

LOUIS ARMSTRONG
NEW ORLEANS
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT

June
2009

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Airport

report

Hurricane Preparedness

By Sean Hunter, Director of Aviation

June 1 is the declared first day of the 2009 Hurricane Season. The Department of Atmospheric Science at Colorado State University has announced their prediction for this year's storm season to be an "average" probability of United States major hurricane landfall. Their study results can be viewed on the internet at <http://hurricane.atmos.colostate.edu/Forecasts>. Regardless of the prediction, the key is always to be prepared for the season. I encourage you to review your preparedness plan and get the items you deem necessary, before a storm is imminent. A tremendous tool to help you develop your plan is also on the web. It is the Louisiana Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness Hurricane & Tropical Weather Index. This website is a wealth of information and can be seen at <http://www.ohsep.louisiana.gov/hurricanerelated/hurricaneindex.htm>. It covers everything from storm names to evacuation routes, in the event you should have to leave the area due to an impending storm or another type of disaster.

If a tropical storm or hurricane is approaching the New Orleans Metro area and River Parishes, the Airport will remain open to the flying public for as long as flights continue to operate. While the time that airlines cease flight operations may vary, the last flight normally departs approximately 12 hours before tropical storm force winds hit the Louisiana coast. If you plan on traveling by air out of the region due to an impending storm, plan early. If you are traveling with pets, check with your air carrier prior to coming to the airport. Please be aware that not all of the airlines allow pets and there are federal limits as to the number of pets allowed on each flight.

If you are traveling on a scheduled flight when a hurricane is approaching, please carry with you some form of flight confirmation and personal identification. The flight confirmation can be an "email" flight

confirmation, boarding pass or ticket receipt. If you do not have the necessary documentation, it may delay your entrance to the Airport terminal. Also, for the latest information regarding your scheduled flight, refer to your airlines' web site, reservations number or the Airport's web site at www.flymsy.com. The latest information about the status of the Airport may be found at the Airport website as well. It should be noted that the Airport is not a shelter and no passengers or residents will be allowed to ride out a storm at the Airport.

We hope we have a hurricane-free season, but in the event a storm does pass our way it is imperative that we be prepared. As always, working together we will insure each others safety during times of crisis. ✈



Sean C. Hunter
Director of Aviation

Watch "Airport Alive", the Armstrong International Airport tv show. Check your local TV listing for day and time in your area or watch it on the web at www.flymsy.com - click the Airport Alive link on the home page to view the 30 minute program..