

# Airport *report*

## Planning for the Hurricane Season

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Director of Aviation

June 1<sup>st</sup> was the declared first day of the 2011 Hurricane Season. An “active” hurricane season may take place if the hurricane forecasters are accurate in their predictions. Regardless of the forecast, the key is to always be prepared for the Hurricane Season.

The Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport is an important facility to the community and especially during an emergency. The Airport prepares for many types of emergencies, including Tropical Storms and Hurricanes. We participate in preparedness exercises and training for all types of disasters every year and as always, the number one goal of our Airport is safety for our passengers, our neighbors and staff.

The Airport’s Hurricane Readiness Plan includes coordination with local, state and federal governmental officials, airlines, tenants and vendors who operate at the Airport. Airport staff conducts a yearly review of the plan to monitor any changes that may be in effect since the last storm season.

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. It is important to note that the airline’s decisions to cease flight operations will vary from airline to airline. 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. In the event of a tropical storm or hurricane,

necessary law enforcement will be deployed to the Airport to ensure a secure environment and access to the Airport facilities. At the height of the storm, access will be restricted.

For the latest storm information regarding your scheduled flight, refer to your airline’s web site, or reservation telephone number. The latest information about the status of an impending storm may be found at the Airport website, [www.flymsy.com](http://www.flymsy.com) as well.

Those who plan to participate in city or parish assisted air evacuations should follow the directions of their city or parish authorities and proceed to the designated pick up locations. Transportation for airlift evacuations will be managed and operated through a designated government agency, not the Airport. It is important to note that as in the past, the Airport is not an authorized storm shelter. For safety reasons, the public will not be allowed to ride out a storm at the Airport. Should the call for evacuation come this season, please monitor your radio and/or television and follow the instructions given. It could save your life and the life of your loved ones.

We hope that the hurricane forecast for this year does not come to fruition. However, in the event a storm does pass our way, it is imperative that everyone be prepared to respond in a fashion to stay out of harm’s way. If you have not made storm evacuation plans for this year, please do so immediately.



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*Check your local listings for the air time of the Armstrong International Airport 30 minute television program, “Airport Alive,” or view it on the airport website, [www.flymsy.com](http://www.flymsy.com), by clicking on the “Airport Alive” link on the “News and Stats” page. You can now follow the airport on Facebook and Twitter @NO Airport.*  
**Be a volunteer at the airport. To found out how, click on Ambassador on the website homepage.**

