

Press Release



New Evacuation System

For the 2009 Hurricane Season, Plaquemines Parish Government has a new evacuation system in place which uses technology to make the process more fluid. The Critical Transportation of the Needy Evacuation (CTNE) system is designed to help residents who have no way out of the parish on their own.

CTNE checks for a valid driver's license to ensure the resident is properly identified. The driver's license is electronically scanned to improve registration speed, as well as security and data entry accuracy. The system loads the person, family members, pets, and luggage into the CTNE database. This database can produce important tracking and manifest reports.

For tracking during the evacuation process, the head of the household will get a plastic ID card. Wrist bands with bar codes are produced for the accompanying evacuees, their luggage, and their pets. This technology provides for quick identification during the evacuation process and will be used to track, care for, and unite the evacuee with their family, pets, and luggage through the duration of the evacuation process.

"Another change this year will be the destination for our transportation needy evacuees," said Parish President Billy Nungesser. "By evacuating to Coushatta, Louisiana in Red River Parish, we will be farther from the area of risk. Our staff has had several meetings, visited the town, and met with the mayor to ensure a location for those who need transportation, their family, and their pets."

For the people who will be part of the CTNE, small animals such as dogs and cats are allowed to travel to the destination shelter, but the owners must be prepared to care for them while there. This includes feeding and walking their pets, cleaning their kennels, providing medicine, etc.

"Everyone must have a plan for their pet in preparation for emergencies," said Raymund Ferrer, Superintendent of the Plaquemines Parish Animal Control Department. "The parish realizes that many homes with pets consider them as family members so it is important that they take their pets with them when they evacuate."

To pre-register with the parish, residents should call (504) 274-2470. Leave your name, address, number of pets, and your contact information for follow up. For more information, or to pre-register your pet, call the Animal Control Department at (504) 394-3510.