



Tropical Storm Bertha- Louisiana July 23, 2026

Office of the Governor

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Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness- GOHSEP
7667 Independence Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70806
(225) 925-7500

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Press release July 21, 2026

“BATON ROUGE (July 21, 2026) – The Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) is beginning 24 hour operations in the State Emergency Operations Center as Tropical Storm Bertha moves westward. A Tropical Storm Warning and Tropical Storm Watch issued by the National Weather Service currently includes portions of Louisiana. Current threats include minor to moderate storm surge flooding, tropical storm force winds and storms producing heavy rainfall.

“We strongly encourage the public to stay weather aware over the next few days as this system moves in our direction,” said GOHSEP Director Brigadier General Jason Mahfouz. “Any changes to the forecast could change the impact to our state. Pay attention to those impacts and the conditions you may face. Check your emergency supplies. Strong winds could result in power outages. Check on

friends or loved ones who may need assistance. Stay informed with any information shared by your local emergency managers and local leaders.”
GOHSEP has begun coordination calls with parish emergency directors and stands ready to respond. The Crisis Action Team will analyze any requests for support from our local partners and look for the most efficient way to provide those resources.

For those impacted last month by Tropical Storm Arthur, GOHSEP’s recovery staff will continue that effort even as we face this new threat.

Download the revamped Get A Game Plan App for more information on Louisiana’s emergency management efforts. Please follow GOHSEP’s social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn. You can download the Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Guide and find other preparedness information at www.getagameplan.org.”

American Red Cross

American Red Cross of Louisiana
4655 Sherwood Common Blvd
Baton Rouge, LA 70816
(225) 291-4533

[Louisiana Region | American Red Cross](#)

[American Red Cross of Louisiana | Kenner LA | Facebook](#)

[American Red Cross of Louisiana \(@ARCLouisiana\) / X](#)

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Please call 211 for shelter information.

Department of Transportation

Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development- DOTD
1201 Capitol Access Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70802-4438
(225) 379-1232

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[Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development \(DOTD\) | Baton Rouge LA | Facebook](#)

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United Way/211 Information and Referrals Lines

These information and referral lines may know of additional resources currently providing assistance, such as food pantries, clothing closets, emergency shelters, and agencies offering financial assistance. Please dial 2-1-1 and provide your zip code and

demographic information in order to receive referrals. Information can also be obtained at [Call 211 for Essential Community Services | United Way 211](#).

211 Info

Dial 2-1-1 or (866) 698-6155

[Louisiana 211 Statewide Network |](#)

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

(800) 621-3362

[FEMA.gov](#)

Please visit the website and click on “*Disaster Declarations*”. If a disaster is declared, please call to apply for assistance by phone, or visit: [Individual Assistance | FEMA.gov](#) to apply online.

DisasterAssistance.gov

[Home | disasterassistance.gov](#)

Offers information about local resources for disasters, including: FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs), Red Cross, food, shelter, state emergency management agencies, and hospital locators.

To determine if individual disaster assistance is available through FEMA, please visit the website and enter the address.

To locate your local state emergency management agency for disaster information and updates, please visit: [Search Your Location | FEMA.gov](#)

American Red Cross National

(800) 733-2767

[American Red Cross | Help Those Affected by Disasters](#)

National Weather Service

Weather alerts by state are available at: [Active Alerts \(weather.gov\)](#).

The Weather Channel

Local forecasts and severe weather.

[National and Local Weather Radar, Daily Forecast, Hurricane and information from The Weather Channel and weather.com.](#)

Safe Travel USA

[SafeTravelUSA](#)

National Traffic And Road Closure Information

[National Traffic and Road Closure Information | Federal Highway Administration \(dot.gov\)](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov)

Free Help Line

Optum, a leading health and behavioral health services company, is offering a free emotional-support help line.

The toll-free number, 866-447-3573, will be open Monday-Friday, 8am-8pm CST. The service is free of charge and open to anyone. Specially trained Optum mental health specialists help people manage their stress and anxiety so they can continue to address their everyday needs. Callers may also receive referrals to community resources to help them with specific concerns, including financial and legal matters.

Along with the toll-free help line, emotional-support resources and information are available online at <https://www.liveandworkwell.com>.