

Information for Travelers and Residents
Warden Message U.S. Embassy Belmopan, Belize
Advisory #3
October 23, 2010
Tropical Storm Richard

The Government of Belize has issued a Hurricane Warning for the coast of Belize.

The U.S. Embassy in Belmopan is issuing this third Warden Message to alert Americans to the potential dangers posed by Tropical Storm Richard. At this time Tropical Storm Richard has the potential to become a hurricane.

At 12:00 PM today, the center of Tropical Storm Richard was located near latitude 16.0 north, Longitude 83.8 west. Richard is about 80 miles (130 km) north northwest of Cabo Gracias a Dios on the Nicaragua/Honduras border. Richard is 185 miles (295km) east of Isla Roatan Honduras. Maximum sustained winds are 65 MPH (100 km/hr). Present movement west or 280 degrees at 8MPH (13KM/HR). Minimum central pressure is 1000MB or (29.5 inches). On the forecast track, the center of Richard is expected to pass near or over the northeastern coast of Honduras today and near or over the bay island of Honduras early Sunday. Richard could approach the coast of Belize and southeastern Mexico by late Sunday.

A hurricane warning means that hurricane conditions are expected somewhere within the warning area. A warning is typically issued 36 hours before the anticipated first occurrence of tropical-storm-force winds. These conditions make outside preparations difficult or dangerous.

We advise all U.S. citizens and U.S. Government Personnel to evaluate their personal safety plans and prepare accordingly to best protect yourself and your family. Stay prepared with adequate water and food, and gasoline in your vehicle. Be cautious in your activities.

Belize National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) is still advising residents on the Cayes and along the coasts who need to move to do so early.

Monitor local radio and television stations for official updates on the progress of Tropical Storm Richard. You may also monitor the storm at www.nhc.noaa.gov or www.nemo.org.bz. Additional media reports may be

found at Channel 5 News Belize (<http://www.channel5belize.com/>), Channel 7 News Belize (<http://www.7newsbelize.com/>), and the Belize Tourism Industry Association (<http://btia.org/>).

We encourage U.S. citizens living or traveling abroad to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through the State Department's travel registration website at <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/> so that they can obtain updated information on travel and security. Americans without Internet access may register in person with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy to contact them in case of emergency.

For emergencies involving American citizens in Belize, please contact U.S. Embassy Belmopan. The U.S. Embassy is located in Belmopan City on Floral Park Road, telephone from the United States: 011-501-822-4011; telephone from within Belize: 822-4011 or after working hours at 610-5030. You may also contact the Embassy by e-mail at: ACSbelize@state.gov. The Embassy's Internet address is <http://www.belize.usembassy.gov/>.