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## **Press Release: Weather Preparedness**

The National Weather Service (NWS) Guam Weather Forecast Office forecasts **heavy rainfall possible Tuesday through Friday night.** A developing tropical disturbance, known as JTWC`s Invest 95W, is currently located just north of Weno, Chuuk, near 9N153E. Forecast guidance continues to show a gradual organization as it heads towards the Marianas over the next few days.

Model consensus indicates the possibility of **locally heavy rainfall of 4 to 8 inches** across the Marianas. Such rainfall could lead to localized flooding and the potential for flash flooding.

Localized flooding will be possible in low-lying and poor drainage areas, while flash flooding could also be possible in areas of heaviest rainfall. This developing situation will continue to be monitored closely and a flash flood watch may be issued if conditions warrant.

Guam Offices of Homeland Security and Civil Defense reminds residents to monitor local weather forecasts and conditions closely the next few days. Outdoor plans and events should have an alternate plan in place should heavy weather occur.

When thunder roars, get indoors. If you can hear thunder, you are at risk of a lightning strike. Plan ahead and stay informed with the latest news from your local emergency management offices and the National Weather Service.

## **Prepare Now**

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 <u>emergency plan</u>; Have plans for your family members and <u>pets</u>. If you are a person with <u>disabilities</u> or a caregiver for <u>elderly</u>, 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 <u>flooding</u> 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 advisory 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/

For more information, contact Acting Public Information Officer Stephen Cahill at (671) 489-9517 or via email at stephen.cahill@ghs.guam.gov.

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