



For Immediate Release

October 7, 2023, 3 p.m. (ChST)

98W Upgraded to Tropical Depression 15W

The National Weather Service (NWS) Guam Weather Forecast Office continues to monitor what is now Tropical Depression 15W, formerly known as Invest 98W, as it becomes better organized.

As of 1 p.m., Tropical Depression 15W was located near 9.9 degrees north latitude and 154.2 degrees east longitude, about 650 miles east-southeast of Guam, moving west-northwest at 13 mph.

What to Expect

Current forecast tracks have Tropical Depression 15W passing through the Marianas Tuesday night or early Wednesday as a tropical storm or weak typhoon. The latest forecasts show 6 to 10 inches of rainfall are likely, with locally higher amounts near 12 inches possible.

There is a high possibility for damaging winds of 39 mph or more and/or destructive winds of 58 mph, and heavy rains, to arrive as early as Tuesday morning. Waves may increase, possibly exceeding 15 feet, as fresh to strong sustained winds potentially develop.

There remains uncertainty for the exact track of the system as it approaches the Marianas. Any one, or several islands, may take a near miss or a direct hit next week.

Use the Weekend to Prepare

Residents and visitors are advised to take the following precautionary actions:

- Those living in flood-prone areas should take action now; clear drainage areas and unblock storm drains to minimize flooding;
- Stay up to date with the latest information;
- Clear loose debris around your yard and store any items that may become airborne with heavy winds, such as canopies, tarps, and trampolines, before inclement weather arrives;
- Have an emergency kit prepared: Store enough food and water for your household for 7-10 days. Include medication, disinfectant supplies and pet supplies;
- Secure important documents such as birth certificates, tax papers, and insurance documents and keep copies in a water-proof bag;
- Review your emergency plan: If you do not have a plan, learn how to create an [emergency plan](#). Have plans for your family members and [pets](#). If you are a person with [disabilities](#) or a caregiver for [elderly](#), you may need to take extra steps to plan for those additional needs.
- Get emergency alerts: Stay informed by having a weather alert radio, battery-operated, or hand-crank radio, where you can listen to emergency news;
- Gas your vehicles and get fuel for your generators;
- Pull cash from the ATM in case of power outages;
- Don't drive through flood waters: Almost half of all flash flood deaths happen in vehicles. When in your car, look out for [flooding](#) in low-lying areas at bridges and at highway dips. As little as 6 inches of water may cause you to lose control of your vehicle.

Visit the following links for the latest information:

- NWS Website: <https://www.weather.gov/gum/>
- NWS Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NWSGuam/>
- GHS/OCD Website: <https://ghs.guam.gov/>
- GHS/OCD Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GHSOCD/>
- [Build A Kit | Ready.gov](#)
- [Hurricane Safety Tips and Resources \(weather.gov\)](#)
- [National Hurricane Preparedness | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(noaa.gov\)](#)

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