

# **PUBLIC ADVISORY**

## **For Upcoming Wet Season 2018**

### ***Disaster Management Units advises the public to be prepared for the 2018 Rainy Season***

The Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service (TTMS) has officially declared the start of the 2018 Rainy Season for Trinidad and Tobago following rainfall activity from the passage of a Tropical Wave. The Disaster Management Units wishes to advise the public to *be Prepared throughout* the 2018 Rainy Season.

Initial analysis by the TTMS indicates that for the period June to August it is likely to be drier than usual, while the September to August period is likely to be wetter than usual. At the same time, the season is expected to be warmer than usual. However, the TTMS has advised that a near average wet season or a drier than usual start to the wet season does not mean that there would not be typical wet season impacts since the country has experienced severe weather events in past wet seasons with near average rainfall totals or drier than usual periods.

The Atlantic Hurricane Season will begin on June 01, 2018. Preliminarily, the Atlantic Basin Seasonal Hurricane Forecast for 2018 is likely to be 35% above average, with the expected formation of 10 - 16 named storms, 5 - 9 hurricanes and 1 – 4 major hurricanes (Categories 3 and above). Historically, the averages for named storms, hurricanes and major hurricanes are 12, 7 and 2 respectively.

The Disaster Management Units of your Municipality wishes to advise citizens to be mindful of the likelihood of flooding in flood-prone areas and urges all members of the public to take all measures to preserve life and property. The DMU also wish to emphasise the importance of being prepared for the Hurricane Season. All citizens should begin preparation activities to protect their family and property, especially to avoid the last minute rush to the groceries and stores if a Watch or Warning is issued.

The DMU continues to work closely with all key stakeholders including the TTMS, the Ministry of Works and all responder agencies to ensure that measures are taken to mitigate the potential impacts of the Rainy Season and Hurricane Season.

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The DMU wishes to advise all citizens to be Prepared throughout the 2018 Rainy Season by implementing the following steps:

- Clear all drains around your property to allow water to flow freely;
- Clear debris from your gutters and downspouts;
- Keep all important personal documents, valuables and vital medical supplies in a waterproof bag or container in an accessible location;
- Build an emergency kit with enough food, water, and medical supplies for at least three (3) days;
- Prepare a family emergency plan;
- Keep a list of emergency telephone numbers on your refrigerator or anywhere that is easily accessible to everyone in your household;
- Learn the numbers of your corporation, especially the number of your Disaster Management Unit (see attached);
- Monitor weather conditions before leaving the house;
- Listen or look out for further updates on television, radio and social media.

Flooding, fallen trees, and landslips can occur anywhere and at any time. Be sure you and your family are **Prepared !**

For further information, please contact your DMU in your Municipality.

We also wish to remind all citizens that should they be affected by inclement weather during the upcoming months to please contact their respective Disaster Management Unit of the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (see attached) or the Emergency Call Centre at **511**.

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