



Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management
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PUBLIC ADVISORY #10

Monday 19th November, 2018

3:00 P.M.

RIVERINE FLOOD ALERT #5 – YELLOW LEVEL

The Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service (TTMS) has issued **Riverine Flood Alert #5 – Yellow level** for the period today **Monday 19th November, 2018** from **2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** for areas of Southern Trinidad. Yellow level means that there is the potential for negative impact. However, damage can be avoided if persons take the necessary precautions to preserve life and property.

The TTMS has advised that water levels have decreased over south Trinidad. However, a few areas are still experiencing flooding. Additional rainfall is possible this afternoon and evening although the general trend is for river levels to continue to subside. For further information on the alert issued by the TTMS visit http://www.metoffice.gov.tt/early_warning.

The **Adverse Weather Alert #1 – Yellow Level** remains in effect.

The ODPM continues to monitor the current flooding situation and remains in contact with the **Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (MORDLG)**, the **Ministry of Works and Transport (MOWT)**, and other support agencies to ensure immediate assistance can be rendered if called upon. The **Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force (TTDF)** and the **Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service (TTFS)** have been working assiduously to provide Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief to persons in flood affected areas. All first responders and support agencies are on high alert and will continue to support those persons affected by the ongoing flooding.

As flood waters subside in affected communities damage assessments will continue by the **MORDLG** and the **Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS)**.

The MSDFS has advised that all persons who have been impacted by the adverse weather should keep evidence of their damaged items, as this is necessary for the effective distribution of grants. Damaged appliances and items should be placed in a secure location in your home or outside on your compound.

The ODPM would like residents and visitors to **‘Get Ready and Stay Ready’** by implementing the following safety measures:

1. Place sandbags around your property;
2. Cover internal drainage holes with sandbags, e.g. toilet, shower, bath and floor drains to stop backflow of flood waters;
3. Move valuables to higher ground if possible;

4. Lift curtains, rugs and bedding, and remove items from low cupboards, especially if your area or property has a history of flooding;
5. After heavy rainfall, stay inside until water levels have subsided;
6. Do not wade, play or drive through flood waters of unknown depth and current;
7. If you must wade through a flood, use a stick to determine the firmness of the ground, as well as the depth of the water around you;
8. Wear personal protective equipment, including rubber boots, rubber gloves and goggles during clean-up of affected areas. Wear closed-toe shoes, long-sleeves and full-length pants;
9. Keep children and pets out of the affected area until clean-up has been completed;
10. Thoroughly clean all hard surfaces (such as flooring, concrete, moulding, wood and metal furniture, countertops, appliances, sinks and other plumbing fixtures) with hot water and household bleach solution;
11. After completing the clean-up, wash your hands properly with soap and clean water;
12. Wash all clothes worn during the clean-up in hot water and detergent. These clothes should be washed separately from uncontaminated clothes and linens.

If impacted by the adverse weather, please contact your Municipal Corporation or the Tobago Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) through its toll-free hotline numbers.

Citizens should continue to monitor the website and social media profiles of the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service and the ODPM for weather forecasts, alerts, warnings and cancellations. Visit www.metoffice.gov.tt or www.odpm.gov.tt.

WE WISH TO UNDERSCORE THAT TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO IS NOT CURRENTLY UNDER ANY TROPICAL STORM OR HURRICANE THREAT, WATCH OR WARNING.

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ATTACHMENT

The Municipal Corporations' Disaster Management Unit and the Tobago Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) Hotline numbers are as follows:

Name of Corporation/Agency	Hotline Numbers
Arima Borough Corporation	800-2ABC (2222)
Chaguanas Borough Corporation	800-DCBC (3222)
Couva/Tabaquite/Talparo Regional Corporation	800-CTTC (2882)
Diego Martin Regional Corporation	800-DMRC (3672)
Mayaro/Rio Claro Regional Corporation	800-4MRC (4672)
Penal/Debe Regional Corporation	800-PDRC (7372)
Point Fortin Borough Corporation	800-PFCB (7322)
Port-of-Spain City Corporation	800-PSCC (7722)
Princes Town Regional Corporation	800-PTRC (7872)
San Fernando City Corporation	800-SCDU (7238)
Sangre Grande Regional Corporation	800-SGRC (7472)
San Juan/Laventille Regional Corporation	800-SLRC (7572)
Siparia Regional Corporation	800-4SRC (4772)
Tunapuna/Piarco Regional Corporation	800-TPRC (8772)
Tobago Emergency Management Agency	211

ENDS

Issued by:

Public Information, Education and Community Outreach Unit

For further information, please call:

ODPM's Customer Call Centre 511/ TEMA's Hotline 211