



Tropical Weather

June 1st marks the beginning of the Atlantic Hurricane season. Individuals and business all over the Gulf Coast have this date marked on their calendar as their attention turns to the weather and activity in the Gulf of Mexico. With that being said, Texas has not had a hurricane make landfall since Hurricane Ike made landfall on Galveston on September 13, 2008. Interestingly enough Hurricane Ike was the third costliest Atlantic Hurricane, causing \$37.5 billion in damages.

According to the research team at Colorado State University, the 2017 Atlantic Hurricane Season will have a slightly below average activity level. They estimate that 2017 will have 11 named storms, 4 named Hurricanes, and 2 major hurricanes. The report also states that the Gulf Coast from the Florida Panhandle westward to Brownsville will have a 24% chance of having 1 major hurricane and there 42% chance of a major hurricane making landfall on the entire US Coastline (the average for the last century is 52%). Below are some terms and phrases that are frequently used in news and weather reports describing the activity in the tropics.

- **Tropical Cyclone** – a generic term used to describe tropical depressions, tropical storms, and hurricanes. A tropical cyclone is characterized by a lack of warm/cold fronts attached, a “warm core” (air is warmer in the center of the system than elsewhere), and persistent convection.
- **Hurricane** – a tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind speed is 74 mph.
- **Tropic Storm (T.S.)** – a tropical cyclone in which maximum sustained surface winds speed ranges from 39-73 mph. Upon becoming a tropical storm, the National Hurricane Center issues it a name.
- **Tropical Depression (T.D.)** – a tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind speed is less than 39 mph. Upon being designated a T.D., the National Hurricane Center gives it a number. When a named tropical storm weakens into a tropical depression, it retains the name.
- **Invest** – when an area of disturbed weather becomes increasingly organized, the National Hurricane Center will designate it an “Invest” which is short for investigative area.
- **Eye Wall** – an organized band or ring of cumulonimbus clouds that surround the eye, or light-wind center of a tropical cyclone.
- **Eye** – the roughly circular area of a comparatively light winds that encompasses the center of a severe tropical cyclone. The eye is either completely or partially surrounded by the eyewall cloud.
- **Storm Surge** – an abnormal rise in sea level accompanying a hurricane or other intense storm, and whose height is the difference between the observed level of the sea surface and the level that would have occurred in the absence of the cyclone. Storm surge is usually estimated by subtracting the normal astronomic high tide from the observed storm tide.
- **Gale Waring** – a warning of 1-minute sustained surface winds in the range of 34 knots to 47 knots (39 mph to 54 mph) inclusive, either predicted or occurring and not directly associated with tropical cyclones.
- **Hurricane Warning** – an announcement that sustained winds of 74 mph or higher are expected somewhere within the specified area within 36 hours.
- **Hurricane Watch** – an announcement that sustained winds of 74 mph or higher are possible within the specified area within 48 hours.

Even though it has been 8 ½ / 9 years since a hurricane has made landfall on the Texas coast, it is important to pay attention to the weather and make sure that you have a contingency plan in place for your home or business. Part of that contingency plan is having a Restoration Contractor that you can call on in the event a Hurricane does make landfall and damages your property. To all of our Emergency Preparedness Plan Partners, please contact Justin Titus if you need to make any updates to your EPP. Until next time, be prepared and stay safe.

June 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 ACA Luncheon	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 SAMA Luncheon IREM Social	9	10
11	12	13 SACA Luncheon	14 AAFAME Expo	15 Austin BOMA SAABE Luncheon	16	17
18	19	20	21 AASOMCA Social SABOMA Luncheon	22 IWSA Luncheon	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

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Events

June 1: ACA Luncheon
 June 8: SAMA Luncheon
 June 8: IREM Social
 June 13: SACA Luncheon
 June 14: AAFAME Luncheon
 June 15: Austin BOMA
 June 15: SAABE Luncheon
 June 21: AASMOCA
 June 21: SA BOMA Luncheon
 June 22: IWSA Luncheon

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