

SPRING 2024

A publication of I-CAER (Iberville Community Awareness Emergency Response) and LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee)



Remember to
SHELTER-IN-PLACE
 When the siren sounds

- ▶ Seek shelter
- ▶ Shut doors and windows
- ▶ Turn off A/C or heaters
- ▶ Turn on cable television
- ▶ Avoid unnecessary use of telephone

Wait until you get word of an "all clear" before going back outside.



Fire Department Training and Fire Safety

Training equals being prepared at all times.

The members of Iberville Community Awareness and Emergency Response (I-CAER), the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) team encourage Iberville Parish residents and businesses to learn more about fire safety. Please see the accompanying article from your Emergency Guide on page 2 of this newsletter.

Continued on page 3

Iberville CAER/LEPC – A Winning Combination – www.i-caer.org



Learn how to be safe in a fire.

HOME FIRE SAFETY



CALL 9-1-1

11 Vital Steps When Fire Strikes

1. Alert others by shouting "Fire". If a fire starts in your home, awaken all occupants in your home and immediately get out!
2. Once you and your family are outside, contact 9-1-1 and be sure the dispatcher has the location of your home.
3. Walk in a crouched position.
4. Escape through nearest exit.
5. Don't waste time dressing.
6. Don't try to gather valuables.
7. Never open a hot door.
8. If possible, place a wet cloth over nose and mouth.
9. Close all doors behind you.

During a Fire

- Crawl low under any smoke to your exit - heavy smoke and poisonous gases collect first along the ceiling.
- Before opening a door, feel the doorknob and door. If either is hot, or if there is smoke coming around the door, leave the door closed and use your second way out.
- If you open a door, open it slowly. Be ready to shut it quickly if heavy smoke or fire is present.
- If you can't get to someone needing assistance, leave the home and call 9-1-1 or the fire department. Tell the emergency operator where the person is located.
- If pets are trapped inside your home, tell firefighters right away.
- If your clothes catch fire, stop, drop, and roll – stop immediately, drop to the ground, and cover your face with your hands. Roll over and over or back and forth until the fire is out. If you or someone else cannot stop, drop, and roll, smother the flames with a blanket or towel. Use room temperature water to treat the burn immediately for 3 to 5 minutes. Cover with a clean, dry cloth. Get medical help right away by calling 9-1-1 or the fire department.



10. Meet at a pre-established location outside your home.

11. Call fire department from a neighbor's phone.

Never go back into a burning house.

HOME FIRES



Information from www.ready.gov, official website of the Department of Homeland Security.

In just two minutes, a fire can become life-threatening. In five minutes, a residence can be engulfed in flames.

BEFORE A FIRE

Create and Practice a Fire Escape Plan

In the event of a fire, remember that every second counts, so you and your family must always be prepared. Escape plans help you get out of your home quickly.

Twice each year, practice your home fire escape plan. Some tips to consider when preparing this plan include:

- Find two ways to get out of each room in the event the primary way is blocked by fire or smoke.
- A secondary route might be a window onto a neighboring roof or a collapsible ladder for escape from upper story windows.
- Make sure that windows are not stuck, screens can be taken out quickly, and that security bars can be properly opened.
- Practice feeling your way out of the house in the dark or with your eyes closed.
- Teach children not to hide from firefighters. **(This is taught at Safety Town!)**

After a Fire



Visit i-caer.org for "Learn About Fires," "After a Fire" checklist and "Prevent Home Fires."

Home fires are preventable!

Smoke Alarms

A working smoke alarm significantly increases your chances of surviving a deadly home fire.

NOTE: There are a variety of smoke alarms for people with access or functional needs including visually and hearing impaired.



**Reminder: FREE
Smoke Detectors
and Installation**

In an effort to reduce fire-related deaths and injuries, the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's office launched a program which offers a free smoke detector to any homeowner who does not have one.

If you do not have a smoke detector and would like a free one, simply call your local fire department or the Emergency Operations Center at **(225) 687-5140** to get an application. A fireman will deliver it to your home and install it for you.



See pages 6
& 7 of the
Emergency
Preparedness
Guidebook for
Fire Safety Tips

The Emergency
Preparedness
Guidebook is online at
www.i-caer.org.

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The Iberville Firefighters Association includes the fire departments in:

- Bayou Blue
- Bayou Goula
- Bayou Pigeon
- Bayou Sorrel
- East Iberville
- Grosse Tete
- Maringouin
- Plaquemine
- Rosedale
- White Castle

Both John Marque, Jr., President, and Darren Ramirez, Vice President, actively serve on the I-CAER and LEPC teams and represent each of these fire departments.

Training is vital to industry members individually and as the four groups

working together. As you have read about trainings and drills in past editions of this newsletter, the fire departments have a training calendar whereby each station is regularly training and learning from drills.

Each station and a variety of topics are covered each year. To the right is a sampling of the training schedule. Additional topics are being reviewed, along with the station that will host the training for firefighters. In sharing this information, we hope you recognize that the Fire Departments take fire safety seriously and encourage you to do the same.

Do you have a smoke detector in your home? Have you changed the battery recently? (We suggest you change the battery when the time changes, twice per year.)

Iberville Parish 2024 Training

JANUARY – Plaquemine Central Station – *Communications*

Rosedale – *Firefighter Introduction*

FEBRUARY – White Castle – *Live Fire Training*

MARCH – St. Gabriel – *Class A Unlined Prop*

Plaquemine – *VFIS Driver Training*

April – Grosse Tete – *Heavy Bus Rescue (Classroom) (Two classes)*

May – St. Gabriel – *Hazmat Awareness (Two classes)*

June – Bayou Sorrel/Bayou Pigeon – *Night Landing Zone*

July – East Iberville – *Foam*

August – Plaquemine Central Station – *Forcible Entry*

September – Grosse Tete – *Electric Vehicles*

October – Maringouin – *Max Fire Box*

November – White Castle – *Pump Operations/Drafting*

December – Bayou Sorrel/Bayou Pigeon – *May Day Drill/Communications*



Photos are from "Introduction to Firefighting Training" held in Rosedale.





Kinder Morgan participated as part of an East Iberville industry/leadership volunteer and spent a day at MSA helping Junior Achievement of Baton Rouge mentor high school boys. These leaders explored topics including budgeting, interviewing for a job, and how to tie a tie.

It was a great experience, many of the boys saying they 'hadn't learned this much in years at school.'

(Special thanks to Becky Dantin and Junior Achievement of Greater Baton Rouge/Acadiana.

Visit www.jabatonrouge.com for more information.)





Mentoring Men Event

Logistics Manager, Michael Burnett, volunteering at The Mentoring Men Event held at El High School

February 29, 2024



St. Gabriel Connecting with the Future!

What better way is there to start the new year and a new school semester than with the future of our industry?!

Syngenta has been busy in the community lately! On February 22nd, Charlaya Washington was part of the Industrial Awareness Career Day at East Iberville High School. She and other volunteers had the opportunity to discuss various career path options with students during the 2024 Iberville Parish Career Connection Fair. The event was hosted by the Iberville Chamber of Commerce and the Iberville Parish School Board. Syngenta along with other community partners supported this great event.

With the impending skilled craft resource deficit, it was important that our site help expose the participating 11th grade students to Syngenta and the vast career paths in our industry. It was awesome to advocate for careers and empower students to pursue careers that were otherwise unknown. #CommunityEngagement #Career Fair #StGabriel

On February 29, 2024, Syngenta participated in a Mentoring Men event at East Iberville High School and Logistics Manager Michael Barnett volunteered.





has provided
\$350,000+
 towards
**Scholarships at
 Louisiana State
 University,
 River Parishes
 Community
 College,
 Southern
 University,
 and local high
 schools.**

Did you know? Report an outage

You can report an outage, lighting problem or other issues with your Entergy service. Go to: www.myentergy.com/s/reportoutage to see the range of issues you may report.

What type of light needs attention?

Choose the option from below that best describes the light that is experiencing the outage or issue.



To report an emergency, such as a downed power line, smoke or fire, or a gas leak, call 1-800-968-8243


SIGN UP TODAY FOR EMERGENCY TEXT ALERTS

Register your mobile number to receive critical messages from Iberville Parish!

Sign up online by using the link on our website or call the Office of Emergency Preparedness.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

 (225) 687-5140

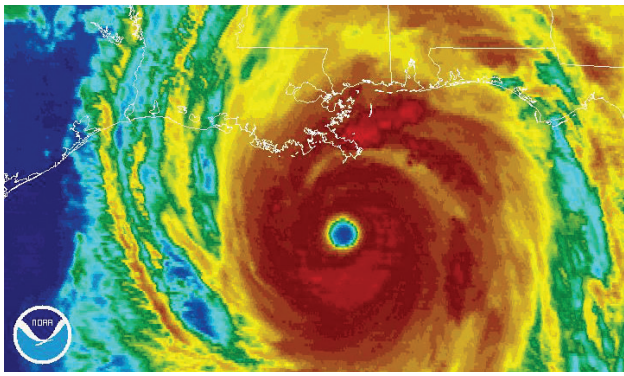


Register for Emergency Alerts

Register your cell phone now to receive critical messages from the parish's emergency alert system.

To register visit <http://ibervilleparish.com/Departments/Emergency-Preparedness> and click on Cell Phone Registration

or call the Office of Emergency Preparedness at (225)



Hurricane Season June 1 - November 30

BE PREPARED – PREPARE NOW!

Please review these preparation tips:

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

Important Steps Toward Saving Lives and Property:

- The time to prepare is before the storm.
- Assemble a disaster supply kit to include water, nonperishable food items, first aid supplies, clothing & bedding, tools & emergency supplies, and special items.
- Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts. Trim trees and shrubbery.
- Review your insurance policy.

Hurricane Safety Tips

- Fuel and service your vehicle.
- Board up all windows and secure any items that could become flying objects.
- Wedge sliding glass doors so they do not lift off track.
- Have flashlights and first aid kit available.
- Turn refrigerator to the coldest setting in case of power failure and turn off propane tanks.
- Have an extra supply of cash on hand.
- Protect pets.
- Evacuate if advised to do so!

If You Stay At Home

- Only stay in a home if you have NOT been ordered to evacuate by local officials. Stay inside a well-constructed building. In structures, such as a home, examine the building and plan in advance what you will do if winds become strong. Strong winds produce deadly missiles and structural failure.
- Know how to turn off utilities if told to do so by authorities. Post a set of instructions that can be easily followed by others in the family
- Fill bathtub and large containers with water for sanitary purposes
- Ensure that you have a battery-operated radio, flashlights, extra batteries, a supply of canned goods, and a non-electric can opener
- Remove objects from around your home that could become dangerous wind-driven projectiles
- Freeze water to create ice. Ensure adequate supply by storing extra in large bags.



Coming soon to your mail!
NEW Emergency Preparedness Guidebook!

See page 15 for
Dangerous Weather Preparedness Info!

Dangerous Weather Preparedness

In Louisiana, we must be prepared for dangerous weather including thunderstorms and tornadoes at any time, not only during hurricane season. Please see page 15 of your Emergency Preparedness Guidebook for Dangerous Weather safety information.

THUNDERSTORMS/LIGHTNING SAFETY

Severe Thunderstorm Watch: advises when and where severe thunderstorms are most likely to occur.

Watch the sky and stay tuned to TV or radio to know when warnings are issued.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning: issued when severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property for those in the path of the storm.

What To Do When Thunderstorms Approach:

- Go to safe shelter immediately!
- Move to a sturdy building or car.
- Do not take shelter in small sheds, under isolated trees, or in convertible automobiles.
- Get out of boats and away from water.
- Turn off air conditioners.
- Get to higher ground if flash flooding or flooding is possible. Once flooding begins, abandon cars and climb to higher ground.
- If caught outdoors and no shelter is nearby, find a spot away from trees, fences, and poles.

Ways to Avoid Becoming a Victim of Lightning:

- When outdoors, rush to safety at the first flash of lightning, crack of thunder or even darkening of the sky.
- Be aware – hazy skies, especially in the east, can often hide thunderstorms.
- All thunderstorms are dangerous.
- Cars can offer shelter from lightning if necessary.

TORNADO SAFETY

NOAA WEATHER RADIO IS THE BEST MEANS TO RECEIVE WARNINGS FROM THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

- No place is safe from tornadoes.
- Leave the windows closed and immediately go to a safe place.
- In a home or building, move to an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor and get under a sturdy piece of furniture.
- Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car; instead, leave it immediately.
- Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes and should be abandoned.

Have you misplaced your guide? It is available online at i-caer.org on the home page. Simply click the button to download or view.



Get Important Information in the Event of an Emergency

SOCIAL MEDIA



The role of social media during an event can prove very useful and informative. However, many rumors and incorrect information are shared via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other social media platforms. The best way to ensure you have and share ACCURATE information is to visit the Iberville Office of Emergency Preparedness page (www.facebook.com/IbervilleParishCouncil/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel).

We also encourage you to SHARE or PUSH (forward) only information from the Iberville Parish facebook site so that others receive accurate information.

EMERGENCY PHONE NOTIFICATIONS – Register Your Cell Phone!

Communication and access to information is vital, especially during a natural or chemical emergency. Because many residents no longer have land lines, it has become more difficult to notify the public during emergencies.

PLEASE REGISTER your cell phone to your address to ensure you receive our emergency notifications.

This database is strictly confidential and will not be made public. Iberville Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness, I-CAER, Iberville LEPC and all first responders urge you to sign up for these emergency alerts.

TO Register: go to www.i-caer.org and click the link **Alert Signup** or call the Iberville Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness at (225) 687-5140.

Let Us Know!

Do you have a question about I-CAER (Iberville Community Awareness Emergency Response), LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) or the EOC (Emergency Operations Center)?

Do you think it would be a good newsletter topic?

If there is a safety/emergency preparedness topic you would like to read about in the newsletter, please either complete the form at:

<http://i-caer.org/contact-us/>

or mail it to:

Jan Herrington
Positive Results, Inc.
9270 Siegen Lane, Suite 804
Baton Rouge, LA 70810

We will try to help.



PHONE ALERT SIGNUP LINK

REGISTER YOUR CELL PHONE

NEWSLETTER LINK: Read past issues on-line

Visit www.i-caer.org for helpful information.