

## **U.S. Embassy, Manila, Philippines**

### **Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Typhoon Ruby (Hagupit)**

December 05, 2014

*THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES IS TRANSMITTING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AS A PUBLIC SERVICE TO U.S. CITIZENS IN THE PHILIPPINES. PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS MESSAGE TO ALL U.S. CITIZENS IN YOUR ORGANIZATION OR NEIGHBORHOOD. THANK YOU.*

Typhoon Hagupit entered the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) early morning December 4 and has been given the local code name "Ruby." Landfall is predicted in the Eastern Visayas, most likely on the afternoon of Saturday, Dec 6.

PAGASA's update as of 4:00 am, December 5, shows the eye of Typhoon Ruby located approximately 500 km (300 mi.) East of Borongan, Eastern Samar (1,150 km/710 mi. from Manila), with maximum sustained winds of 215 kph (135 mph) near the center with gusts up to 250 kph (150 mph). Ruby is forecast to move West by Northwest at 13 kph (8-10 mph). PAGASA reported that the typhoon may make landfall in the Eastern Visayas region on Saturday afternoon, December 6. PAGASA has warned residents in at-risk locations to prepare for possible flooding and landslides, and for storm surges along the coastal areas.

The Philippine government has now issued Storm Signal 2 for Samar, Eastern Samar, Northern Samar, Biliran, Leyte, Southern Leyte, Northern Cebu, Cebu City, Bantayan Island and Camotes Island Surigao del Sur, Agusan del Norte, Surigao del Norte, Dinagat Island and Siargao Island.

Storm Signal 1 has also been issued for Catanduanes, Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Burias Island and Romblon Capiz, Iloilo, Negros Oriental, Negros Occidental, Rest of Cebu, Siquijor and Bohol, Misamis Oriental, Agusan del Sur and Camiguin Island.

The U.S. Embassy continues to closely track the storm and remains in close contact with Philippine and international disaster relief agencies.

Please monitor the typhoon's track by listening to the radio, watching television, or monitoring the [Philippine Tropical Cyclone website](#), the [PAGASA website](#), or the [NDRRMC website](#). More immediate updates from PAGASA are available on [PAGASA's Facebook page](#). Additional information on emergency situations in the Philippines is available on the [Philippine Red Cross](#) and the [NDRRMC](#) websites.

In the event the typhoon affects where you live, locate shelter, monitor media reports, and follow all official instructions. Carry your travel documents at all times (e.g. U.S. passport, birth certificate, picture IDs, etc.) or secure them in a safe, waterproof location. You should also contact friends and family in the United States with updates about your whereabouts. U.S. citizens are encouraged to review information on storm preparedness found on the "[Hurricane and Typhoon Season](#)" page of the Bureau of Consular Affairs website. We also suggest reviewing the [Federal Emergency Management Agency's website](#) that addresses basic preparations for hurricanes.

It is possible that weather conditions may require a temporary closure of the Embassy or the Consular Agency. In the event of a weather-related closure, the Embassy will issue a message with more information. Please continue to monitor the [Embassy's website](#) for updated information.

The Department of State has established a public email address ([HagupitEmergencyUSC@state.gov](mailto:HagupitEmergencyUSC@state.gov)) for all inquiries concerning U.S. citizens affected by Typhoon Hagupit (Ruby).

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The Embassy is located at 1201 Roxas Boulevard, Manila, Philippines and is open 0730-1600, Monday through Friday. The Embassy's main telephone number is (632) 301-2000. U.S. citizens needing to speak to the Embassy can dial this number and ask to be connected to the American Citizen Services (ACS) unit or with the Embassy Duty Officer (for calls outside of normal business hours). For other issues, please contact the ACS unit at [ACSInfoManila@state.gov](mailto:ACSInfoManila@state.gov) or through the [Embassy Facebook page](#). Please visit [our website](#) for information on all services offered by the ACS unit.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) to have travel information at your fingertips.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in the Philippines enroll in the [Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) at [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov). STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State [Department's website](#), where you can find current [Travel Warnings](#), including the [Travel Warning for the Philippines](#), Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the [Country Specific Information for the Philippines](#). For additional information, refer to "[Traveler's Checklist](#)" on the State Department's website.