

Parish of Ascension

OFFICE of COMMUNICATIONS

CLINT COINTMENT Parish President

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 7, 2020

MEDIA CONTACT:

Contact: Martin McConnell

Email: Martin.McConnell@apgov.us

Phone: (225) 450-1138

Cointment Proclaims Hurricane Preparedness Month

At the May 6 Council meeting, Ascension Parish President Clint Cointment proclaimed the month of May as Hurricane Preparedness Month in Ascension, and said Parish Government would be posting regular reminders and information on how residents can best prepare to mitigate the effects of coming storms.

According to the proclamation, hurricane season begins June 1, and Ascension Parish Government encourages all of its residents and property owners to plan and prepare for hurricanes and other tropical storm systems.

Tropical storm systems can claim lives and destroy property through storm surge, destructive winds, flooding, tornadoes, and landslides, and even weaker tropical storms can also cause severe damage.

Ascension Parish elected officials and the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness work together with the National Weather Service before and during a hurricane or tropical storm to reduce the possible dangers posed to lives and property, and to provide an effective response to these storms.

To get ready for hurricane season, experts recommend that people review their emergency plans and update their insurance policies to confirm they include coverage for accidental damage, natural disasters, and flooding.

Experts also recommend that people maintain emergency supply kits with enough nonperishable food and water to last at least three to seven days; arrangements for the care of your pets; and should learn their evacuation routes and be prepared to comply with local authorities when asked to evacuate.

The 2020 hurricane season alone produced 30 named storms (top winds of 39 mph or greater), of which 13 became hurricanes (top winds of 74 mph or greater), including six major hurricanes (top winds of 111 mph or greater). "Louisiana is one of the leading states for overall damage from hurricanes, and Ascension Parish has suffered much damage through the years," said President Cointment. "I encourage everyone to be diligent and prepare for hurricanes and tropical storm systems." President Cointment also reminds everyone to register for the Everbridge Emergency Alert System by calling 225-450-1200, to receive information ahead of and during emergencies. Ascension Parish Governmental Complex, 615 E. Worthey Street, Gonzales, Louisiana 70737