

SOG# 502-15	Standard Operating Guideline	Safety								
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cumberland Road Fire Department Inc.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hurricane and Tropical Storm Response</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="1031 136 1424 147">Approved By</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="1031 147 1424 178">Steven W. Parrish Fire Chief</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1031 199 1230 210">Effective Date</td> <td data-bbox="1230 199 1424 210">Revised Date</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1031 210 1230 241">November 1, 2017</td> <td data-bbox="1230 210 1424 241"></td> </tr> </table>	Approved By		Steven W. Parrish Fire Chief		Effective Date	Revised Date	November 1, 2017	
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**Purpose:**

The purpose of the standard is to establish the actions taken by the Cumberland Road Fire Department to prepare for the effects of a land-fall hurricane or tropical storm. During a hurricane or tropical storm, the Cumberland Road Fire Department will maintain a safe work environment. The department will also provide essential emergency services to the public for as long as the safety of responders is not endangered by storm conditions.

This standard specifies hurricane and tropical storm response procedures for the Cumberland Road Fire Department.

**Hurricane Watch:**

Hurricane may become a threat within thirty-six (36) hours.

Chiefs and Officer's shall develop and implement an incident action plan.

Develop work schedules for extra staffing and ensure proper sleep and rehab time.

All portable equipment, chainsaws, generators, pumps, and Hurst equipment shall be fueled. This includes spare fuel cans.

All power equipment shall be tested for operational performance.

All SCBA bottles shall be filled.

Ensure all medical supplies are at normal levels.

Ensure station supplies are at normal levels to include bottled water.

Secure all loose items around the exterior of the station.

Personnel assigned portable radios shall return radios to the station for uses during the storm.

When the County EOC is opened, a 'control point' shall be established at the station to monitor all activities. The 'control point' shall manned and have access to an MCT, County Fire dispatch, ground channels, City Fire dispatch and ground channels and the CRFD channel. Other frequencies shall be monitored as necessary.

A log shall be maintained of all activities to include a list of incident response.

**Hurricane Warning:**

Hurricane is expected to hit within twenty-four (24) hours.

Chief's and Officers are to use their discretion when responding. Safety of personnel is our top priority.

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Assign personnel to apparatus.

Paid personnel and volunteers reporting for duty should bring the following items:

- Extra work uniforms
- Extra under clothes
- Extra pair of shoes
- Bath towels/washcloths and personal hygiene items
- Food/water
- Medications
- Sleeping bag/ bedding

**During the Storm / Hurricane Operations:**

All Fire Department apparatus shall be parked in the bays rear facing.

All personnel shall operate in pairs. No one rides/works alone.

Full protective clothing including eye protection shall be worn to protect personnel from flying debris. **(NO firefighting protective clothing is to be worn in or around high water or water rescue operations.)**

There shall be NO unnecessary travel in Fire Department vehicles.

Prior to sustained winds reaching 50 mph, or wind gusts over 65 mph, any Chief or Officer who feels the situations encountered are sufficiently dangerous to the safety of personnel may cease operations and return to the station. The Fire Chief and communication centers shall be notified.

The Cumberland Road Fire Department shall suspend all fire and emergency medical responses when sustained winds speeds reach 50 mph or wind gusts exceed 65 mph.

During any high-water operations, PFD's shall be worn by personnel operating in or near high water. Personnel shall use a pike pole or stick to ensure the ground has not washed away or collapsed. Personnel shall be secured using rope when possible.

Personnel shall be aware of hazards in the water to include but not limited to, energized electrical wires, wildlife, and snakes.

Extreme caution shall be taken while driving. Be cautious where the ground is saturated or flooded, the road could be washed out.

If the station must be evacuated, officers shall ensure utilities are shut off and the station secured and personnel shall seek safe haven.

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During lulls in the storm or during storm eye passage operations should be limited to re-securing the station, and only when they can be done safely.

Safety of personnel and equipment will be the primary consideration during this time.

**Post Storm Operations:**

The Fire Chief or his designee will make the determination when the department can resume response operations.

Operations shall resume only if such operations can be performed safely.

Personnel conducting emergency operations must realize their own safety and well-being is their first priority. Many hazards will be encountered including but not limited to downed wires, gas leaks, building fires, unsafe structures, flooding, heat stress, traumatized victims, and civil disturbance and displaced animals.

A “Windshield Survey” of the fire district, including target occupancies shall be reported so that resources can be deployed in an efficient manner to where they are most needed.

No personnel shall ride/work alone. All Personnel will operate in pairs or teams.

Personnel shall utilize all safety equipment available, work in teams and stay well hydrated.

Areas must be surveyed for any electric wires before cutting ant trees or debris. If wires are present, assume they are live and contact the electric company to determine the status of the wires. Be aware that generators used by civilians may back feed into the system, energizing downed wires.

Use chain saws for their appropriate use and use appropriate protective gear.

The Fire Chief or his designee will establish periodic rehabilitation times for all personnel and shall consider the following:

Ensure all exposures to personnel are properly documented.

Provide vaccinations as necessary.

Provide post-storm follow-up care as needed.

Coordinate post storm feeding needs for personnel.