

April 14, 2015

DIRECTIVE: JOB CORPS INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 14-39
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TO: ALL JOB CORPS NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF
 ALL JOB CORPS REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF
 ALL JOB CORPS CENTER DIRECTORS
 ALL JOB CORPS CENTER OPERATORS
 ALL NATIONAL TRAINING AND SUPPORT CONTRACTORS
 ALL OUTREACH, ADMISSIONS, AND CTS CONTRACTORS

FROM: LENITA JACOBS-SIMMONS
 National Director
 Office of Job Corps

SUBJECT: FEMA National Preparedness Month Reminder, and 2015 Hurricane Predictions

1. Purpose. To inform Job Corps centers about National Preparedness Month for Spring 2015, and to remind centers located in coastal areas to begin planning and preparation for the 2015 hurricane season.

2. Background. April 2015 is National Preparedness Month. The Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) continues to provide information and links to assist with disaster planning, preparation, and recovery. April 30, 2015, marks the first “National PrepareAthon! Day” of the year. Individuals, communities, and organizations are encouraged to “Resolve to be Ready.” The goal of this campaign is to increase the number of people who:

- Understand which disasters could affect their communities;
- Know what to do to be safe, and effectively deal with damage;
- Take action to increase their preparedness; and
- Participate in community resilience planning.

This month’s PrepareAthon! focuses on preparing for earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, and winter storms. Detailed information about the April 30, 2015, observance, including disaster planning, educational materials, and participant registration is available at <http://www.community.fema.gov/connect.ti/AmericasPrepareathon/view?objectId=3222352&exp=e1>.

June 1, 2015, marks the beginning of the 6-month Atlantic hurricane season. Noted hurricane forecasters, Phillip Klotzbach and William Gray, have predicted that the “2015 Atlantic basin hurricane season will be one of the least active seasons since the middle of the 20th century.” Cool waters in the tropical and subtropical Atlantic contribute to the anticipated below-average probability for major hurricanes making landfall along the United States coastline. The storm predictions include seven named storms, three hurricanes, and one major

hurricane (Category 3, 4, or 5 on the Saffir-Simpson Scale). “Despite the forecast for below-average activity, coastal residents are reminded that it only takes one hurricane making landfall to make it an active season for them. They should prepare the same for every season, regardless of how much activity is predicted,” say forecasters. The complete forecast is available at the following Web site: <http://hurricane.atmos.colostate.edu/forecasts/2015/apr2015/apr2015.pdf>.

Job Corps centers located in and/or near coastal areas (several hundred miles inland) are reminded to begin planning and preparation for potential tropical storms and hurricanes. Preparedness, including taking effective corrective action, is a continuous cycle.

3. Action. All Center Operators, Center Directors, and Safety Officers are encouraged to review the following resources:

- FEMA, America’s PrepareAthon! 2015
<http://www.community.fema.gov/connect.ti/AmericasPrepareathon>
- 2015 National Preparedness Month (NPM), “Resolve to Be Ready,”
<http://www.ready.gov/ready2015>
- American Red Cross, Disaster and Safety Library- Tools and Resources,
<http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster-safety-library>

Addressees are to ensure this Information Notice is distributed to all appropriate staff.

4. Expiration Date. Until superseded.

5. Inquiries. Inquiries should be directed to Heather Edmonds at (202) 693-3774 or at edmonds.heather@dol.gov.