

Commander Fleet Activities Okinawa

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PAMPHLET

TYPHOONS



DTD: 120525

GENERAL

Typhoons threaten Okinawa frequently, especially between 1 June and 30 Nov (the “Typhoon Season”). Okinawa is a high-confidence area because most buildings on the island are designed to withstand high winds. Occasionally slight damage occurs, usually caused by windblown debris. The single most important safety factor is to **REMAIN INDOORS**, especially when mandatory. The storm will likely pass in a day or two.

During severe storms, utilities such as electric power, running water, and phone lines may be interrupted. It may take a few days to restore them. Obviously this will make cooking, bathing, communicating with others, and sanitation more difficult. Would you and your family be prepared to cope with a typhoon-related emergency until help arrives? Advanced planning will make the difference between comfortably weathering the storm versus spending a few days hungry, thirsty, bored, and in the dark. Here are some recommendations to help you be prepared:

PREPARE YOUR KIT

1. When a typhoon threatens, you may not have time to shop or search for supplies. Gathering supplies in advance will help you and your family endure home confinement or an evacuation. Review the list of supplies below, gather and store your supplies, and place supplies you’d need for an evacuation in an easy-to-carry container such as a large duffel bag, large camping backpack, large, covered containers on wheels. Plan on four days.

KIT ITEMS: Here are some basics you should stock for your home:

Bottled Drinking Water:

- Avoid containers that will decompose or break, such as milk cartons or glass bottles.
- Generally, store one gallon of water per person per day. Keep in mind that an active person needs at least two quarts of water each day. Hot weather and intense physical activity can double the amount needed. Children, nursing mothers, and the elderly will need more.
- In an easy-to-carry-container, keep at least a three-day supply of water per person (two quarts for drinking, two quarts for each person’s food preparation).
- Change your stored water every 6 months to keep it fresh.

Fill the bathtub with water For flushing toilets, washing.

Tools and Supplies

- Mess kits, or paper cups, plates, and plastic utensils
- Battery-operated radio and extra batteries. Replace batteries yearly.
- Flashlight and extra batteries. Replace batteries yearly.
- Cash or traveler's checks, and some change
- Manual can-opener, utility knife
- Fire extinguisher: small canister (ABC type)
- Pliers
- Masking or duct tape
- Candles
- Matches in a zip-lock, waterproof bag
- Aluminum foil
- Plastic storage containers
- Signal or traffic flares
- Paper, pencil
- Needles, thread
- Medicine dropper
- Whistle
- Plastic sheeting
- Map(s) of the area(s).

Foods

- Nonperishable foods. Select foods that require no refrigeration, preparation or cooking, and little or no water. Select food items that are compact and lightweight.
- Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits, and vegetables
- Replace your stored food every 6 months.
- Turn refrigerator thermostat to high prior to extend perishable food life if power outages occur.
- Sterno to heat food.

First Aid Kit

Sterile adhesive bandages in assorted sizes

- Assorted sizes of safety pins
- Cleaning agent/soap
- Latex gloves
- Sunscreen
- 2-inch sterile gauze pads (4-6)
- 4-inch sterile gauze pads (4-6)
- Triangular bandages
- Non-prescription drugs (replace items every 6 months)
- Aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever
- Anti-diarrhea medication
- Antacid (for upset stomach)
- Syrup of Ipecac (used to induce vomiting if advised by the Poison Control Center)
- Laxative
- Activated charcoal (use if advised by the Poison Control Center)
- 2-inch sterile roller bandages (3 rolls)
- 3-inch sterile roller bandages (3 rolls)
- Scissors

- Tweezers
- Needles
- Moistened towelettes
- Antiseptic
- Thermometer
- Tongue blades (2)
- Tubs of petroleum jelly or other lubricant

Sanitation

- Toilette Paper, towelettes
- Soap, liquid detergent
- Feminine supplies
- Personal hygiene items
- Plastic garbage bags with ties (for personal sanitation use)
- Plastic bucket with a tight lid
- Disinfectant
- Household chlorine bleach

Clothing and Bedding (update clothing every 6 months or when seasons change)

- One complete change of clothing and footwear per person
- Sturdy shoes or work boots
- Rain gear
- Blankets or sleeping bag
- Hat and gloves
- Thermal underwear
- Sunglasses

Special Items: Remember family members with special requirements, such as infants and elderly or disabled persons (reevaluate every 3 months):

For Baby

- Formula
- Diapers & wipes
- Bottles
- Powdered milk
- Medications (infant's Tylenol)

For Adults (ask your physician or pharmacist about storing prescription medications)

- Heart and high blood pressure medication
- Insulin
- Prescription drugs
- Denture needs
- Contact lenses and supplies
- Extra eyeglasses

Entertainment: Games, toys, books

Important Family Documents (in a waterproof, portable container):

- Will, insurance policies, contracts, deeds, stocks, bonds
- Passports, social security cards, immunization records
- Bank account numbers
- Credit card numbers and companies
- Inventory of valuable household goods, important telephone numbers
- Family records (birth, marriage, death certificates)
- Store in a convenient place known to all family members

2. Conduct disaster drills.

3. Get first aid and fire extinguisher training.

4. Plan your actions for each Tropical Cyclone Condition of Readiness (TCCOR). See the explanations for each TCCOR under **TYPHOON RELATED TERMS**.

TYPHOON RELATED TERMS

JOINT TYPHOON WARNING CENTER (JTWC): The JTWC issues tropical cyclone warnings for the entire USPACOM area, including both the northern and southern hemispheres. The web site offers real-time typhoon-tracking information:
<http://www.usno.navy.mil/JTWC/>

CYCLONE: A closed atmospheric circulation rotating about an area of low pressure (counterclockwise in the Northern Hemisphere).

TROPICAL CYCLONE (TC): A non-frontal low-pressure system of sufficient scale developing over tropical or sub-tropical waters.

TROPICAL DISTURBANCE: A system of apparent organized convection, generally 100 to 300 miles in diameter, originating in the tropics or subtropics and having maintained its identity for 24 hours or more.

TROPICAL DEPRESSION: A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind (one-minute mean) is 33 knots or less.

TROPICAL STORM: A warm-core tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind (one-minute mean) ranges from 34 to 63 knots inclusive.

TYPHOON/HURRICANE: A warm-core tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind (one-minute mean) ranges from 64 to 129 knots inclusive. In the Northern Hemisphere, west of 180 degrees longitude, they are called typhoons; east of 180 degrees longitude, they are called hurricanes; in the Indian Ocean they are called cyclones.

SUPER TYPHOON: A typhoon in which the maximum sustained surface wind (one-minute mean) is 130 knots or greater.

MAXIMUM SUSTAINED SURFACE WINDS: Highest surface wind speed of a cyclone averaged over a one-minute period (Note: sudden temporary increases of wind speeds are called gusts and may be of substantially greater speed; i.e., maximum sustained winds of 60 knots may include gusts of 85 knots).

DESTRUCTIVE WINDS: Any surface wind of 50 knots or greater, sustained or gusts. Extensive damage to structures and facilities are likely.

LOCAL TROPICAL CYCLONE WATCH AREA: A geographical area within which a significant percentage of tropical cyclones might reasonably be expected to eventually threaten the local area.

LOCAL TROPICAL CYCLONE WATCH SEASON: The tropical cyclone watch season is from 1 June to 30 November.

TROPICAL CYCLONE CONDITIONS OF READINESS (TCCOR): Forecasts of tropical cyclone tracks are used to determine tropical cyclone conditions of readiness (COR). Each COR correlates to official instructions to be followed by all activities and sofa-status personnel. Conditions of readiness are based on current and projected weather conditions and are issued by service commanders. Occasionally the condition of readiness set for Naval activities on Okinawa may be different than that reported by AFN. All Naval activities and CFAO departments will be notified of the current Navy condition of readiness and changes as they occur.

TCCOR-4: Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are possible within 72 hours, normal activities unaffected. TCCOR-4 checklists are maintained year round by U.S. Naval activities under CFAO cognizance on Okinawa. Preparatory actions include reviewing current instructions, directives, and/or checklists.

TCCOR-3: Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are possible within 48 hours. Initiate a general clean up. Secure all loose debris. Double check typhoon supplies.

TCCOR-2: Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are anticipated within 24 hours. Secure your quarters. Report for normal duty hours; anticipate recall if after working hours. Finish all preparations for the storm. Sandbag doors, store water, recheck outside areas, stuff rags in openings, tape door jams, etc. Do not tape across windows, but try to cover all windows to prevent flying, shattered glass. Close all windows and doors; recent studies have shown that we should NOT open lees-side windows.

TROPICAL CYCLONE CONDITION OF READINESS ONE (TCCOR-1): Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are occurring or are anticipated within 12 hours. TCCOR 1 consists of the alert levels below. The entire area of responsibility will be under the

same alert level. DOD schools are closed. Departments may begin securing nonessential personnel.

- a. **TROPICAL CYCLONE CONDITION OF READINESS ONE-CAUTION (TCCOR-1C)**: Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are anticipated within 12 hours; actual winds, including gusts, are 34-49 knots. All outside activities except those in direct support of critical military or civil missions will be discontinued. All personnel except those standing typhoon watches will be secured to quarters. Expect announcements over AFN radio and television (per USNAVHOSP Okinawa Instruction 3000.2_):

“Routine admissions to the US Naval Hospital at Camp Lester and outpatient visits to the hospital and all Branch Medical Clinics on island are suspended until the return to TCCOR-SW. Emergency care is still available at the US Naval Hospital. Appointments cancelled due to typhoon conditions should be rescheduled by calling the appropriate clinics.”

AND

“All expectant mothers who are within 39 to 40 weeks gestation are advised to report to the US Naval Hospital, Camp Lester. Please check in at the Information Desk. You will be residing in the hospital during the emergency phase of the storm. Bring all prescription medications, personal toilet articles, a pillow, a change of clothing, at not more than \$20 for meals. If you bring a radio, it must have earphones.”

- b. **TROPICAL CYCLONE CONDITION OF READINESS ONE-EMERGENCY (TCCOR-1E)**: Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are occurring. All outside activities are prohibited. All personnel will remain indoors. Military personnel will remain fit for duty. Monitor AFN TV or radio for weather updates and changes in conditions of readiness. *DO NOT BE CONFUSED BY NICE WEATHER. NICE WEATHER DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT THE STORM HAS PASSED; YOU MAY BE IN THE EYE OF THE STORM.*

TROPICAL CYCLONE CONDITION OF READINESS ONE-RECOVERY (TCCOR-1R): Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are no longer being experienced; however, winds of 34-49 knots, including gusts, are still occurring. Selected personnel will survey designated areas to assess damage and identify hazards.

TROPICAL CYCLONE CONDITION OF READINESS STORM WATCH (TCCOR-SW): Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are no longer being experienced; however, winds of 34-49 knots, including gusts, are still occurring. Winds are strong and hazards such as downed power lines and damaged buildings and trees may be present. Military personnel will report for duty within one hour if during normal duty hours. Civilian employees will report for work within two hours unless three and one half-hours or less remain on the employee's shift. Dependents will remain indoors.

TCCOR-AC: Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are no longer being experienced; however, winds of 34-49 knots, including gusts, are still occurring. All tropical cyclone danger has passed. Be alert for possible damage hazards. U.S. Naval installations return to TCCOR-4.

TYPHOON/EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY SERVICES (Fire, Police, Ambulance)

On Base: 911

Off Base to Base 911: 911-1911

Cell Phone to 911: 098-911-1911

Japanese: 119 (Fire/Ambulance); 110 (Police)

VOIP: 011-81-98-911-1911 (Skype, Vonage)

OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

CFAO CDO: 090-9789-9631

CFAO Security: 098-954-1410

White Beach Fire: 098-954-1365

Navy Hospital Emergency Room: 098-893-1984

Navy Ambulance: 098-893-7911

Taxi: 098-959-7433

Daiko: 098-959-5900

Towing (24 hours): 090-3794-2556

Weather Information: 634-4081

Kadena Utilities: 634-3879

Typhoon Quarterdeck/Emergency Operations Center: 634-9335/9331

INFORMATION

For a one-stop-shop for typhoon related info, visit the web site at:

<https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Okinawa/OperationsAndManagement/EmergencyManagement/index.htm>

SUMMARY:

With a little advanced planning, you and your family will remain safe, comfortable, and dry. Military members must remember to remain fit for duty and keep in contact with their departments. Remember to stay inside. If typhoon conditions effect time off from regular duties/normal working hours, try to enjoy your brief vacation.

In the event that evacuation to a shelter becomes necessary, know the location of CFAO headquarters, and from there expect escorts to a shelter.