

DAILY PREPAREDNESS BRIEF

Household Edition | Fortune Favors the Prepared

A plain-language readiness brief for families



⚠️ PREPAREDNESS CONDITION 3 - INCIDENT PROBABLE - Brown Sky ⚠️

Tuesday, 26 May 2026 | Op Epic Fury Day 88 | Hormuz Blockade Day 44 | LBN CF Day 41 | Trend: STABLE

COMMUNICATIONS CONDITION: COMCON 4 - INCIDENT POSSIBLE

WEATHER: WX-CON 2 - SLGT - Storms and fire weather in West Texas

SPACE WEATHER: SWX-CON 1 - Minor - Active solar radiation storm

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Reporting Period	24-MAY through 26-MAY (72h rollup over the Memorial Day weekend)
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WHAT TO DO THIS WEEK

Five small actions you can take in under an hour each

- 1. Test your home weather alerting today.** If you live in West or Southwest Texas, scattered severe storms with large hail, damaging winds, and a couple of tornadoes are possible this afternoon and evening. Confirm Wireless Emergency Alerts are ON in your phone settings. Download the [FEMA App](#) if you don't have it. If you have a [NOAA Weather Radio](#) receiver, test it now -- and note that several New Mexico transmitters are out of service this week.
- 2. Check your shelter plan and clear around the house.** If you live in West or Southwest Texas, identify your interior room now. West Texas also has critical fire-weather conditions today, so clear dry brush and flammable items away from your home and have a go-bag ready in case of a fast-moving fire.
- 3. Fill the gas tank if it is low.** Gas prices are at a four-year Memorial Day high, around 4.49 dollars per gallon nationally. The US-Iran situation is unresolved and the US carried out strikes on Iranian targets on 25 May. If the situation escalates, prices could rise another 8 to 15 cents within 3 to 5 days.
- 4. Refresh your phone's offline maps.** If a storm cuts cell service, you want maps cached. [Google Maps](#) lets you download a region for offline use; do this from a wifi connection.
- 5. Check your software updates this week.** If your business or home office runs a Drupal website, make sure it is on the latest security patch -- there is a federal patch deadline of 27 May for a serious Drupal flaw. Keep your home devices (phones, laptops, router) on automatic updates.

THIS WEEK'S ONE THING

IF YOU ONLY DO ONE THING THIS WEEK:

Verify your phone Wireless Emergency Alerts are turned ON.

Severe storms and critical fire weather are forecast for West and Southwest Texas today. [NOAA Weather Radio](#) is offline or degraded in 14 states, including the New Mexico transmitters next to the active storm and fire zone.

THE SHORT VERSION

What's happening this week, in five sentences:

1. The US-Iran situation took a sharp turn. On 25 May the US carried out strikes on Iranian missile sites and boats near the Strait of Hormuz, even as the two sides keep negotiating a possible agreement. Iran says it may respond. The situation is unresolved.
2. Severe weather today is focused on West and Southwest Texas: scattered storms with large hail, damaging winds, and a couple of tornadoes possible. West Texas also has critical fire-weather conditions.
3. Gas prices are at a four-year Memorial Day high, around 4.49 dollars per gallon. If the US-Iran situation escalates, a further rise of roughly 8 to 15 cents within 3 to 5 days is likely.
4. There is one cyber item to act on: a serious flaw in Drupal website software has a federal patch deadline of 27 May. If your business or home office runs a Drupal site, ask your IT vendor to confirm it is patched.
5. There is an Ebola outbreak in Central Africa (the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda) that the World Health Organization has declared an international emergency. The case count has roughly doubled in the past week. There are **no US cases**, and the [CDC](#) assesses the risk to the US public as low. US airport entry screening is running at Washington-Dulles.

TODAY'S IMPACTS AT A GLANCE

What's happening today + what to do, by category.

CATEGORY	WHAT'S HAPPENING	YOUR ACTION
Weather	Severe storms across West and Southwest Texas today (large hail, damaging winds, a couple of tornadoes). Critical fire-weather conditions also flagged for West Texas.	Confirm shelter plan; phone alerts ON; clear dry brush near the house in fire-risk areas.
Gas / Pump	Around 4.49 dollars per gallon, easing slightly from the four-year Memorial Day high. Tail risk from the US-Iran situation continues after the 25 May strikes.	Fill tank this week if low.
Food / Groceries	Stable. USDA next crop report June 11. No current-week change.	No urgent action.
Communications	NOAA Weather Radio : 18 transmitters affected across 14 states. The gaps nearest this week's weather are the New Mexico transmitters at Artesia, Roswell, and Carlsbad, all out of service next to the West Texas storm and fire zone.	Use phone Wireless Emergency Alerts + FEMA App.
Public Health	Ebola outbreak in DR Congo and Uganda; WHO international emergency. The case count has roughly doubled in the past week. No US cases ; CDC assesses US	No household action. Travelers to the region: check CDC guidance.

	public risk as low. Airport entry screening is operational at Washington-Dulles.	
GPS / Internet	A minor solar radiation storm is in progress. Brief radio static is possible on far-north flight routes. No effect on home GPS, phones, or internet.	No action needed.

WEATHER - WHERE IT MATTERS THIS WEEK

REGION	HAZARD	WHAT TO DO
West / Southwest Texas	Slight Risk severe storms today: scattered storms with large hail, damaging winds, and a couple of tornadoes possible.	Secure outdoor furniture and vehicles; phone alerts ON; identify your interior shelter room.
West Texas - FIRE WEATHER	Critical fire-weather conditions flagged: dry fuels, low humidity, and gusty winds make any new fire spread fast.	Clear dry brush near the house; keep a go-bag ready; do not do anything that could throw a spark outdoors.
South / Central Texas	Marginal Risk: a few storms possible, mostly below severe limits.	Stay weather-aware through the evening; phone alerts ON.
Western Montana / Upper Midwest / E Kentucky	Marginal Risk: isolated storms possible.	No special action; keep phone alerts ON.
Wildfire - national	Active wildfire season but no major new fire this week. The national fire preparedness level is 2 of 5, with 19 large fires being worked.	If you are in a fire-prone area, check InciWeb for any local fire and keep a go-bag ready.
Rest of the country	No active severe-weather signals this week.	No action.

Source: [NOAA Storm Prediction Center](#) Day 1 outlook; [NWS](#) regional forecast discussions; [National Interagency Fire Center](#) wildfire situation report.

SPACE WEATHER & GPS - Quick Status

Today (Tue 26 May): The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's [Space Weather Prediction Center](#) reports a minor solar radiation storm in progress (a "Proton Event," rated S1 -- the lowest of five levels). It is expected to ease by the end of the day. Scale reference: [NOAA Space Weather Scales](#).

Household impact: None. Home uses of GPS, phones, and internet work normally. A minor solar radiation storm matters mainly to satellite operators and to airlines flying far-north polar routes.

Ham radio + emergency communications operators: Shortwave (HF) radio may have brief static or fade on far-north and over-the-pole paths today. Conditions at mid-latitudes are close to normal.

Looking ahead: Nothing to act on today. If you rely on HF radio, keep an eye on the forecast at [spaceweather.gov](#) in case the storm strengthens.

SUPPLY CHAIN - What It Means at the Store

Gas pump: At a four-year Memorial Day high, around 4.49 dollars per gallon nationally. The US-Iran situation creates a continuing tail risk: if a deal is signed, expect a few cents of decline within a week; if the situation escalates, expect 8 to 15 cents upward over 3 to 5 days.

Bread + pasta: Stable. The [US Department of Agriculture](#)'s May report shows an ample wheat supply baseline. The next [USDA](#) crop report is June 11.

Shipping containers: Strait of Hormuz traffic remains far below normal; the US naval blockade is in its second month, and the US carried out strikes on Iranian targets near the Strait on 25 May. Goods routed through the Gulf may continue to see longer transit times and higher insurance costs.

Travel: US-bound flights from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, and South Sudan are routed to Washington-Dulles only because of the Ebola outbreak. If you have travel booked from or through the affected region, check with your airline before departure.

CYBER, COMMS & LOCAL IMPACTS

Government computer systems: The Memorial Day holiday weekend was quiet for new cybersecurity bulletins from the US [Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency](#). One earlier item is still on a deadline: a serious flaw in the Drupal website software has a federal patch deadline of 27 May.

Household impact: Low. This is a website-software issue, not a consumer-device one. If your business or home office runs a Drupal website, ask your IT vendor to confirm it is patched before 27 May. Keep your home devices (phones, laptops, router firmware) on automatic updates.

NOAA Weather Radio: 18 transmitters affected across 14 states (14 fully out of service, 4 degraded), per a 26 May operator roster. The most relevant to this week's weather are the New Mexico transmitters at Artesia, Roswell, and Carlsbad, all out of service next to the West Texas storm and fire zone.

Workaround: In affected areas, rely on phone Wireless Emergency Alerts (built into iPhone and Android), the [FEMA App](#), and local broadcast Emergency Alert System (television and AM/FM radio).

SIGNALS THAT CONDITIONS ARE GETTING WORSE

Watch for these in the news this week. If you see them, raise your readiness one notch.

- A major escalation of the US-Iran conflict beyond the limited 25 May strikes, or Iran following through on its threat to respond.
- Another strike on a commercial ship in the Persian Gulf or Strait of Hormuz.
- Israel strikes Beirut neighborhoods (the Dahieh district is the bellwether), which would put the Lebanon ceasefire at risk.
- The Storm Prediction Center upgrades the Texas storm risk to a higher category, or a new large wildfire starts in the West Texas fire-weather zone.
- A first US case of Ebola, or the [CDC](#) raising its US risk assessment above low.
- A renewed rise in the temperature of the Garden Grove, California chemical tank, or an expansion of that evacuation zone.

SETTING YOUR OWN HOUSEHOLD POSTURE

This brief gives you four Fortune Favors the Prepared conditions - [PREP-CON](#), [COMCON](#), [WX-CON](#), and [SWX-CON](#). Your family sets the fifth one yourself: your [CONCON \(Continuity Conditions\)](#) - the readiness level your own household is operating at this week. Use the conditions above to decide where to set it.

RESOURCES

Sources for this brief + tools you can use at home

Weather: [NOAA Storm Prediction Center](#) | [NWS](#) | [NOAA Weather Radio outage status](#)

Emergency alerts: [FEMA App](#) (download to phone) | Wireless Emergency Alerts (turn ON in phone settings).

Space weather: [SWPC 3-Day Forecast](#) | [Geophysical Institute Aurora Forecast](#)

Gas prices: [AAA Daily National Average](#)

Food + Agriculture: [USDA WASDE Report](#)

Public health: [CDC Health Alert Network](#) | [WHO Disease Outbreak News](#)

Cybersecurity: [CISA Known Exploited Vulnerabilities catalog](#)

Conditions reference: [PREP-CON](#) | [COMCON](#) | [WX-CON](#) | [Space Weather](#).

Analytical methodology: [fortunefavorstheprepared.com / analytical-standards](#) (sourcing standards, estimative-language scale, risk-score formula, alt-hypothesis discipline).

GO DEEPER - THE FULL DAILY THREAT REPORT

The DTR Full is a Patreon subscriber product.

This household brief gives you the essentials. If you want the full analyst report behind it -- the **DTR Full**, a practitioner-tier document of roughly 20 pages -- it carries the detail this brief leaves out: full SALUTE blocks for every FLASH event, structured alternative hypotheses, collection-gap callouts, the Indicators and Warning matrix, the Sector Impact matrix, the carryover monitor sections, and the Geographic Impact Index.

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