver, that person must be ready to accompany them.

A variety of transportation resources may be used:

Chatham Area Transit will provide buses for wheelchair passengers.

Ambulances will be used for horizontal transport.

Other resources will be used as available;

Requirements beyond local capabilities will be directed to the SOC.

2. NURSING HOMES & CARE FACILITIES

Nursing homes, personal care homes, assisted living facilities and related licensed entities are required to have emergency and disaster plans appropriate for hurricane conditions. As a rule they are expected to transfer residents to a safer and similar facility if they are located in a mandatory evacuation area. Due to the lead-time requirements for transporting patients or residents, these facilities should be prepared to evacuate prior to a Mandatory evacuation order.

Transportation for patients or residents, staff and family members is the responsibility of the individual facility. Commercial transport services are contractually available to the nursing home and personal care facility industry. Separate arrangements must be made by each facility to transport patients or residents. Similar arrangements must also be made to transport supplies and equipment.

Facilities are urged to commence evacuation upon issue of a Voluntary evacuation order but must be prepared to evacuate immediately upon issuance of a Mandatory evacuation order; unnecessary delays may result in a lack of transportation.

3. HOSPITALS

Licensed inpatient healthcare facilities in Chatham County are required to have emergency plans appropriate for hurricane threats. Only where specified and agreed upon in their plans or by separate letters of agreement, will local, State and/or Federal Governments assist them prior to a hurricane. Afterwards assistance will be provided to the degree necessary. Furthermore, to the degree that they remain operational and viable after a storm, they will be expected to provide for the medical and mass casualty needs of the community, within the capabilities of their routine function.

The degree of shutdown operations and/or evacuation of facilities for any

given storm will depend upon the survivability and official policy of each institution. As a general rule, they may cancel elective surgery, discharge patients for whom patient care would not be compromised, transfer patients who could be moved to safer facilities and make special arrangements for those whose condition will not allow transfer or evacuation. Mental health facilities may transfer patients and staff to safer locations.

Health care facilities remaining operational during hurricane conditions will not be designated as public shelters and will only be expected to provide emergency care to the degree possible. As available and necessary, they will be provided with law enforcement officers and amateur radio operators to assist them; other assistance will be provided upon request and availability.

4. OTHER RESIDENCE ASSISTANCE & TREATMENT PROGRAMS

This category encompasses mass homeless shelters, specialized homeless shelters, in-residence treatment programs and certain non-residence assistance programs. Licensed or tax supported facilities are expected, if not required, to have hurricane plans.

B. TRANSPORTATION

Evacuation and sheltering assistance may be provided to the degree that resources permit for persons requiring a higher level of medical care than can be provided in a public shelter, those residing at home and requiring transportation, and those that do not have anyone to provide the necessary level of care or transportation.

Where possible, individuals registered with the County Special Needs Registry, not requiring a Special Needs shelter at the time of the storm because their conditions do not require a higher level of care than a public shelter can provide, will be contacted and arrangements made for transport to a public shelter.

Persons requesting transportation that are unable to reach a pickup point on their own due to age, infirmity, health condition or disability and have no one to assist them will be entered on a standby list for possible pickup. This list will be prioritized on the basis of geographic threat and condition of the person requesting assistance; every effort will be made to reach them if circumstances permit.

For specific areas where there are substantial numbers of residents living closely together without transportation such as senior citizen complexes and public housing villages, attempts will be made to provide public transportation. Residents should organize together in advance through neighborhood or building management associations so that a designated central pickup point and time can be established when they would assemble. Concerned resident groups or organizations must coordinate for assistance in advance with the CEMA Director. Although

transportation assistance cannot be guaranteed, every effort will be made to provide it after Hurricane Warning and Mandatory evacuation orders have been issued

V. **RECOVERY AND REENTRY**

A. **AUTHORITY, RESPONSIBILITIES & COORDINATION**

Local elected officials have the authority and responsibility to take action necessary to protect lives and property during and immediately following a hurricane.

The Georgia Hurricane Plan states that:

“...It is the responsibility of elected officials at all levels of government to take action within their jurisdiction to recover from the aftermath of a hurricane. Recovery and reentry operations involve a number of public and private agencies at the local level with augmentation from higher levels or parent organizations as necessary.” Chatham County will adhere to the Georgia Hurricane Plan regarding reentry requirements.

It is the duty of the political jurisdictions within the County, both individually and collectively, to employ their assets to restore their respective communities to pre-storm status as quickly and safely as possible. Realistically, a disaster of hurricane magnitude will quickly overwhelm those capabilities. When this becomes apparent, the State will commit its resources in support of local efforts. When State assistance proves to be insufficient, the Federal government can be requested to assist.

While local officials are preparing for emergency response operations as the storm approaches, the SOC will be preparing to deploy resources necessary to facilitate recovery. After the storm passes local officials assess needs and make appropriate requests to GEMA. GEMA will process requests and coordinate assistance between State and local levels. GEMA employees will respond to the County's EOC and coordinate with local officials through CEMA.

B. **STAGING**

In anticipation of hurricane conditions, the State may stage equipment and personnel in several locations outside risk counties where they can be quickly moved into stricken areas after the threat has passed. Local organizations having equipment or vehicles needed for reentry search, rescue and/or recovery operations must also take appropriate measures to protect and stage their equipment and vehicles in safe locations prior to the anticipated arrival of gale force winds. Criteria for the selection of such staging areas includes:

Protection from wind and major flying debris.
 Elevation above anticipated storm surge and fresh water flooding.
 Proximity to Priority 1 reentry transportation routes.
 Availability of shelter for personnel or crews.

Wherever safely possible, personnel and crews will remain with or within walking distance of their equipment and vehicles. Staging areas will be shared as much as possible by public safety, road clearing and utility company equipment, vehicles and crews in order to facilitate rapid, coordinated reentry.

PRE-STORM EQUIPMENT & PERSONNEL STAGING AREAS

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Effingham HS	1589 Highway 119 S.
SAV Int'l Airport	400 Airways Ave.
SAV I & D Water Tmt.	Plant6183 Highway 21N
Chatham Cy Courthouse	133 Montgomery St.
Civic Center	Montgomery & Liberty
Hunter Army Airfield	HAAF

C. PRE-STORM REENTRY

Reentry restrictions may become a necessity before a storm makes landfall. In order to minimize casualties and prevent looting, during the evacuation phase it will be prudent to deny access to at-risk areas being evacuated. Pre-landfall reentry checkpoints identify locations and staff assignments for restricting reentry while an evacuation is in progress.

PRE-STORM RE-ENTRY CHECKPOINTS

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>STAFFING</u>
Traffic Control Points	SCMPD
US 17 At GA 204	SCMPD
Bridge (17A)	SCMPD
US 17 at Bonnybridge	PWPD
GA 21 at Bonnybridge	PWPD
GA 204 at I-95	GSP
US 80 at I-95	GSP
GA 21 at I-95	GSP
I-95 Airport Exit	GSP
I-16 & I-95	GSP

NOTE: 18-27 Hours before landfall, after mandatory evacuation order: no reentry except officials, residents or employees.

D. REGROUPING

As soon as wind and storm surge subside, public safety, critical workforce and emergency operations personnel will report their condition to the EOC.

Personnel who have sought shelter in a critical workforce shelter, refuge or other location must assess their own condition, attend to any injuries and personal needs, inspect their equipment and attempt to establish communications with their chain-of-command and the EOC.

Critical workforce shelters are established so that organizations are assembled together to facilitate reentry. As recovery operations depend on accessibility, clearing a path along major transportation routes and inspecting for hazards are priorities. Savannah International Airport runways will receive priority clearance to facilitate the arrival of disaster relief personnel. Progress will be continually reported to the EOC to assist in damage/needs assessment and recovery planning.

E. POST-STORM REENTRY

Re-entry involves accessing and repairing damaged areas affected by hurricane related hazards and marks the transition from a response phase through landfall to a recovery phase.

The GEMA 2006 Hurricane Plan adopts a two-phased approach to re-entry. Phase I includes the initial response into damaged areas whereby emergency responders and critical infrastructure personnel will be conducting initial damage assessments, stabilizing utilities and hazardous material containers and performing life safety search and rescue operations. Once the immediate life safety threats are eliminated or stabilized local emergency management personnel will announce the commencement of Phase II operations that include local business owners, contractors, and possibly residents.

The GEMA has streamlined the emergency response and critical infrastructure personnel re-entry process. In an effort to standardize the re-entry of emergency responders and critical infrastructure personnel to not only Chatham County but also Coastal Georgia, the guidelines listed below have been established by local and State Emergency Management Officials. These re-entry guidelines are being provided to local and State law enforcement officers who will be controlling access to affected areas after a hurricane.

The Chatham County Hurricane Plans adopts the State two-phased approach to re-entry. Persons attempting to gain entry into an affected area during Phase II must have the following documentation:

Photo identification / credential showing they are employed by a
business or facility within Chatham County.

State issued photo identification or driver's license.
Copy of a deed or local utility bill that proves they own or lease property within the affected area.

1. PHASE ONE

No re-entry permits will be required or issued to fire, police, emergency medical services, or utility companies i.e.: Georgia Power, Bell South, Atlanta Gas in marked response vehicles with proper credentials and/or badges. It is agreed that these personnel will be allowed access by local law enforcement officials when local elected officials and emergency management personnel announce the beginning of Phase I recovery operations.

It is understood that many industrial facilities have significant amounts of hazardous materials that must be secured during the initial Life Safety Phase in order for the area to be considered secure enough to allow follow on critical infrastructure personnel to enter the area. In order to accomplish this objective, facilities that have stand alone hazardous material teams will be provided State of Georgia Phase I Re-Entry Credentials by Chatham Emergency Management Agency provided the facility requesting the credentials meets the following criteria and have completed the re-entry pass request form.

The requesting facility has filed a current Tier II Report with the State of Georgia and the Chatham County Local Emergency Planning Committee.

The requesting facility acknowledges that it has a hazardous material response team that is properly trained, equipped, and self-sufficient.

The requesting facility agrees to report its status to the Emergency Operations Center through Emergency Support Function #10.

The requesting facility acknowledges that it has provided for the basic life support needs of their re-entry team to include food, water, shelter and basic medical first aid for at least a five-day period.

In addition to hazardous material teams, it is understood that many utility providers in Chatham County rely on independent subcontractors for day-to-day operations and will require these subcontractors during hurricane recovery. In order to provide access to affected areas, major utility providers must consolidate a list of subcontractors requiring access and request the appropriate number of passes from the GEMA Planning Division at 1-800-TRY-GEMA. In addition to State issued critical infrastructure personnel permits, subcontractors must have a letter of

access authorization from the parent contractor and a company identifier or credential.

Local, State, and Federal, government homeland security and law enforcement officials agree to recognize three specific pieces of identification from critical infrastructure providers and their designated subcontractors as they seek access at the perimeter of “open but restricted” areas. When critical infrastructure workers arrive at an “open but restricted” disaster scene and request admittance, they must present the following three items:

1. Letter of Access Authorization from the parent contractor,
2. Georgia critical infrastructure personnel permit, and
3. Critical infrastructure /company identifier.

Local utility providers such as electric co-ops requesting critical infrastructure personnel permits should complete the attached critical infrastructure personnel permit application and submit it to Chatham Emergency Management Agency by email, fax or mail.

2. PHASE II

Emergency management personnel will commence Phase II operations based on the recommendations of Phase I public safety and critical infrastructure personnel. This phase may be modified based on the situational needs such as during daylight hours or be modified to cover only certain portions of Chatham County that are deemed safe enough for Phase II operations. No re-entry permits will be issued for Phase II. Persons attempting to gain entry into an affected area during Phase II must have the following documentation:

- Photo identification/credential showing they are employed by a business or facility within Chatham County.
- State issued photo identification or driver’s license.
- Copy of deed or local utility bill that proves they own or lease property within the affected area.

POST STORM REENTRY CHECK POINTS

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>STAFFING</u>
Traffic Control Points	SCMPD
US 17A at State Line-Hutchinson Is Rd.	SCMPD
GA 204 at I-95	GSP
I-16 at I-95	GSP
US 80 at I-95	GSP
I-95 Airport Exit	GSP
GA 21 at I-95	PTW

F. SEARCH & RESCUE (Also see EOP ESF 9)

As soon as possible after the storm, public safety officials under the direction of the Savannah Fire Department will commence search and rescue operations in those areas known or suspected to have victims. As necessary, additional State and Federal resources will be requested through the SOC. Local fire departments will be initially responsible for coordinating search and rescue operations within their jurisdictions. The Coast Guard will coordinate marine operations.

G. DAMAGE/NEEDS ASSESSMENT (Also see EOP ESF 3)

Damage/needs assessment will commence concurrent with reentry and search and rescue operations, particularly with respect to infrastructure, transportation routes and utility services. Each local government will be responsible for its own jurisdiction and must make assignments for this purpose. However, these personnel will first be utilized to assist in search and rescue if deemed necessary.

State assistance for preliminary damage assessment will be requested by CEMA through the SOC.

Returning aircraft from Chatham County Mosquito Control, the Coast Guard, National Guard, and State Patrol will provide aerial assessments and forward them to the EOC.

Conditions permitting, designated emergency response and critical workforce personnel will be allowed to conduct damage assessments. Unsafe conditions or potential hazards will be reported to the EOC. Also, private disaster relief agencies such as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army will be allowed to begin needs assessments for storm victims followed by damage assessments for their property.

Damage assessment efforts will initially focus on:

1. Extent and boundaries of the affected area.
2. Extent of damage to public facilities.
3. Infrastructure: Power, water, sewer, and safety of shelter facilities

- and major structures.
4. Transportation: Ability to drive, land aircraft, and, as applicable, dock ships at ports of entry.
 5. Communications: Ability to conduct emergency response operations and advise the public (TV, radio, and phone).
 6. Continuity of Government: Ability to control movement, looting, access to city/commerce.
 7. Extent of damage to individual homes and business.

Needs assessments will use damage assessment data to determine:

1. To what extent are the immediate emergency needs of the public being met, and additional state and possible Federal assistance requirements?
2. Are people in the area suffering from medical/health/food/water issues and what is necessary to relieve/mitigate this suffering?
3. Are there conditions that could cause suffering or significant additional damage if not responded to immediately?
4. Do conditions warrant assistance to maintain legal/lawful practices?

H. DEBRIS CLEARANCE & REMOVAL (Also see EOP ESF 3 and the Recovery Plan)

The clearing of debris is a high priority to allow movement of emergency units into the area and to restore services for transportation, utilities, and communications. Debris clearing and removal along State and Federal reentry routes will be the primary responsibility of GDOT. Other debris clearance within the County will be the responsibility of each jurisdiction. State support will be coordinated through the SOC and provided as required by GDOT and other State, Federal and private agencies.

As cleanup operations proceed and short-term recovery efforts near completion, there will be a considerable amount of accumulated debris. To facilitate long-term recovery this debris may have to be temporarily relocated. Temporary sites will be identified on the basis of geographic need within the county.

I. PUBLIC HEALTH (Also see EOP ESF 8)

It is essential to protect the health of the public in the aftermath of a hurricane. Problems may develop due to contamination of water, failure of sewage systems, decomposition of animal and vegetable matter, disease carriers and rabid animals.

The Chatham County Department of Public Health is responsible for assessing public health threats and coordinating precautionary response measures and related public statements. Local water/sewer departments and Mosquito Control will work closely with Public Health officials in this regard. If additional assistance is

needed it will be requested from the State Department of Human Resources through the SOC.

J. PUBLIC SAFETY: (Also see EOP ESF 13)

ESF 13, Public Safety and Security, establishes procedures for the command, control and coordination of local, county and state law enforcement personnel and equipment to support emergency/disaster operations.

If police, fire and EMS services require augmentation after a hurricane strike, requests for assistance will be made to the SOC.

K. COMMUNICATIONS RESTORATION

Local public safety agencies will assess the status of their communications systems and report their capability as well as major problems to the EOC. As necessary, the EOC will request State assistance to restore communications systems and control points. Amateur radio operators will augment communications in areas that require support.

Restoration of commercial telephone service is the responsibility of BellSouth. Priority should be given to those facilities vital to public safety, medical care and recovery operations. Restoration of mass media communications is a private enterprise responsibility. If transmission towers are operable, direct radio broadcasts may be made from the EOC until regular services are restored.

As required by each department, activity and situation reports must be submitted to departmental representatives in the EOC.

L. UTILITIES RESTORATION (Also see EOP ESF 3)

Commercial gas and electric providers will restore electricity and gas services. Priority should be given to the restoration of service in those facilities vital to public safety, medical care, victim sheltering, mass communications and recovery operations. Water and sewer services should be restored in accordance with emergency plans of the private companies and local jurisdictions.

As required by each utility, activity and situation reports should be submitted to utility representatives in the EOC.

M. TRANSPORTATION RESTORATION

GDOT has primary responsibility for the repair and restoration of State and Federal highways and bridges. Highways and bridges that are not State or Federally maintained are the responsibility of local jurisdictions with assistance from the GDOT and State agencies as required and requested of GEMA through the SOC.

As required by each department, activity and situation reports must be submitted to departmental representatives in the EOC.

N. **EQUIPMENT & PERSONNEL STAGING:** Identifies tentative, unconfirmed, post-storm locations that may be suitable for staging equipment for recovery operations:

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
SAV Int'l Airport	Runway #5-23	SAV Electric et al
K-Mart	Victory Dr.	SAV Electric et al
SAV Mall	Abercorn Ext.	SAV Electric et al
Memorial Stadium	Skidaway & Montgomery Xrds	SAV Electric et al
Civic Center	MLK & Liberty	SAV Fire

O. **DISASTER RELIEF CHECK IN & INFORMATION CENTERS:** Identifies locations where disaster relief supplies may be staged and personnel should initially report to receive information and directions before entering the County:

<u>AREA</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Chatham Co.	GDOT Weigh Station	I-95 Southbound
Effingham Co.	GDOT Weigh Station	I-16 Eastbound
McIntosh Co.	GDOT Weigh Station	I-95 Northbound
Chatham Co.	SAV Festival Outlet Mall	GA. 204 at I-95

P. **MISCELLANEOUS RECOVERY CONSIDERATIONS:** In the event of extensive damage to residences, long-term sheltering may be required. Provisions for stand-alone facilities and connections for water, sewer, power and telephones may also be needed.

APPENDIX A

HURRICANE READINESS & RESPONSE NOTIFICATIONS

<u>TIME FRAME</u>	<u>SEQ.</u>	<u>MESSAGE</u>	<u>GROUPS NOTIFIED</u>	<u>METHOD</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>REQMENT</u>
72 – 48	1	Monitoring Phase & REVIEW PREP	1 Emgcy Notif List	Auto-Dial	6:00AM-11:00PM	3 Persons
	2		2 City Mgr, Co Mgr, SCMPD, SFD, SSFD, GSP, CCSO, Tybee Mgr, ARC, ARES, DFCS, Health, GEMA, Salv Army	Phone	6:00AM-11:00PM	2 Persons
	3	3 Home Health Nursing	E-Fax	6:00AM-11:00PM	2 Persons	
	4	4 Nursing Homes/ Sr Citizens Complexes	E-Fax	6:00AM-11:00PM	2 Persons	
	5	5 Shelters/Homeless	E-Fax	6:00AM-11:00PM	2 Persons	
48 – 24	1	PRELIM DECISION MTG & PREMOB BRIEF	1 Emgcy Notif List	E-Fax	6:00AM-11:00PM	3 Persons
	2		2 Policy Group	Phone	6:00AM-11:00PM	2 Persons
	3		3 Remaining Notif List	Phone	6:00AM-11:00PM	2 Person
	4	MEDIA BRIEF	4 Media List	E-Fax	6:00AM-11:00PM	1 Person
	5	GEN ALERT STATUS	5 Host EMAs	E-Fax	6:00AM-11:00PM	1 Person
	6	MAKE PREPS & REPORT AVAILABILITY REVIEW PREPS	6 EOC Staff List	Auto-Dial	6:00AM-11:00PM	3 Persons
	7		7 Public/Private Schools	E-Fax	6:00AM-11:00PM	2 Persons
	8		8 Marinas	E-Fax	6:00AM-11:00PM	2 Persons
	9		9 Pet/Vet	E-Fax	6:00AM-11:00PM	2 Persons
	10	PREACTVN BRIEF	10 EOC Staff List	Phone	6:00AM-11:00PM	3 Persons
	11		11 Emgcy Notif List	Auto Dial	6:00AM-11:00PM	1 Person
	12	EOC ACTIVE	12 Emgcy Notif List	E-Fax	24 Hours	1 Person
	13		13 Media List	E-Fax	24 Hours	1 Person
	14		14 Host EMAs	E-Fax	24 Hours	1 Person
	15	IMPLEMENT PLANS	15 Home Health Nursing	E-Fax	24 Hours	1 Person
	16		16 Nursing Homes/ Sr Citizen Complexes	E-Fax	24 Hours	1 Person

<u>TIME</u> <u>FRAME</u>	<u>SEQ.</u>	<u>MESSAGE</u>	<u>GROUPS NOTIFIED</u>	<u>METHODS</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>REQMENT</u>
	17		17 Shelters/Homeless	E-Fax	24 Hours	1 Person
	18		18 Public/Private Schools	E-Fax	24 Hours	1 Person
	19		19 Marinas	E-Fax	24 Hours	1 Person
	20		20 Pet/Vet	E-Fax	24 Hours	1 Person
	21	MAKE PREPS	21 Special Needs	Phone	24 Hours	4 Persons
	22	SITREPS	22 Emgcy Notif List	E-Fax	24 Hours	1 Person
(Continuous	23		23 EOC Staff	Written	24 Hours	2 Persons
3-Hour Intvl)	24		24 Host EMA=s	E-Fax	24 Hours	1 Person
	25	NEWS RELEASES	25 Media List	E-Fax	24 Hours	2 Persons
	26	STAND-BY TO EVACUATE	26 Special Needs	Phone	24 Hours	4 Persons

APPENDIX B

HURRICANE RESPONSE TIMELINES

OPCON	PHASE	HOUR*	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY	DATE/TIME	STATUS
5	Normal	96+	These are SPECIFIC activities to take place at certain times – CEMA activities follow as examples	Assign this task to staff		
		96+	Track Storm & Forecast Positions	Plan/Ops Offs		
		96-72	Review Plans & Procedures	CEMA Staff		
		95-72	Update Notification Lists	CEMA Staff		
		94-72	Inspect EOC	CEMA Staff		
		92-72	Make Necessary EOC Corrections & Purchases	CEMA Staff		
4	Monitor	72-48	Establish Ongoing Timetables for Response Activities	Director		
		72-48	Establish Ongoing Contact with GEMA/NWS/NHC	Director		
		72-48	Begin Personal Preparations – CEMA Staff	CEMA Staff		
		72-48	Provide Initial Alerts	Admin Asst		
		54-48	Schedule Pre-mobilization Briefing	Admin Asst		
		54-48	Schedule Prelim Decision Meeting	CEMA Staff		
		54-48	Confirm Pre-mobilization Briefing	CEMA Staff		
		54-48	Schedule Media Briefing	Admin Asst		
		54-48	Arrange Special Needs Transportation	Public Health		
		54-48	Provide Initial Special Needs Shelter Notify to Bibb Cy	Public Health		
		54-48	Coordinate with Critical Work Force Shelter Managers	Logistics Off		
	Watch & Warning	48-46	Limited EOC Activation & Hurricane Plan in Effect	Command (Policy)		
		46-44	Conduct Preliminary Decision Making Meeting	Command (Policy)		
		45-43	Coordinate with Partners Regarding Evacuation Assembly Area	Logistics Off		
		45-43	Conduct Pre-mobilization Briefing	Director		
		44-42	Conduct Media Briefing & Press Conf	Director/PIO		
		44-42	Provide Initial Alerts	Ops Off		
		42-40	Partial EOC Activation	Command (Policy)		
		42-40	Confirm Local Shelter Arrangements (If Needed)	Planning Off		

OPCON	PHASE	HOUR*	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY	DATE/TIME	STATUS
		42-40	Confirm Refuges of Last Resort Arrangements	Planning Off		
		42-40	Confirm Special Needs Shelter Arrangements	Public Health		
		42-40	Confirm Special Needs Transportation	Public Health		
		42-37	Schedule Preactivation Briefing	CEMA Staff		
		37-35	Announce EOC Activation	Admin Asst		
		37-35	Activate Critical Work Force Shelters	Logistics Off		
		37-35	Advise DOT of Intent to Turn I-16 One-Way	Director		
		36-34	Conduct Preactivation Briefing	Ops Off		
3		36-33	Full EOC Activation	Command (Policy)		
		35-33	Chatham County State of Emergency Declaration	Dir./County CEO		
		35-33	Request State of Emergency	Command (Policy)		
		35-34	Coordinate & insert County info in NWS Local Statement	Ops Off		
		35-33	Conduct Press Conference	Director/PIO		
		35-33	Provide Initial Alert to Special Needs Registrants	Public Health		
		35-33	Coordinate Shelter Locations with GEMA	Logistics Off		
		34	Conduct Evacuation Decision Meeting (Every 3 Hrs)	Command (Policy)		
		33	Make Evacuation Decision (Every 3 Hrs)	Command (Policy)		
		33	Issue News Release (Every 3 Hrs) – Media List	PIO		
		32	Conduct Press Conference (Every 3 Hrs)	Director/ PIO		
		31	Install Courthouse Hurricane Shutters	Facilities Mainten.		
		31	Conduct Evacuation Transportation Meeting	Evacuation Coord.		
		31	Conduct Traffic Control Meeting	Ops Off		
		27	Coordinate w/ Public Health for Special Needs Evacuation	Planning Off		
		26	Commence Special Needs Evacuation	Director		
		26	Request I-16 One Way	Director		
		24	Activate Evacuation Assembly Area	Logistics Off		

OPCON	PHASE	HOUR*	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY	DATE/TIME	STATUS
2	Evac	22	Activate Public Transportation Traffic Control Points	Director		
		22	Commence Public Transportation Evacuation	Ops Off		
		22	I-16 One Way Operations Commence	Director		
			Arrival of Tropical Storm Force Winds			
		0	Eye of Storm			
1	Reentry	14-8**	Restrict Reentry to Mandatory Evacuation Areas Only	Command (Policy)		
		12-6**	Open Refuges	Director		
		12-6**	Cancel Evacuation	Director		
		11-5**	Suspend Response Operations & Recall Personnel	Director		

These tables are for guidance only and may not apply to all storms. Adjustments will be required according to the forecast intensity and track of the storm.

APPENDIX C

ACTION PHASE ACTIVITIES

ACTION PHASE PRE-SEASON

ACTIVITIES

Severe WX Conference
Pre-season planning with all organizations & local governments
Revisions of: County Hurricane Plan
Individual Hurricane Plans
Individual SOPs
Aid agreements
Notification lists
Resource inventory lists
Public education

Preparedness Hurricane Season

Routine operations
Regular monitoring of tropical developments
Continued public education

Monitoring
Emergency Notification List.
Tropical Storm or Hurricane has
NHC. Storm tracked.
Developed and could pose a threat to
GA. Expected landfall: 48-72 hours.

Notification of all agencies and officials on
Contact established with GEMA, NWS and
All agencies and personnel review:
County Emergency Operations Plan
County Hurricane Preparedness Plan
Individual Hurricane Plans
Individual SOP's
Notification lists
Resource inventory lists
Aid agreements
Limited activation of EOC. County Hurricane Plan in

effect.

48 Hours before expected landfall.
on full alert status

Agencies with major lead time requirements
Preparations completed for:
Vehicles
Equipment
Supplies
Facilities
Assignments
Deployment/Staging
Preliminary decision-making meeting with
elected and key appointed officials

Pre-mobilization briefing with agencies and individuals on Emergency Notification List
Partial activation of EOC
Remaining EOC staff on full alert
Media briefed on situation and activities to follow

Watch & Warning

Watch Issued.

Expected landfall: 36-48 hours, and situation reports commenced possibly along GA coast.

Pre-activation meeting of EOC staff
Full activation of EOC
Routine news releases, press conferences,

Special Needs agencies and individuals begin mobilization for evacuation

Coordination with SOC and other inland counties

Request Local Declaration of Emergency

Request for State of Emergency and State assistance?

Evacuation decision-making meeting

Evacuation decision announced (Voluntary evacuation commenced?)

Requests for inland shelters on alert status

Individual agencies implement emergency operations plans

Local shelter and refuge preparations completed

Equipment staging and critical facility protection commenced

Warning Imminent

Evacuation decision-making meeting

Special Needs evacuation and sheltering commenced

I-16 one-way preparations may be requested

Evacuation

Warning issued.
commenced?)
Expected landfall: 24 hours,
inland shelters opened
probably along GA coast.

Next NWS Advisory or update issued.

protective actions initiated

Hurricane Imminent

Gale force winds arrive
shelter

Hurricane conditions

Reentry

Assessment commenced

Evacuation decision announced.
(Partial or Full-Mandatory evacuation

Local, Critical Workforce Family, and/or

Traffic Control Points activated

Evacuation decision-making meeting
Evacuation decision announced
(Full-Mandatory evacuation commenced?)
All remaining emergency operations and

I-16 one way may be in effect
Full reentry restrictions enforced

All evacuation operations completed
Evacuation orders cancelled
Activate Emergency Protective Ordinances

Refuges opened and announced
Emergency Operations personnel take

(response activity suspended)

Reentry & recovery plans reviewed
Communications maintained to degree
possible

Regrouping and communications established
Reentry, Search and Rescue and damage

Reentry restrictions in effect