

Worksheet 7: Vehicle Readiness Checklist

Louisiana operates in one of the most demanding environments in the series — brutal heat and humidity, hurricane season, salt air corrosion, and New Orleans's irregular streets. Proactive maintenance is non-negotiable.

DAILY PRE-SHIFT CHECK

- ☐ Fuel level — minimum half tank (New Orleans to Baton Rouge is 80 miles; evacuation routes need full tank)
- ☐ AC functioning — non-negotiable June through September in Louisiana
- ☐ Waze loaded and updated — check I-10, I-12, I-110, US-90 incidents
- ☐ Louisiana 511 (511la.org) checked for flood and storm alerts
- ☐ NOLA Ready alerts checked if operating in New Orleans (nola.gov/ready)
- ☐ Phone fully charged + car charger connected
- ☐ Proof of insurance accessible (glove box)
- ☐ COI (Certificate of Insurance) PDF saved on phone
- ☐ Water and electrolytes for summer outdoor stops

WEEKLY CHECK

- ☐ AC system functioning — refrigerant, compressor, cabin filter (critical in LA summer)
- ☐ Coolant / radiator fluid level (heat + humidity stresses cooling systems)
- ☐ Undercarriage wash — salt air corrosion is real in coastal Louisiana
- ☐ Tire pressure (heat expands tires)
- ☐ Vehicle interior and exterior clean and professional
- ☐ COI / insurance documents current

HURRICANE SEASON CHECKLIST (June 1 – November 30)

- ☐ Know your parish evacuation zone — nola.gov/ready for Orleans Parish
- ☐ Evacuation kit in vehicle: water, non-perishable food, important documents, phone charger, cash
- ☐ Full tank of fuel before every major storm threat (gas stations sell out fast)
- ☐ Business continuity plan: who to notify, what deposits to move, how to resume post-storm
- ☐ Client hurricane protocol: know how each client handles storm-related delivery delays
- ☐ NOAA Weather Radio or weather alert app — NWS New Orleans (weather.gov/lix)
- ☐ Recovery demand plan: document courier services for insurance claims are high post-storm

NEW ORLEANS STREET AWARENESS

- ☐ Mardi Gras season (Feb-Mar): check parade routes — many streets closed for weeks
- ☐ Jazz Fest (late April-early May): traffic and parking severely impacted near Fairgrounds
- ☐ French Quarter: parking is scarce — know legal loading zones before deliveries

☐ Google Maps preferred over Waze for New Orleans's irregular street grid

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