



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY



MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**MASSACHUSETTS ENTERS THE 2010 HURRICANE SEASON**

*Federal, State & Local Officials Prepare as June 1<sup>st</sup> Marks the Official Start*

Framingham, MA – To help increase public awareness of the effects hurricanes can have on the Commonwealth and the preparedness steps we all must take, over the next fourteen weeks the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) will again be disseminating important information to ensure the continued safety of our citizens and property.

“In recent years, we have witnessed the severity of these storms and their destructive power throughout other areas of the country,” stated MEMA Acting Director Kurt Schwartz. “With another very active hurricane season predicted, we must continually prepare for the region’s next major storm.”

MEMA will be continually promoting Hurricane Preparedness through weekly news releases highlighting key issues relative to the New England Hurricane Season. In addition, there will continue to be workshops, exercises and drills to help local officials prepare. Important Hurricane Preparedness information will be available on the MEMA website at [www.mass.gov/mema](http://www.mass.gov/mema), Facebook and Twitter pages. Topics will include Massachusetts’ Hurricane History, Preparedness Tips for Families, Home Owners, People Requiring Additional Assistance, Pet Owners, Boaters, Businesses, Inland Residents, as well as information about Sheltering-In-Place and Evacuation.

Although the Hurricane Season in New England is defined as June 1<sup>st</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup>, 75% of the 40 tropical systems that have impacted our region in the past century have struck during the months of August and September. The last severe hurricane to hit Massachusetts was Hurricane Bob in August 1991. Bob, a Category 2 Hurricane, with winds between 91 and 110mph, caused almost \$1 billion in damage, at the time. More recently, Hurricanes Edouard (1996), Bonnie (1998) and Bill (2009) threatened the Bay State, but veered out into the Atlantic as they traveled up the coast.

In 1999, Hurricane Floyd, although weakened to the strength of a tropical storm prior to its arrival in New England, demonstrated that these storms are not merely ‘coastal events’. Most of that storm’s impact was rain and flood related, causing severe damage as far west as the Berkshires.

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Some of our most devastating flooding associated with these storms has occurred in Central and Western Massachusetts – up to 17” of rain fell in association with the Hurricane of 1938 and 25” of rain fell over a 5-day period in August 1955 from Connie & Diane, with the City of Westfield received 13.15” in a single day!

This demonstrates that the entire Commonwealth should take the proper Hurricane Season precautions.

Southern New England lies in the unenviable position of receiving all three “Hurricane Threats”, depending upon the track and landfall location: 1) Coastal inundation due to storm surge 2) Widespread inland river flooding and 3) Widespread wind damage far inland.

### SCHEDULE OF “HURRICANE SEASON” TOPICS

- Week of June 1 – Beginning of Hurricane Season
- Week of June 7 – New England Hurricanes of Note
- Week of June 14 – Family Hurricane Preparedness
- Week of June 21 – Preparing Your Home for a Hurricane
- Week of June 28 – Power Outages during a Hurricane
- Week of July 5 – Evacuation for a Hurricane
- Week of July 12 – Sheltering in Place during a Hurricane
- Week of July 19 – Cape Cod Emergency Traffic Plan
- Week of July 26 – Inland Flooding from a Hurricane
- Week of August 2 – Hurricane Challenges for People Requiring Additional Assistance
- Week of August 9 – Protecting Your Pets during a Hurricane
- Week of August 16 – Preparing Your Business for a Hurricane
- Week of August 23 – Preparing Your Boat for a Hurricane
- Week of August 30 – After the Storm

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) is the state agency responsible for coordinating federal, state, local, voluntary and private resources during emergencies and disasters in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. MEMA provides leadership to: develop plans for effective response to all hazards, disasters or threats; train emergency personnel to protect the public; provide information to the citizenry; and assist individuals, families, businesses and communities to mitigate against, prepare for, and respond to and recover from emergencies, both natural and man made. For additional information about MEMA and Hurricanes, go to [www.mass.gov/mema](http://www.mass.gov/mema). Also, follow MEMA updates on Facebook and Twitter.

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**HURRICANE NAMES – 2010 to 2015**

The word “Hurricane” is derived from the Carib term for “God of Evil”. In the West Indies hurricanes were originally named after the saint upon whose holyday the storm occurred. Until 1953, the custom was to refer to storms by their year or location i.e.: “The Hurricane of 1938” or “The Galveston Hurricane of 1900”. In 1953, however, the National Hurricane Center began using female names, in alphabetical order. In 1979, alternating male and female names began. As listed below, six rotating lists of names are utilized for Atlantic Tropical Cyclones. An international committee of the World Meteorological Organization decides at the conclusion of each hurricane season if the name of an extremely deadly or costly storm should be retired and replaced on the list. These are the names utilized in the six-year cycle of names. Except for any retired names, in 2016 the 2010 list will be repeated. As we saw in 2005, once the 21 Tropical Cyclone names are used up, additional storms take the names from the letters of the Greek alphabet: Alpha, Beta, Gamma, etc.

**Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Names 2010-2015**

<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Alex	Arlene	Alberto	Andrea	Arthur	Ana
Bonnie	Bret	Beryl	Barry	Bertha	Bill
Colin	Cindy	Chris	Chantal	Cristobal	Claudette
Danielle	Don	Debby	Dorian	Dolly	Danny
Earl	Emily	Ernesto	Erin	Edouard	Erika
Fiona	Franklin	Florence	Fernand	Fay	Fred
Gaston	Gert	Gordon	Gabrielle	Gonzalo	Grace
Hermine	Harvey	Helene	Humberto	Hanna	Henri
Igor	Irene	Isaac	Ingrid	Isaias	Ida
Julia	Jose	Joyce	Jerry	Josephine	Joaquin
Karl	Katia	Kirk	Karen	Kyle	Kate
Lisa	Lee	Leslie	Lorenzo	Laura	Larry
Matthew	Maria	Michael	Melissa	Marco	Mindy
Nicole	Nate	Nadine	Nestor	Nana	Nicholas
Otto	Ophelia	Oscar	Olga	Omar	Odette
Paula	Philippe	Patty	Pablo	Paulette	Peter
Richard	Rina	Rafael	Rebekah	Rene	Rose
Shary	Sean	Sandy	Sebastien	Sally	Sam
Tomas	Tammy	Tony	Tanya	Teddy	Teresa
Virginie	Vince	Valerie	Van	Vicky	Victor
Walter	Whitney	William	Wendy	Wilfred	Wanda