



124 Bull Street, Suite 140
Savannah, Georgia 31401
(912) 201-4500

<http://cema.chathamcounty.org>

INFORMATION RELEASE #1

HURRICANE JEANNE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2004 3:00 PM

At 2:00 PM, Hurricane Jeanne was located at 18.8 N and 68.7 W or 1200 miles SE of Chatham County. Maximum sustained winds are approximately 80 mph with tropical storm force winds extending 70 miles from the center of circulation making this a Category 1 hurricane. Jeanne is moving just N of due W near 7 MPH. A WNW motion is expected over the next 24 hours. On the forecast track, the center of Jeanne is expected to remain near the northern coast of the Dominican Republic then into the Islands of the Bahamas. Jeanne is expected to weaken into a tropical storm as it interacts with the mountains of Hispaniola, but should strength into a Category 2 hurricane over the weekend.

Preparedness activities should be initiated during the weekend. As a precautionary measure, a premobilization briefing will be held for critical workforce personnel at:

12:00 PM Friday at the Annex on Chatham Parkway

Please keep in mind that minor changes with each advisory could result in major changes in the forecast track and storm dynamics. Observers are cautioned not to concentrate on the center of the storm and the small line of projected travel but instead to focus on the size of the storm.

CEMA will remain in Operating Condition (OPCON) 4 or the Monitoring Phase as defined by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency. OPCON 4 is the first stage in advanced readiness. All interested parties should maintain vigilance in monitoring this storm through local media. A thorough check of emergency supplies and evacuation plans should commence immediately. Emergency response agencies should review their hurricane plans and determine the availability of their assets, resources and personnel. Those agencies that have the responsibility to share information should be doing so at this time.

Situation Reports for this event will begin Friday morning.