



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago  
Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT PREPARES FOR 2019 RAINY SEASON**

The Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government together with its fourteen (14) Municipal Corporations have been working tirelessly to prepare for the 2019 rainy season.

The Ministry has been at the forefront of disaster relief efforts by collaborating with the Office of Disaster Preparedness Management (ODPM), the Ministry of National Security and the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services to bring back a sense of normalcy to lives of citizens after major flooding. As a result, it understands what the ramifications of natural disasters are.

The Ministry therefore continues to provide disaster management training via its Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteer training programme. Participants are trained to provide first responder support in the event of a disaster through emergency medical operations, sandbag wall construction and search and rescue operations. This training has been ongoing in municipalities prone to flooding and coordinated by our Disaster Management Units in each Corporation.

The Municipal Corporations continue to offer bulk and white waste removal, rodent baiting and mosquito spraying through its Public Health Units.

There has been a concerted effort to clean local drains and minor water courses. A tree cutting exercise is also in progress to clear public spaces of any potential threat to life or property.

The clearing of illegal dumpsites was also a major priority as indiscriminate dumping of garbage blocks water courses and directly contributes to flash flooding.

The Ministry wishes to reassure the public that its Disaster Management personnel are trained and equipped to:

- mobilize and coordinate first responders
- manage community shelters
- coordinate relief activities during a natural disaster
- assist in assessment exercises to facilitate grant applications offered by other government agencies
- and most importantly, to assist affected residents so they are not cut off from other areas.

The Ministry wishes to urge citizens to remain vigilant and get prepared, especially those in flooding prone areas. Secure their personal documents, put together an emergency kit with first aid and basic food supplies. They are also advised to pay attention to weather alerts during this period.

---

#### **Corporate Communications Unit**

Kent House, Long Circular Road, Maraval, Trinidad and Tobago  
Tel: (868) 628 – 5187; 628-1450 ext. 3353/3354 Fax: (868) 628 – 0432  
Like and Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RDLGTT>



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago  
Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government

All our Disaster Management Units are equipped with 24-hour hotline numbers and will be there to provide assistance if needed.

These numbers are:

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)

Penal/Debe Regional Corporation 800- PDRC (7372)

Point Fortin Regional Corporation 800-PFBC (7322)

Princes Town Regional Corporation 800- PTRC (7872)

Port of Spain City Corporation 800-PSCC (7722)

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

END .

---

**Corporate Communications Unit**

Kent House, Long Circular Road, Maraval, Trinidad and Tobago  
Tel: (868) 628 – 5187; 628-1450 ext. 3353/3354 Fax: (868) 628 – 0432  
Like and Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RDLGTT>