

Legislative Newsletter-Emergency Preparedness -August 2019 Representative Lynn DeCoite

Hawaii House District 13: East Maui (Pa'ia, Haiku, Keanae, Nahiku, Hana, Kipahulu, Kaupo), Moloka'i, Lana'i, Kaho'olawe and Molokini

Aloha District 13 Ohana-

As we all prepare for Hurricane Season, some of you have reached out to my office about the locations of the emergency shelters in (or near) our district. My office reached out to the Maui Emergency Management Agency to make sure the list we have is current and to see what the best resources are for all of you.

The Maui Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) let us know that they stopped publishing a list because not all shelters are opened for all emergency events. Select school locations are opened for high wind events, select community centers may be opened as congregate care shelters post-disaster when school shelters are closed, and select school parking lots with restrooms may be opened for tsunami evacuations.

When frightened people were calling from community centers that weren't open, as tropical storm force winds were hitting, they realized that the published list was putting people into harm's way.

They do have non-published list of predesignated shelters. The Shelter Committee meets as soon as there is a credible threat to Maui County. Committee members include Red Cross, the Departments of Education, Parks, Housing & Human Concerns, and MEMA. They prioritize shelter locations according to the type of threat and, through the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), initialize the needed actions to open shelters with plenty of time to safely notify the public of evacuations and shelter locations.

In an emergency event, the County (MEMA) will make shelter openings known through multiple sources, including press releases, social media, the County website and via **Maka'ala - Maui County's emergency alert system**.

In a sudden non-notice event, shelters will be opened as soon as logistically possible in needed areas and will notify the public accordingly.

Maui Emergency Management Agency is reviewing the shelter list that we had for District 13 and make sure we have an updated current list to send out for any emergency event.

If you haven't already, please take the time to sign up for Maka`ala alerts at mauicounty.gov/emergency.

Please also help share this information with your community members, <u>especially our kupuna</u>. An electronic version of this newsletter will be posted to my website. I will also send out information as my office receives it to the District 13 Email list. If you would like to be added to the list please send your email to <u>decoite2@capitol.hawaii.gov</u> or call the office at (808)586-6790.

Let's do our best to be safe by being prepared!

June DeCrite

Rep. Lynn DeCoite District 13

MAKAALA Be vigilant, be alert.,)) "."

Emergency information when you need it and how you want it.

Receive Alerts on up to 10 different devices:

- Cell Phone
- Home Phone
- Text Messages
- Email
- · etc.

Choose up to 5 locations that you want to be notified for:

• Home

- Workplace
- · Children's School
- · etc.

Choose the type of Alerts you receive:

- Flood
- Tsunami
- Tropical Cyclone/Hurricane
- Wind
- High Surf
- Fire Condition

And the level of each type of Alert:

- Advisory/Watch level
- Warning level

The Central Pacific Hurricane Season begins June 1st and runs through November 30th. Earthquakes and tsunami can happen any time. Flash flooding can happen very quickly, even if it's not raining heavily where you are. Do you want to know about a hazard that may affect you, as soon as possible? Maui County residents are urged to sign up for Maka'ala - the County's emergency alert system. Maka'ala will enable residents to be alerted sooner, giving them more time to react and could possibly save lives.

How does it work?

Maka'ala is a free service that enables you to quickly sign up and receive emergency notifications. This service allows you to receive accurate and up-to-date information from Maui County, about emergencies that affect you.

How can I receive notifications?

You can sign up to receive alerts on up to 10 devices: your cell phone, home phone, email, text message, TTY, etc. You are also able to prioritize your devices.

What kinds of notifications will I receive?

You decide which type of Alerts you want to receive: Flood, High Surf, Fire Condition, Wind, Tropical Cyclone/Hurricane, Tsunami, Watch/Advisory or Warning level alerts.

To sign up for the Maka'ala notification service go to the Maui County website at

www.mauicounty.gov, click on the "honu" (sea turtle) button titled "<u>Maka'ala - Maui County</u> <u>Emergency Alert System</u>", located half way down the page on the right side. On the Active Advisories, Watches & Notification page, click on the Maka'ala banner which takes you to the sign up page.

If you do not have a computer or other electronic device to sign up, please call Maui Emergency Management Agency at (808) 270-7285 for assistance to sign up.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS STARTS WITH YOU

Visit: ready.hawaii.gov

ARE YOU 2 WEEKS READY?

BUILD KITS

CALL

Have Go Bags ready for work, each family member, pets, & a vehicle safety kit too.

PLAN TO BE ON YOUR OWN FOR AT LEAST 2 WEEKS

Soup

Water (1 gal. per person/day) Food (Non-perishable) First Aid Kit Medical Equipment Medications NOAA Alert Radio Extra Batteries Flashlight Can Opener Tools Warm Clothes Sturdy Shoes Personal Hygiene Items Toilet Paper Pet Supplies Fire Extinguisher Glasses/Eye Care Cash Identification Important Documents Comfort/Entertainment

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Office of Representative Lynn DeCoite

Hawaii State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street, Room 441 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Phone: (808) 586-6790

<u>Neighbor Island Toll Free:</u> Maui-984-2400 ext. 6-6790 Lana'i & Moloka'i 1-800-468-4644

E-mail: repdecoite@capitol.hawaii.gov

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Emergency Contacts & Resources

Maui County:

 County Civil Defense/ Emergency Management Agency (808) 270-7285
www.mauicounty.gov/civildefense

• Mauiready.org

Emergency Preparedness Information for Maui Residents and Visitors

State of Hawaii

Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency Phone: (808) 733-4300 Website: <u>dod.hawaii.gov/hiema</u> Get news and updates on Twitter @Hawaii_EMA

Call signs and frequencies for local radio stations:

Molokai & Lanai
KKUA 90.7FM
KIPM 89.7FM

NOAA Weather Radio

(Maui) WWG75 162.4

Maui KMVI 550AM KNUI 900AM KAOI 1110AM KIPH 88.3FM KLHI 92.5FM KJKS 99.3 (West) 99.9 (East)

Maui Electric (MECO)

MECO has a comprehensive handbook on emergency preparedness. It is available in five languages: English, Cantonese, Ilocano, Korean, and Vietnamese. They also have a keiki-friendly version to help your kids be prepared.

www.mauielectric.com/prepare

Maui Humane Society Pet Disaster Preparedness

Information on:

- ♦ Pet First Aid Kit
- ♦ Evacuation Care for Birds
- ♦ Evacuation Care for Critters
- ♦ Evacuation Care for Livestock
- ♦ Evacuation Locations

www.mauihumanesociety.org

click on "Resources" tab then "Pet Disaster Preparedness"