



Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management
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PUBLIC ADVISORY #5

Wednesday 19th June, 2019

12:20 p.m.

PREPARE FOR CONTINUED ADVERSE WEATHER

The Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service (TTMS) has issued **Adverse Weather Alert #4 – Yellow Level** further extending the period of inclement weather from **Wednesday 19th June, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

TTMS has advised that periods of rain and/or showers and isolated thunderstorms are likely to continue to affect Trinidad and Tobago, with most of the activity expected over Tobago.

As a result of recent rainfall activity, areas susceptible to landslips/landslides are at greater risk and the presence of strong low-level winds can result in gusts in excess of 55km/hr at times.

The possibility for street or flash flooding still exists during periods of heavy downpours. *Thus, persons residing or working in flood-prone or landslide prone areas are urged to be extra vigilant and to take the necessary steps to preserve life and property.*

The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM), as the lead coordinator of Disaster Risk Management, remains in contact with the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government and other first responder and support agencies to ensure immediate assistance can be rendered if called upon due to inclement weather conditions.

As the inclement weather continues, citizens are asked to ensure that they take the following precautionary measures:

1. Pack a 'Grab and Go' bag to last at least 72 hours in the event you and your family need to evacuate.
2. Charge all mobile devices.
3. Assemble a household emergency kit (locate flashlight, radio, food supplies, etc.).
4. After heavy rainfall, stay inside until water levels have subsided, and it is safe to venture outside.
5. Be cautious when walking/driving along hillsides or landslide-prone areas.
6. Do not walk or drive through flood waters of unknown depth and current (6 inches of moving water can knock an adult off their feet). **STAY AWAY** from moving water.
7. Stay away from drains and culverts. Swiftly moving shallow water can be deadly, and even shallow standing water can be dangerous for small children;
8. If flooding is imminent or occurring, evacuate to higher ground. **But, do not enter flood waters to seek higher ground.**
9. Complete your Emergency Plan in case a flood disrupts your normal route.

10. Flood waters can damage important documents. Store important document in a waterproof container or electronically.
11. Reduce potential property damage by elevating appliances and installing sandbags.
12. Practice electrical safety - In the event of flooding, turn off electrical power to your home or business.
13. Contact your Municipal Corporation or the Tobago Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) through its toll-free hotline numbers if impacted and in need of assistance (see attached).
14. Pay attention to regular updates on television, radio and social media for any changes in the weather conditions.

Be Safe after a Flood:

1. Watch your step - flood waters often hide sharp and dangerous debris like broken glass and metals.
2. Be aware of areas where waters have receded. Roads may have weakened & could collapse under the weight of a vehicle.
3. Wear the appropriate protective clothing and gear like boots, gloves and safety glasses during clean-up activities.
4. Stay away from electrical utility equipment after a flood or if it is wet to prevent being electrocuted.
5. Practice good hygiene (hand washing) after contact with flood waters.

Citizens can learn more on how to prepare for this Rainy Season by visiting the ODPM's website at www.odpm.gov.tt.

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 <http://www.metoffice.gov.tt> or www.odpm.gov.tt.

The ODPM reminds all citizens if impacted by the adverse weather to contact your Municipal Corporation or the Tobago Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) through its toll-free hotline numbers.

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

ENDS

Issued by:

*Public Information, Education and Community Outreach Unit
publicinfo.odpm@gmail.com*

For further information, please call:

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

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

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