

Commander, Fleet Activities Okinawa

Typhoon Information Guide



15 Jan 16

GENERAL

Typhoons threaten Okinawa frequently, especially during the “Typhoon Season” which is between 1 June and 30 Nov. 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

When a typhoon threatens, you may not have time to shop or search for supplies. Gathering supplies in advance will assist you and your family in the possibility of being confined to your home a bit less stressful if the situation presents itself. 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, or a large covered container on wheels; plan for roughly four days.

KIT ITEMS

Following are some basic supplies you should stock as a foundation for your emergency kit, as well as a few important special interest items that may be helpful.

1. Water **Drinking Water**

- Store drinking water and 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.

Other Water - Fill the bathtub with water

- For flushing toilets and washing.

2. **Tools and Supplies**

- Mess kits, 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).

3. **Foods**

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

4. **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

5. **Sanitation**

- Toilet Paper, towelettes, or baby wipes
- 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

6. **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

6. **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 eye-glasses

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

Conduct Disaster Drills

Get first aid and fire extinguisher training

Typhoon Related Terms & Resources

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.

TCCOR's

***Plan your actions for each Tropical Cyclone Condition of Readiness (TCCOR)**

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-SW (Storm Watch):

Strong winds of 35 knots sustained or greater are possible due to the proximity of a tropical cyclone; however, winds are not forecasted to meet the destructive wind criteria (50 knots sustained or gust factors of 60 knots or greater). Personnel should follow Standard Operating Procedures for TCCOR Storm Watch and stay alert for any changes to TCCOR status.

- Strong winds will meet TCCOR 1 Caution criteria.
- The storm is also close enough to the area that a heightened alert status is necessary in order to rapidly establish elevated TCCOR conditions should the storm deviate from the forecasted track or intensity.
- It is possible to return to TCCOR Storm Watch from another TCCOR level if the storm is no longer forecasted to reach destructive wind criteria.

TCCOR-5: *TCCOR 5 will only be used on Okinawa from 1 December to 31 May if applicable

Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are *possible* within 96 hours.

TCCOR-4: *Okinawa remains in TCCOR 4 from 1 June to 30 November*

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 awareness 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 and 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.

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. Departments may begin releasing non-essential personnel if directed by the CO.

- No school for DoDDS students. Children will return home or remain at home. School buses will return children home if en-route. Staff and teachers work normal hours, unless directed otherwise by DoDDS Superintendent.
- a) **TCCOR-1C (Caution):** Winds of 35-49 knots sustained are occurring. 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.
- Civilian personnel are released IAW local absence/ leave procedures.
 - DoDDS schools close. Staff and teachers return home or remain home.
 - Expect announcements over AFN radio and television (per USNAVHOSP Okinawa Instruction 3000.2).

“Routine admissions to the US Naval Hospital at Camp Foster 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) **TCCOR-1E (Emergency):** Destructive winds of 50 knots sustained or gust factors of 60 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.*
- c) **TCCOR-1R (Recovery):** Destructive winds of 50 knots are no long occurring. All but emergency essential personnel remain in their quarters; nonessential functions remain closed unless directed by the commander. Emergency personnel are out to determine the extent of damage and to establish safe zones around hazards (e.g. downed power lines, unstable structures).

Until the recovery process is declared complete (TCCOR All Clear), or the risk of injury and/or damage to personnel and property has been mitigated to a safe level, the general base population will be asked to remain indoors.

TCCOR-AC (All Clear): The storm is over and not forecast to return, and recovery efforts are considered complete by the Installation Commander.

Emergency Numbers:

- On-Base Phone (DSN): Dial **911** - All Bases
- Cell Phone: Dial **098-934-5911** - Kadena Fire & Emergency Services Dispatch (Kadena and Camp Shields locations)
- Cell Phone: Dial **098-911-1911** - Camp Foster Dispatch (All Bases except Kadena and Camp Shields)

Base Operator / Switch Board:

- Kadena Switch Operator: 098-938-1111
- Foster Centralized Switch Operator: 098-911-5111

Fire Department/Non-Emergency Numbers** & responds depending on Installation:**

Current Location	Responding Fire Station	On-Base Phone	Calling from Cell Phone
Kadena	Kadena	634-6011	098-961-6011
		634-1796	
Camp Shields	Kadena	634-6011	098-961-6011
		634-1796	
Awase	Foster	645-3776	098-970-3776
		645-2566	098-970-2566
White Beach	White Beach	622-1373	098-954-1373
		622-1365	098-954-1365
Tengan Pier	Courtney	622-7417	098-954-7417
		622-7427	098-954-7427
Kin Red	Hansen	623-4217	098-969-4217
		623-4230	098-969-4230

U.S. Military Police - **Non-Emergency Numbers:**

Current Location	On-Base Phone	Calling from Cell Phone
Kadena	634-2475	098-961-2475
Camp Shields	634-4296	098-970-4296
Awase	634-2330	098-970-2330
White Beach Dispatch	622-1410	098-954-1410
White Beach Watch Commander	622-1406	090-954-1406
Tengan Pier	622-9762	098-954-9762

Off-base Local Japanese Emergency Responders:

Local Police – dial 110
 Local Fire – dial 119
 Local Coast Guard - 118

INFORMATION

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

<https://www.cnmc.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.

