

# Office of Biosafety

Emergency Event Planning for  
Researchers



# About us:

Our focus is to protect the greater Tulane community, the general public, and the environment by minimizing the health risk to those in research using biohazard materials including:

- Recombinant DNA
- Infectious agents
- Biological toxins

In order to accomplish this goal we maintain an interactive partnership between the Office of Biosafety, the PI's, and the laboratory support staff. In addition, the Office of Biosafety, in cooperation with the IBC, is charged with oversight of regulatory compliance at the university with regard to the storage and use of hazardous biological materials.

# To be done immediately and on an on-going basis:

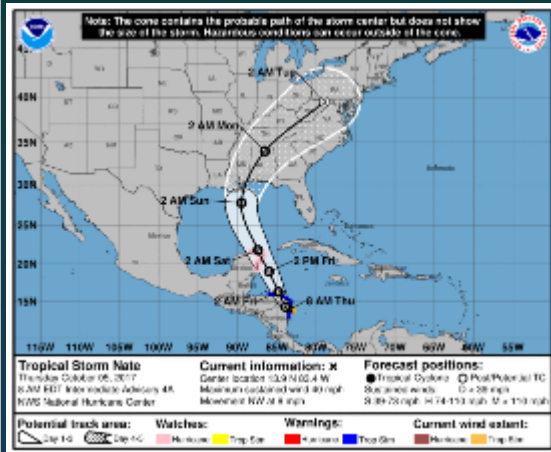
- Ensure biological sample inventory is up to date and ensure critical samples are stored in a place on backup power.
- Fill dewars and cryogen reservoirs.

\*Remember, do not count on the availability of power, water or climate control.



# Storm has New Orleans in the cone of possibility - 3 to 4 days away (72-96 hrs):

- Package all biological waste and request pickup.
- Treat any liquid biological waste with appropriate disinfectant such as 10% bleach and dispose of the waste.



# Hurricane warning is issued (48-72 hrs):



- Implement activities to suspend ongoing experiments involving operations down.
- Remove all materials from biosafety cabinets and incubators.
- Disinfect the cabinet and incubators.
- If accessible, unplug the equipment to protect it from power surges.



# After the storm has passed:

- Make sure your laboratory is safe for entry. Remember the two-man rule for entering a lab that has been without power for an extended period. Be aware of potential trip and fall hazards.
- If power has not been interrupted, check electrical equipment carefully before plugging it back in.
- Recheck biological/ biohazard inventory



# Questions?

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