



# **Are We Prepared for the Upcoming Hurricane Season?**

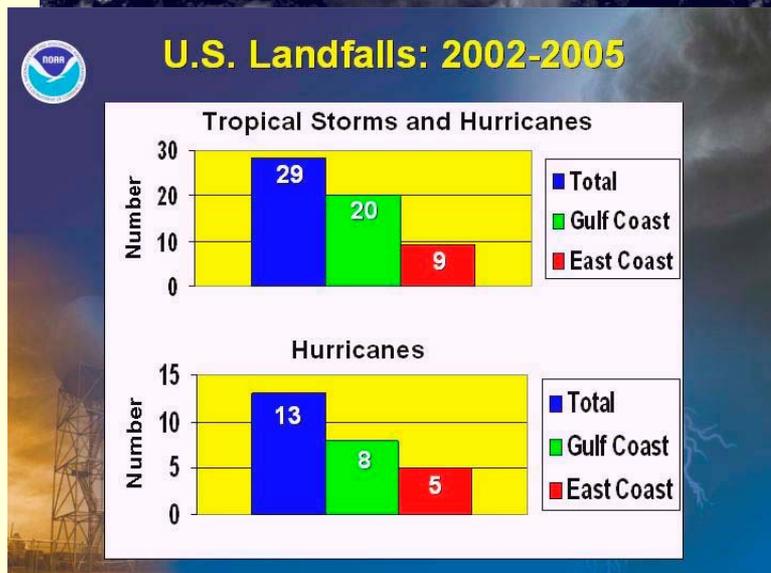
Leadership ViTS Meeting  
May 22, 2006

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# Hurricanes in 2005

- **2005 set the record for:**
  - **28 named storms**
    - **15 became full hurricanes**
    - **4 major hurricanes hit the U.S.**
- **Katrina set the record for:**
  - **Costliest: \$80 Billion damage**
  - **Deadliest: over 1,300 killed**
    - **However, Katrina was only the 6<sup>th</sup> strongest hurricane on record**
- **The 2006 hurricane season begins June 1. NOAA predicts 2006 to remain well above normal activity.**





# Hurricane Hazards

- **Where are we at risk?**
  - **Atlantic Hurricanes can strike the US on the Gulf Coast, Florida, and the Mid-Atlantic Coast.**
  - **Pacific Hurricanes can strike the California coast**
  - **Only DFRC and GRC “might” be spared this threat**
  
- **Depending on topography and climatology – hurricane effects can be felt several hundred miles inland and hazards can include:**
  - **Storm surge**
  - **Heavy rain**
  - **Flooding**
  - **Wind**
  - **Tornadoes**
  - **Lightning**
  - **Loss of power & other utilities**



James River at Richmond, Va., Main Street Facing West, August 23, 1969 (Courtesy, Richmond Times Dispatch)

In September 2003, Hurricane Isabel struck Virginia causing \$3 billion in damage and killed 17 people.



# Getting Informed is a First Step

- **History teaches that a lack of hurricane awareness and preparation are common threads among all major hurricane disasters.**
- **By knowing your vulnerability and what actions you should take, you can reduce the effects of a hurricane disaster.**

*“Preparation through education is less costly than learning through tragedy.”*  
- Max Mayfield, Director, National Hurricane Center

- **NOAA and FEMA have designated May 21-27, 2006 as**  
**“Hurricane Preparedness Week”**

National Hurricane Preparedness Week  
May 21-27, 2006

HISTORY	HURRICANE HAZARDS		FORECAST	PREPARE	ACT	
<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Th</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>S</b>
MAY 21	MAY 22	MAY 23	MAY 24	MAY 25	MAY 26	MAY 27
Hurricane Basics Hurricane History	Storm Surge Marine Safety	High Winds Tornadoes	Inland Flooding	Forecast Process	Disaster Prevention	National Day of Family Preparedness

[www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare)



**FEMA**



# Preparedness

- **NASA managers are key to the mitigation strategies for dealing with hurricanes and must help prepare:**
  - **Facilities and projects**
  - **Employees (on duty & at home)**
    - **Our families as an extension of our mission concern.**
- **We've learned that total preparedness has to include everyone down to the individual level.**
- **Are you, your organization and your family prepared? If not, when?**



# Preparedness Information

- **NOAA and FEMA have prepared a series of short awareness topics on hurricane preparedness on their websites:**

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare> and

<http://www.fema.gov/hazard/hurricane>

- **Topics include hurricane history, hazards, forecasting and preparedness**
- **NOAA and FEMA suggest that each family review and update their preparedness for severe weather to include:**
  - **Developing a family disaster plan including a family communications plan with call in numbers and “meet me” locations.**
  - **Creating a disaster supply kit with food and medical supplies**
  - **Having a place to go and money to get there (not just “plastic”)**
    - **And think through: If your home is in danger, when do you evacuate and where do you go?**
  - **Securing your home**
  - **Your pet**