**KATHERINE FLOOD PLAN**

**Coming into the 2023 – 2024 Cyclone Season**

**It is time to review our Flood Preparations before we go on leave.**

<https://securent.nt.gov.au/alerts-warnings>

Preparedness for high winds and heavy rain is required, similar to our previous preparations.

**Wind Damage:** With the Cyclones potentially crossing the Katherine region, any or all areas could be affected, including the Katherine Rural Campus. Flooding and Wind damage need to be prepared for this year – storing away or locking down all loose items.

**Flooding**: While it is most likely that only the Katherine Town Centre (KTC) could be affected by Car booked via autocentral fleet car. flooding of the Katherine River – Flooding can occur in any waterways, given enough rain.

Take care around waterways – they are likely to be swift running and dangerous to cross.

In 1998, the Katherine River flooded all of the CBD and the river corridor. Tributaries will back up and cause other flooding, not to mention the effect of the broad spread rainfall.

Katherine Rural Campus (KRC) was cut off from Katherine. Some of Katherine East was flooded but mostly remained dry. KRC can also affected by cyclonic winds.

**\*\*All things going well, we should be advised with 12 hours’ notice if the river is expected to flood.**

It is now time for CDU and You, the individual, to consider your preparations before you go on leave.

See the NT Government Emergency Services Flood Safe Katherine Brochure can be found at:

<https://pfes.nt.gov.au/sites/default/files/uploads/files/2019/NTES%20Katherine%20Flood%20Safe%200918%20web.pdf>

**Flood Preparations:**

**Contacts:**

**Katherine Rural Campus -**  main admin (08) 8973 8311

**Katherine Town Centre -**  main admin (08) 8973 9900

Duty Officer **8973 8314**

Alison Haines 0477 320 414 - Overall

Jane Douglas 0427153339 – KRC Farm and Stud Manager

Darryn Whelan 0419 715 365– KRC Site Manager

**Town Centre** – Darryn Whelan 0419 715 365– KRC Site Manager

**CDU Emergency Security 24/7 - 8946 7777**

**Things to Consider for Katherine Town Centre STAFF:**

In Advance – eg *When the River is up and/or we leave eg. for the Christmas break:*

* + IDENTIFY what items are critical to your work, and storage boxes are available for these.
  + NOTE: Bookshelves will mostly likely fall over with the flood waters or moisture seepage and/ or humidity cause them to collapse. Filing cabinets will fill up.
  + PREPARATION TIP - Should the offices be flooded when you return to work: Choose what will you need most to be able to work, for safe keeping? The rest of the world will be working.
  + The networks are likely to be down, or with limited access.

While Mobile coverage is better now than previously, Satellite phones should be routinely charged in the wet season months, and available for use during the emergency.

* Katherine Town Centre has a Portable Battery Pack for charging phones that will be charged up regularly during the wet season months.

**KTC TO BE EVACUATED?**

Facilities Management (FM) - KRC Site Manager to coordinate evacuation of KTC to KRC if the need arises

Your personal situation of safety comes first - however

* Will you be available to help load?
* Available KRC staff to assist where possible as long as no risk. FM to advise.

KTC Staff – ITEMS to SAVE – Make a list:

* Identify if you want your computer / laptops to go to KRC? Other items.
* Cars:
  + KTC cars may already be at KRC. If not they can be packed up and moved to KRC
  + May need vehicles from KRC to help move items.
* ITMS – What needs to go? – *contact them 8946 6600*
  + Computers / Phones/ Printers
  + Important Files, only if not held elsewhere
  + Resources – Limited space, only those that are critical to your work.

FM – Identifies an area where items can be stored until they can be returned to KTC.

**KRC may be affected by being cut off from town,** however it is also recognised that:

* Some KRC staff live in town, and may be affected by the flooding or large debris
* Those living on campus will also need to be prepared in case of being cut off from Katherine, and possibly isolated by flooding toward Darwin.

KRC staff may be asked to assist with any pre flooding evacuation of assets from the Town Centre.  Facilities Management KRC Site Manager will coordinate this, and the KTC staff will have identified what needs to be moved.

**INDIVIDUALS ARE TO FOLLOW ALL ADVICE FROM THE**

**KATHERINE COUNTER DISASTER COMMITTEE**

**KRC may play an important role in any Disaster situation and may be sought to be used as an Evacuation Centre.**

All staff should prepare their own Personal Flood /Cyclone Readiness Plans to ensure immediate Personal Safety leading to/during and following the event

**Aspects to consider** for those who are likely to be flooded, and those who are likely to be affected by Flood / Structural damage

* Secure your family and home first if you are in a flood affected area.
* **Pay attention to Power lines down** – stay safe & report when you can.

**Survival needs for a week or more without services?**

* **Evacuation Potential** *Evacuation Centres will be set up to provide food, water etc*
* **Prepare your Evacuation Kit** – if likely to be evacuated, what items listed below that logistically you can take with you.
* **Survival Kit** – if not likely to be affected directly by the flood, ***you may be*** ***affected by the lack of services after the flood***.
* Identify a survival space at home if possible or go early to a nominated shelter.
* Plan ahead for pets & livestock needs.

**Prepare Early! There WILL BE panic buying once a potential for flooding is advised.**

* A Guide of Items to be considered but not limited to – ***in consultation with the***

**NT Government Emergency Services Flood Safe Katherine Brochure.**

* ***Tip*:** Purchase storable or freezable food etc. over time in the few weeks leading up to Christmas/ Wet Season, that way you can use later during the year.
* **Water** – enough for 1 week or more.
  + ***Tip***: Fill the bath and sinks,
* Frozen water bottles in Freezers
* ***Tip:*** *If in a flood zone, have some sandbags on hand to cover the plugs in various drains to prevent fouled water seeping back into the house.*
  + **Storable foods** (inclusive of animals) for a week or so (? Pet Litter trays)
  + **Batteries -**  Batteries New & Battery Radios - *Power and Communications are likely to be affected for a few days at least*
  + **Medications:** Make sure you have **enough medication** **and scripts** to buffer you for a week or so – keep in plastic bag with your name on it/them if evacuating
  + If staying, something to **safely** cook on, or foods that do not require power for cooking/ heating. Consider **Portable cooking devices to be used outside**.

\****Be careful of cooking flames &/ or fumes indoors that can be dangerous due to inhaling them.***

\*\*\*Consider that if you are not in a flood zone, that you may have some evacuees come to stay with you. Review your food and water supplies etc relevant to this.

**First and foremost, all staff should make sure their personal situation is addressed if likely to be affected.**

**Keep Yourself and Family Safe*.***

***Please be prepared.***

***Follow Emergency Services Advice***

**&**

**Before Travelling**



**Seek Advice from**

**Police and Road Reports**

**BEFORE YOU GO!**