

Crisis Coordinator Communique

June 2017

KSU Office of Emergency Management

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Department of Public Safety
and University Police



**Visit the National Hurricane Center
for hurricane updates**

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



**Training announcement
email coming soon!**

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OEM@kennesaw.edu



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@KSU_Safety



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Hurricane Season

Hurricane Season starts **now**- June 1, and goes through the end of November. Why should you care since we live several hundred miles from the Coast?

You should care about hurricane season for several reasons, first, as you plan vacations to the beach, and perhaps even a cruise, it's important to be aware of what's brewing out in the ocean. The Official Georgia Hurricane Guide reminds us that strong, destructive winds are one of the most well-known characteristics of a hurricane. Hurricane strengths are defined using the Saffir-Simpson Scale, which categorizes hurricanes based on their sustained or continuous wind speeds. Sustained winds must be at least 74 mph to for a storm to be classified as a "hurricane", and 111 mph or greater to be a "major hurricane". Even a minimal hurricane can cause extensive damage to

trees, mobile homes as well as widespread power outages. In addition, any loose or poorly secured items left exposed to these strong winds become missiles which can easily rip through walls and roofs of even well-built buildings or homes. The most violent and destructive winds usually occur near a region known as the "eyewall". Although the distance that hurricane force winds extend outward from the center varies, they can easily

reach 100 to 200 miles away. In addition to the destructive winds, hurricanes can also spawn tornadoes usually within the rain bands in the right front quadrant (relative to its motion) of a storm making landfall. Even though these tornadoes are typically weak and relatively short lived, they can still be deadly and may cause damage in areas where the sustained winds are well below hurricane force. Take a few minutes to look up hurricanes Cindy, Dennis, Katrina and Opal to see how they impacted Atlanta! When Hurricane Opal blew through in 1995, it took out 5,000 trees, knocked down power lines and kept many in the dark for days.

So, what's the takeaway? Don't discount the hurricane threat in metro Atlanta! ■

The Official Georgia Hurricane Guide reminds us that strong, destructive winds are one of the most well-known characteristics of a hurricane.

Don't Delay!

Many people do not admit that there is a disaster, or they underestimate the severity of the disaster. People delay taking action and this delay costs lives.



In the World Trade Center attack, people called others to check with them, logged off their computers and stopped to pack up their things before beginning to evacuate.

So why do people do it?

Normalcy Bias

The brain is lazy. It wants things to fit into existing plans. It tries to define a disaster as something else that we are already familiar with. For example, in active shooter attacks, many people describe hearing the shots, but attribute it to fireworks. This is because the brain is more easily able to process someone shooting off fireworks than someone shooting or murdering people.

Social Proof

We are social animals. We look to each other for clues about how to behave. This is especially the case when a situation is new or ambiguous. Consider any time you might have been at a large, formal dinner party. There are many different plates, glasses, and silverware for each person. If you are unsure about which utensil to use, a very easy way to determine the appropriate response is to watch others around you to see what they are using ... and then do the same.

What's the point?

The point is, take immediate action. If you think something is suspicious or out of place, don't discount or try to rationalize what you see, hear, smell or feel. Trust your initial perceptions. Once a decision is made:

- It is time to act
- So act – with a purpose!
- The worst thing you can do is nothing.

The first few seconds during a crisis are critical and the actions taken immediately are often determinant in your survival. ■

Surge Protector Fire Safety

Every year thousands of fires are started by surge protectors.

Here are a few tips to keep our campus Fire safe:

Be sure any power strip/surge protector or any electrical device is always plugged in completely. Leaving prongs exposed increases the risk of fire occurring.

Do not connect a surge protector/power strip into another surge protector/power strip. This is referred to as piggybacking and violates National Electrical Code (NEC) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations because the strip or wall receptacle may become overloaded, resulting in failure or fire.

Never overload a surge protector/power strip by plugging in more devices than they are designed for.



Welcome to the Team!



Barrett D. Cappetto has been with Kennesaw State University since September of 2016 and joined the Office of Emergency Management in May of 2017. Previously, Barrett worked with Kennesaw State's Enrollment Services Division on the Marietta campus, in addition to working with the Cobb County School District in adult education and Paulding County School District in K-12 education. Upon joining Kennesaw State, Barrett began his training as a volunteer with the Crisis Coordinator program. Currently, he serves as the Emergency Management Planner, responsible for updating and reviewing the Emergency Operations Plan, assisting with the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and instructing several classes available to the KSU community. Barrett is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice.



Laura Beth Lorentz graduated from Gainesville High School in 2013 and began studying at Kennesaw State University the following Fall semester pursuing a Bachelor's in Communications, Public Relations with a minor in Spanish. She expects to graduate in December 2017. Laura Beth began working at Chick-fil-A Barrett Parkway in 2014 and received the Remarkable Futures Scholarship in 2017. Laura Beth also serves in her community as a youth leader for high school girls and a leader for kindergarten and first grade at LifeBridge Church. As the Public Relations Summer Intern for Kennesaw State University's Department of Public Safety, Laura Beth is responsible for promoting programs, activities and strategies including: creating and publishing the Emergency Management Newsletter, enhancing the department's website and monitoring social media during crisis situations.

Training Announcement

B-Con (Bleeding Control)

Thursday, June 15

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Marietta Police Precinct



Department of Public Safety
and University Police

Learn how to save a life! Participants will learn how to control bleeding with direct pressure, wound packing and using a Combat Application Tourniquet (CAT). Class taught by Cobb Fire & Emergency Services.

Sign up on OwlTrain or mail Andy (andy_altizer@kennesaw.edu) or Ted (estaffo7@kennesaw.edu) if you have questions. Thank you!



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Marietta Campus

Are you interested in becoming a crisis coordinator?

If so, email Ted Stafford at:
estaffo7@kennesaw.edu

How will I know whether campus is opened, closed or delayed?

Check the following resources to determine whether KSU is open, closed or delayed due to inclement weather.

Web

www.kennesaw.edu
oem.kennesaw.com

The Campus Advisory Page

www.kennesaw.edu/advisories

Twitter

www.twitter.com/kennesawstate
www.twitter.com/KSU_Safety

Facebook

www.facebook.com/KennesawStateUniversity
www.facebook.com/KennesawStateOEM

Local Media Outlets

www.cbs46.com
www.wsbtv.com

On-campus emergencies: 470-578-6666
 Off-campus emergencies: 911
 Non-emergencies: 470-578-6298

Personal safety should be Number 1.
 If you do not feel safe to travel, don't travel.

Kennesaw State University
 Office of Emergency Management

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