



*Precious Blood of Christ*  
CATHOLIC PARISH

**2020**

**DISASTER  
GUIDE**



1633 Waverly Road, Pawleys Island, SC 29585  
(843) 237-3428 FAX 237-2293 e-mail: pboc@aol.com

**Published to assist and guide our parishioners  
before, during and after a hurricane, or other  
life-threatening/property damage event.**

This PBOC Disaster Guide should be used to help develop a hurricane plan for you and your family. This plan should be reviewed every year, so when a storm approaches, you already know what action you will take. Know where you will go if an evacuation is ordered, and learn safe routes inland. Be ready to drive at least 20-50 miles inland to safely evacuate. Should you find your home has been damaged and you have a problem obtaining shelter, call the church office at (843)237-3428.

We will assist to the best of our abilities.



*The South Carolina Emergency Management Division has determined that the imminent danger of a hurricane is a greater, immediate threat to your safety than COVID-19.*

However, it is important to take this virus into consideration when making your hurricane plan this year. The first priority should be to protect yourself from a potential hurricane if an evacuation is issued for your area. Know ahead of time where you will go if a storm threatens your home and family. It is best for you to shelter with friends, with family, or at a hotel far inland. Certainly, wherever you choose to protect yourself from a hurricane, you should use as many precautions as possible to limit the spread of COVID-19 the best you can.

If your hurricane plan involves evacuating to a public hurricane shelter, know that fewer people will be allowed to stay in each shelter to allow for distancing, and additional shelters may be opened if needed. Each person will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms. Shelter staff will provide additional cleaning stations and set up isolation areas if needed.

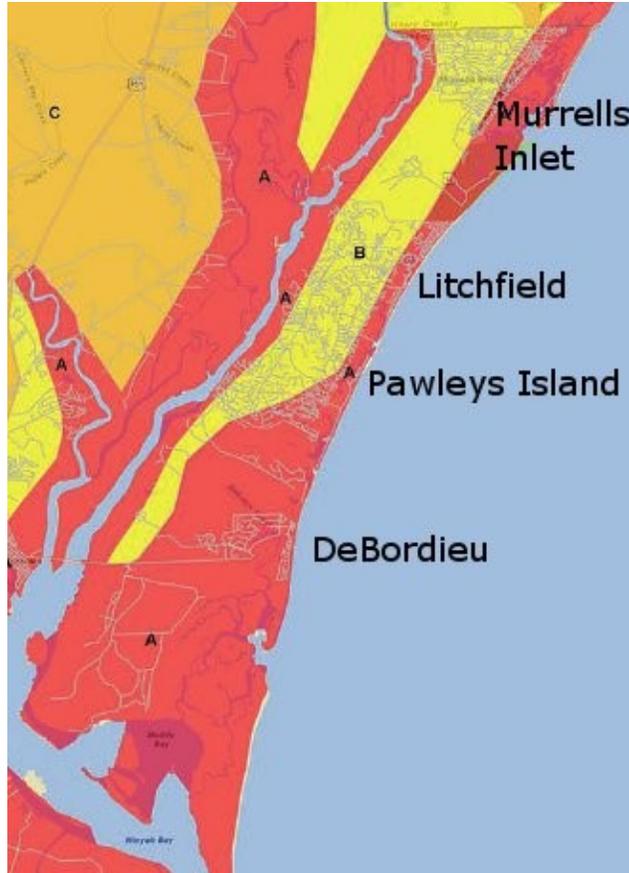


“Know Your Zone” was developed by South Carolina emergency preparedness officials to help people decide whether to evacuate or ride out the storm. A study conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the first of its kind since Hurricane Hugo in 1989, redefined the evacuation zones in Horry and Georgetown counties. These evacuation zones are based on a hurricane's storm surge potential, not the wind speed. Flooding, not wind, does the most damage and kills the most people.

This study is based on topography data, current road networks and recent population growth. If you are ordered to evacuate, it is because there is a real possibility of storm surge reaching your home.

Georgetown and Horry Counties have three evacuation zones, however the Waccamaw Neck has just zones A&B. Know which evacuation zone you live in, and plan where you will go if ordered to evacuate before hurricane season starts.

## WACCAMAW NECK EVACUATION



**Evacuation Zone A** - All areas east of Highway 17 to the Atlantic Ocean. All low-lying areas along the Waccamaw River, including Sandy Island.

**Evacuation Zone B** - Areas west of Highway 17 up to the low lying areas along the Waccamaw River.

When Zones A & B are evacuated, that will include the entire Waccamaw Neck.

***Take US 17 south through Georgetown, then take US 521 to SC 261 to US 378 to Columbia. Under certain conditions, an alternate route from Georgetown will be Black River Road to US 701 to SC 51 to SC 41 to US 378 at Kingsburg.***

- + Leave as soon as possible (daylight preferred). Roads and bridges frequently become crowded and traffic moves slowly. Evacuation will probably take longer than expected. Give yourself plenty of time.
- + Secure your home and tell someone outside your home area where you are going.
- + If time permits, and your area is prone to flooding, move valuable furnishings to a higher location.
- + Bring pre-assembled emergency supplies. People frequently arrive at shelters or hotels with nothing. Having these items will make you more comfortable.
- + Practicing the route to your hotel or shelter before a storm will help you familiarize yourself with the route.

## Watches and Warnings

### **STORM SURGE WATCH:**

Life threatening rising water moving inland from the coast is *possible* in the specified area, generally within 48 hours.

### **TROPICAL STORM WATCH:**

Tropical Storm conditions are *possible* in the specified area, usually within 48 hours.

### **HURRICANE WATCH:**

Hurricane conditions are *possible* in the specified area, usually within 48 hours. *Prepare to take immediate action to protect your family and property in case a Hurricane Warning is issued.*

### **STORM SURGE WARNING:**

Life threatening rising water moving inland from the coast is *expected* in the specified area, generally within 36 hours.

### **TROPICAL STORM WARNING:**

Tropical Storm conditions are *expected* in the specified area, usually within 36 hours.

### **HURRICANE WARNING:**

Hurricane conditions are *expected* in the specified area, usually within 36 hours. *Complete all storm preparations and evacuate if directed by local officials.*

**EXTREME WIND WARNING:** Extreme sustained wind of a major hurricane (115 mph or greater), usually associated with the eyewall, are

expected to begin within the hour. *Take immediate shelter in the interior*

## Safir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale

**Category 1:** Minimal Damage, Winds 74-95 mph;

Buildings could have damage to roof, siding and gutters. Large branches of trees will snap and shallowly rooted trees may be toppled. Extensive damage to power lines and poles can result in power outages that could last for several days.

**Category 2:** Moderate Damage, Winds 96-110 mph;

Buildings could sustain major roof and siding damage. Many shallowly rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted and block numerous roads. Near total power loss is expected with outages that could last from several days to weeks.

**Category 3:** Moderate Damage, Winds 111-129 mph;

Buildings may sustain major damage, including loss of roof decking and gable ends. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water will be unavailable for several days to weeks.

**Category 4:** Extreme Damage, Winds 130-156 mph;

Buildings can sustain severe damage with loss of roof structure and some exterior walls. Trees will be snapped or uprooted and power poles downed, isolating residential areas.

**Category 5:** Catastrophic Damage, Winds greater than 156 mph;

A high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas.

## **BEFORE THE STORM**

- + Plan an evacuation route.
- + Stay tuned to your local television and radio stations for emergency information.
- + Learn how to safely get to the shelters identified herein. Be ready to drive 20 to 50 miles inland to locate a safe place.
- + Have disaster supplies on hand.
- + Make arrangements for pets. Pets are not allowed in official shelters.
- + Fuel up and service family vehicles. Get cash – banks could be closed.
- + Be sure all family members know how and when to turn off gas, electric and water.
- + Teach children how and when to call 9-1-1, police, or fire department and which radio station to tune to for emergency information.
- + Protect your home. Cover windows with permanent shutters, plywood panels or other sheltering materials. Inspect and secure mobile home tie downs. Bring inside lawn furniture and other loose, lightweight objects, such as garbage cans, garden tools, flower pots, etc.
- + Trim back dead or weak tree branches. Clear loose and clogged gutters.
- + Determine where to move your boat during a storm.
- + Develop an emergency communication plan. An out of state person known to all family members is a good contact person should family be separated during storm.

## **BASIC DISASTER SUPPLY KIT**

Whether you decide to evacuate or ride the storm out at home, you need to have several days worth of supplies. The following items are suggested to make your evacuation or recovery after the storm more comfortable:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight with extra batteries                | <input type="checkbox"/> Driver's license, Social Security card, proof of residence, insurance policies, wills, deeds, birth and marriage certificates, tax records, medical records, family pictures, etc. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Portable radio with extra batteries            | <input type="checkbox"/> Cash, enough to fill up your vehicle with gas  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile device chargers                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary supplies, First Aid Kit, including any prescription medications   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NOAA weather radio                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Bottled water (2 gallons per person per day)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-perishable food for at least 3 days        | <input type="checkbox"/> Pet supplies (food, leash & carrier, vaccination records)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bedding and clothing for each family member    | <input type="checkbox"/> Special dietary food if required.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blankets and towels                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal aids, such as: eyeglasses, hearing aids, prosthetic devices, etc.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic dishes/eating utensils                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Books, magazines, cards, toys & games.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rain jackets/pants/boots                       |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen, sunglasses, mosquito repellent      |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baby supplies (food, diapers, medication)      |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush, toothpaste                         |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soap, shampoo and other personal hygiene items |   |

## HURRICANE SHELTER INFORMATION

The American Red Cross will open the following shelters when the Governor orders an **Evacuation**:

**Pleasant Hill Elementary School (Special Needs Shelter)**  
**127 Schoolhouse Drive**  
**Hemingway, SC 29554**  
**(843) 558-9417**

From the intersection of Highways 17, 701 and 521 in Georgetown, take Highway 701 North 8.1 miles. Make a left turn on Choppee Road (SR 4) and proceed 15.1 miles to signs marked “Carters Crossroads.” Make a left turn on Highway 513. On Highway 513, follow the school signs 2.4 miles to Pleasant Hill Elementary School.

**Andrews Elementary School**  
**13072 County Line Road**  
**Andrews, SC 29410**  
**(843) 264-3419**

From the intersection of Routes 701, 521, and 17 in downtown Georgetown, take Highway 17/Alt. 521 West, staying on Highway 521. Proceed 19.2 miles, through the town of Andrews to the flashing yellow light at County Line Road. Make a right turn on County Line Road, following the school signs 1/2 miles to Andrews Elementary School.

### **STAYING IN A SHELTER SHOULD BE YOUR LAST CHOICE**

A shelter will be crowded and noisy. You will not have your own room. Cots and bedding will not be provided. The shelter is likely to lose power. Simple food will be served only at scheduled mealtimes.

**DO NOT BRING** — a negative or demanding attitude, coolers, pets, candles, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs or weapons. Smoking is not permitted in the shelter. ***Law enforcement officers will enforce shelter rules!***

**DO BRING** — a patient and cooperative attitude, two blankets and a pillow for each person, lawn chairs or cots, prescription medications, 3 gallons of water for each person, special dietary needs as well as favorite non-perishable snacks, flashlight and batteries, important documents, personal hygiene items (soap, towel, toothpaste, etc.), small toys and games for children (quiet things please!), books, baby supplies (diapers, bottles, formula, etc.).

*Due to COVID-19, fewer people will be allowed to stay in each shelter to allow for distancing, and additional shelters may be opened if needed. Each person will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms. Shelter staff will provide additional cleaning stations and set up isolation areas if needed.*

### **SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS SHELTERS (SMNS)**

A “Special Medical Needs” shelter is a temporary facility capable of providing special nursing care to individuals whose physical or mental condition is such that it exceeds the capabilities of the Red Cross shelters but not severe enough to require hospitalization. Special medical needs patients usually require care at home by a Home Health, private duty or an infusion company. These shelters are located in special facilities that the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) will operate. The location of these shelters will be announced on your local radio or television station when a disaster is impending.

These shelters will meet the patient’s and caregiver’s basic needs, i.e. food, shelter and nursing care. Patients who need to come to a “Special Medical Needs” shelter must bring the following:

- \* Medication for at least 3 days.
- \* Special diet requirements for 3 days
- \* Wound dressings if needed for 3 days
- \* Any other special equipment (feeding tubes, oxygen tanks, catheters, etc.)
- \* A cot/beach chair with bedding
- \* A caregiver (an individual or family member to stay with the patient)

If you need more information please call your home health care agency or DHEC at 1-888-422-3646 and ask to speak to someone regarding “Special Medical Needs” shelters.

### **PATIENTS APPROPRIATE FOR SMNS:**

If you have special medical needs and are able to live at home with assistance from a family member or adult caregiver, you may seek shelter at an SMNS. Admission to the shelter will be based on your medical needs and on the shelter’s capacity to meet those needs. The SMNS will also accommodate your caregiver. Only one adult caregiver will be permitted, and that caregiver should remain with you in the shelter at all times.

Patients must be able to tolerate lying on a cot or floor pallet. There are a limited number of cots available.

### **PATIENTS INAPPROPRIATE FOR SMNS:**

1. Patients who are dependent on electricity to survive (ventilator, TPN, feeding pumps, suctioning equipment, or dialysis).
2. Pregnant patients should pre-plan with their private OB/GYN.
3. Patients who are independent in personal care or self managed; such as diabetics.

## **STORM PREPARATION FOR PETS**



### ***BEFORE THE STORM...***

Including your pets in your family emergency plan is essential. Your veterinarian is an excellent resource to help you prepare. Here are some important tips:

Evacuate with your pet outside of the evacuation zone. An emergency temporary shelter should be a last resort.

Have a cage/carrier for each pet – a means of containment will be needed anywhere you go.

Counties may have a temporary emergency shelter for pets, the South Carolina Emergency Manager mobile app and [scemd.org](http://scemd.org) will list open shelters.

Instead of shelters, consider boarding facilities, veterinary clinics, pet-friendly hotels as well as homes of friends and relatives.

Choose an identification method for each animal. Examples: micro-chipping and ID tags on collar. Have photos of yourself with your animals to prove ownership if you become separated.

Keep your animals' immunizations, especially rabies, current and be sure to have copies of all important documents.

Maintain a disaster 'go kit' for each pet in a quickly accessible site: cage/carrier large enough to stand and turn around in, leash, harness, bowls, 3-days of water and food, medications, health records/care instructions, microchip numbers, litter box/litter and clean-up supplies.

### ***DURING THE STORM...***

In the immediate post-landfall period, there may be areas of extreme damage from winds or flooding. The immediate focus for emergency workers during this time will be human safety.

When circumstances allow, there will be personnel trained in animal emergencies to assist emergency workers and citizens with animal needs. These may include rescue of displaced animals, ID, treatment, temporary shelter and care, and reunification with owners.

Information about options for assistance with animals will be provided as soon as possible from SCEMD by way of news briefings and telephone hotlines.

### ***AFTER THE STORM...***

If your pet is lost, contact your veterinarian, animal care/control organization and/or county and state emergency managers who can help you search lists and databases of animals that have been found and sheltered during the hurricane.

Familiar scents and landmarks may be different after a hurricane. Your pet may become confused and lost.

Watch your animals closely. The behavior of your pets may change after an emergency. Normally quiet and friendly pets may become aggressive or defensive. Leash dogs and place them in a fenced yard with access to shelter and water.

### ***OTHER RESOURCES...***

Clemson Livestock-Poultry Health  
803-788-2260 | [clemson.edu/LPH](http://clemson.edu/LPH)

S.C. Association of Veterinarians  
1-800-441-7228 | [scav.org](http://scav.org)

S.C. Department of Agriculture  
803-734-2200 | [agriculture.sc.org](http://agriculture.sc.org)

S.C. Animal Care and Control  
843-329-1574 | [scacca.org](http://scacca.org)

**WHEN A WARNING IS ISSUED:**

- + Store drinking water in clean bathtubs, jugs and bottles.
- + Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest settings, then open only when necessary. Unplug major appliances.
- + If you leave your home, turn off water at the main valve and electricity at the main switch or fuse.
- + If power is lost, be sure all major appliances are turned off.

***Transportation to a Shelter (call (843)545-3273 for times):***

1. Food Lion—Murrells Inlet
2. Waccamaw Middle School—Sandy Island Road
3. Waccamaw Elementary School—Waverly Road
4. St. Mary's AME Church—Highway 17
5. Tractor Supply Company—Georgetown, across from Walmart
6. St. Stephen AME Church—1915 Winyah St., Georgetown
7. Food Lion—HWY 17, Marysville, SC

Dept. of Transportation Information: 1-855-467-2368 (toll free)  
Evacuation and Shelter Information: 1-866-246-0133 (toll free)  
Georgetown County Hotline: 1-843-545-3900

***Emergency Alert System & ETV Radio Network:***

Charleston - WIWF 96.9 FM	Charleston - WEZL 103.5 FM
Myrtle Beach - WYAV 104.1 FM	Myrtle Beach - WLFF 106.5 FM
Charleston- WSCI 89.3 FM	Conway—WHMC 90.1 FM

**DURING THE STORM**

- \* Stay tuned to your local television and radio stations for emergency information. Be sure to keep a battery- operated, solar-powered or hand-crank operated radio or television for use during power outages.
- \* Stay inside of a well-constructed building away from the windows and the doors, even if they are covered. Go to an interior first-floor room, closet, or under the stairs.
- \* Be alert. Tornadoes are very often spawned during hurricanes.
- \* If the “eye” of the storm passes over your area, be aware that severe conditions will return with winds from the other direction in a very short time.
- \* Limit non-emergency calls. Be sure to keep calls brief to minimize any network congestion. Wait at least 10 seconds before redialing a call. For non-emergencies, try sending text messages from your mobile device.

## **ELECTRICAL/GAS GUIDELINES**

\* If you see a downed power line, do not touch it. Do not touch tree limbs or other objects touching a power line.

\* Do not attempt to tie generators into the house circuit. This can be dangerous to you, your neighbors and to linemen. Plug appliances directly into the generator.

\* Should the power go out while you are cooking, remember to turn the stove off and remove any cookware from the cooking surfaces and oven.

\* Do not open refrigerators or freezers during an outage unless absolutely necessary. Repeated openings cause the cold air to escape and food to thaw more quickly.

\* If you smell gas, leave your home immediately, and call the power company.

## **ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS**

\* Put your most important identification and medical records into a digital format for easy safekeeping and quicker movement because paper documents can get easily misplaced or damaged during a significant weather event.

\* Put your name and contact information on your equipment in case it gets misplaced during the excitement of evacuation, sheltering, or shelter consolidation.

\* Ask for help if you need it. Call your local emergency management office. Some offices have a list of people who need extra help during an emergency.

\* Know yourself and have your plan ready and in place. Make sure other people know your plan too. Leave as soon as you can so you can reach your destination safely ahead of a storm.

\* Review this hurricane guide. Think about any additional things you may need, like batteries for hearing aids and similar devices, extra oxygen tanks, electrical backups for medical equipment or special food requirements.

## **AFTER THE STORM**

### **GEORGETOWN COUNTY RE-ENTRY PROCEDURES**

First, a damage assessment team assesses the damage of the affected and evacuated area. This team consists mainly of public safety personnel.

Next, if only minor damage specifically to utilities such as power, water and sewer, and roadways, county officials make the decision for the time of re-entry.

If major damage occurred to buildings, utilities or roadways, the county provides property owners a time to visit and survey the damage of their property. To gain access to their property, owners must have a copy of the property title, or a tax receipt, or utility bill bearing the address of the property, and picture identification. A driver's license showing a physical address is acceptable. Once utility companies restore damages and it is safe for entry, county officials notify property owners that may return to their property.

- If you have evacuated, some areas may be inaccessible even after the official evacuation order is rescinded. Return home only after local authorities advise it is safe to do so. Keep tuned to your local radio and TV stations and monitor social media for recovery information.
- Avoid downed and sagging power lines. • Report them immediately to the power company, police or fire department.
- Be alert for driving restrictions. • Avoid flooded roads and washed-out bridges and roadways. • Follow directions provided by public safety officials.
- Enter your home with caution. • Open windows and doors to ventilate and dry your home. • Check refrigerated foods for spoilage. • Use the telephone only for emergency calls. • Beware of snakes, insects and other animals driven to higher ground by floodwater. • Do not use candles or open flames indoors. Use a flashlight to inspect for damage.
- Inspect the utilities in your home:
- Check for gas leaks. If you smell gas or hear a blowing or hissing noise, open a window and quickly leave the building. Turn off the gas at the outside main valve if you can. From a safe place, call to report a gas leak to your utility provider. If you turn off the gas for any reason, it must be turned back on by a professional .
- Look for electrical system damage. If you see sparks, broken or frayed wires, or if you smell something burning, turn off the electricity at the main fuse box or circuit breaker. If you have to step in water to get to the fuse box or circuit breaker, call an electrician first for advice.
- Check for sewage and water line damage. If you suspect sewage lines are damaged, avoid using the toilets and call a plumber. If water pipes are damaged, contact the water company and avoid water from the tap.
- Take pictures. • Photos of the damage will help in filing insurance claims. Contact your insurance claims agent as soon as possible.
- Let a relative know you are home. • Tell them how to get in touch with you, especially if phone service is out.

*This document has been prepared by Frank Johnson, Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Church parishoner and Chief Meteorologist at WBTW News 13 . All information contained herein has been compiled from various publications prepared by South Carolina Emergency Management Division, American Red Cross, Georgetown County Caring Committee, and WBTW News 13.*

<b>EMERGENCY NUMBERS</b>
--------------------------

**Emergency Number** —911—  
 Emergency Preparedness:  
     Georgetown County (843) 545-3273   Horry County (843) 915-5150  
 Georgetown County Sheriff: (843) 546-5102  
 State Highway Patrol: (843) 546-7300  
 Area Hospitals: Georgetown (843) 527-7000   Waccamaw (843) 652-1000  
                     Grand Strand (843) 692-1000   Conway (843) 347-7111  
 Georgetown Red Cross: (843) 546-5422  
 Midway Fire Dept—Pawleys Island: (843) 545-3620  
**Emergency Medical Service -Pawleys Island** — 911 —  
 Santee Cooper: (843) 347-3399  
                     Emergency (888) 769-7688  
 Public Information Phone System (866) 246-0133 (only activated as needed)  
 Georgetown County Storm Info (843) 545-3900  
 Dept. of Transportation Traffic Info. (855) 467-2368  
 SCDHEC CareLine (803) 472-3432

**HURRICANE NAMES**

**2020**

<b>Arthur</b>	<b>Laura</b>
<b>Bertha</b>	<b>Marco</b>
<b>Cristobal</b>	<b>Nana</b>
<b>Dolly</b>	<b>Omar</b>
<b>Edouard</b>	<b>Paulette</b>
<b>Fay</b>	<b>Rene</b>
<b>Gonzalo</b>	<b>Sally</b>
<b>Hanna</b>	<b>Teddy</b>
<b>Isaias</b>	<b>Vicky</b>
<b>Josephine</b>	<b>Wilfred</b>
<b>Kyle</b>	

**2021**

<b>Ana</b>	<b>Larry</b>
<b>Bill</b>	<b>Mindy</b>
<b>Claudette</b>	<b>Nicholas</b>
<b>Danny</b>	<b>Odette</b>
<b>Elsa</b>	<b>Peter</b>
<b>Fred</b>	<b>Rose</b>
<b>Grace</b>	<b>Sam</b>
<b>Henri</b>	<b>Teresa</b>
<b>Ida</b>	<b>Victor</b>
<b>Julian</b>	<b>Wanda</b>
<b>Kate</b>	

*In the event that more than 21 named tropical storms occur in the Atlantic in a season, additional storms will take names from the Greek alphabet: Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta, etc.*