

### When Officials Recommend an Evacuation:

- Coordinate your departure with the people who will be traveling with you. Notify an out-of-area person of your evacuation plans.
- Pack your disaster supplies kit into your vehicle. Double-check your evacuation route and leave.

### Who Should Plan to Leave Early?

- Persons living on the coast, on barrier islands, or in low-lying or flood-prone areas
- Persons who live in manufactured housing
- Persons with special needs - including health or mobility-related concerns

### Secure Your Home:

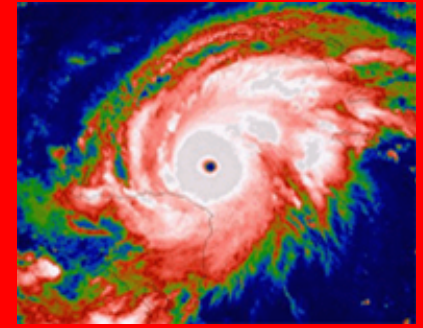
- Turn off gas, water, and electricity.
- Board up windows.
- Draw drapes across windows.
- Brace garage doors.
- Bring in outdoor furniture and other loose objects; anchor those items you cannot bring inside.
- Place boats on trailers; locate near home; and fill boats with water.
- Lock all windows and doors.
- Make arrangements for pets before leaving; most shelters and many hotels and motels do not allow them.

### Evacuation Tips:

- Keep your vehicle in good repair with a full tank of fuel.
- Check on friends and neighbors who may have special needs.
- Prepare your disaster supplies kit now and take it with you when you evacuate.
- Secure your home quickly; evacuate when asked to do so.
- Designate a meeting point for your family should you get separated.
- If possible, have a CB radio or other form of communication to take with you. Use only for emergencies.
- Monitor local radio and television constantly for the latest news and information.

### Your Disaster Supplies Kit:

- Can opener
- Three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Bedding or sleeping bags
- Fire extinguisher
- Bleach (without lemon or other additives)
- Mosquito repellent
- Extra prescription medicine or refill information
- Baby food, diapers and formula
- First aid kit
- Water (one gallon per person per day)
- Eating utensils
- Tarp, rope and duct tape
- Toiletries and toilet paper
- Battery-operated radio and flashlights, e
- Extra batteries
- Extra keys
- Extra eyeglasses or vision prescription information
- Hearing aid or other special-need items
- Important papers including insurance,
- Money, checks or credit cards



## Galveston County Hurricane Preparedness Tips

Presented by the  
City of Texas City  
Office of Emergency Management



## Evacuation Tips for Galveston County

Hurricanes cause massive damage and loss of life. From the 1900 storm that devastated Galveston Island, killing more than 6,000 people, to Hurricane

Alicia in 1983, Texas has weathered 10 of the 30 worst hurricanes in United States history.

Since then, thousands of new residents have moved into high-risk areas with little or no experience of preparing for our surviving storms of such magnitude. Our goal is to help you plan ahead and be prepared.

### How will I know when to evacuate?

During a hurricane watch, listen to your radio or television. Emergency officials can interrupt routine broadcasts to give special weather updates, warning messages, and evacuation information. Tune to Texas City's 530 AM, or Texas City's Channel 64 Cable TV, KTRH, 740 AM; KPRC, 950 AM or KLOL, 101.1 FM for this information.

24-hour weather broadcasts from the National Weather Service, NOAA Weather Radio on high-band FM frequency 162.55 megahertz (MHz), broadcasts from Galveston. 162.40 MHz broadcasts from Houston, or 162.425 MHz broadcasts from Bay City.

### What can I do to prepare for a storm?

While there are no sure ways to predict when and where a hurricane will come ashore in Texas, cities and counties each have emergency managers whose job is to prepare the community and its citizens for these storms and other disasters.

For answers to specific questions you may have concerning hurricanes and preparing for them, contact your

local Emergency Management Office. In addition, read the information in this brochure and share it with friends and family. When a hurricane threatens, it will help you survive the storm.

### How should I prepare for an evacuation?

- Prepare a disaster supplies kit and pack it in your vehicle.
- Make sure your car is in good repair and full of gas.
- Secure your home: turn off the gas, water, and electricity.
- Board up the windows and draw drapes across them; brace garage doors; bring in or secure any loose objects in the yard; and lock all windows and doors.
- If you have a boat, secure it on a trailer near your house and fill it with water.
- Make arrangements for pets before you leave; most public shelters, and many hotels and motels do not allow them.
- Leave a note telling where you plan to go.
- Designate an out-of-area contact that family and friends can call to get information on your whereabouts.
- Designate a meeting point for your family, should you get separated.

### What if I need help to evacuate?

Arrange beforehand with friends or family to help you evacuate. If you have no one to turn to or you have special needs, get in touch with your local officials now. They need to know who you are, where you live, and what kind of help you need so they can be ready to provide aid when a storm threatens.

### How long will it take to evacuate?

That depends on the size of the storm and the number of people who evacuate. Hurricane charts will give you

an idea, but keep in mind the times shown are only estimates. They assume that all evacuation routes are open and only show the time needed to move all traffic inland just beyond the threatened risk areas. It will take longer to reach a shelter location or your final destination.

Also, keep in mind, if the chart shows 10 hours, officials won't wait until the storm is 10 hours from landfall to begin an evacuation.

Remember, the goal is to get everyone out of the threatened area before evacuation routes become impassable or unsafe due to flooding or high winds. This will happen when the storm is still many hours away from landfall. Don't be surprised if there are no clouds and the sun is shining when local officials tell you to evacuate. Follow their instructions; your health and safety are their main concern.

### Where should I go?

Move inland away from the coast. Friends and family, or a hotel or motel are options. If you plan to stay at a hotel, call ahead.

Cities and towns along the main evacuation routes may open public shelters. Listen to your radio as you are evacuating to find out where shelters are open.

The most important thing to remember is not to panic. Guidance and information is all around you. Take the time to find out what you are supposed to do and take your time. Your safety is our number one priority.

If you have additional questions, contact your local Emergency Management Office at (409) 643-5707.

*This information has been provided to you by the City of Texas City by the Texas Division of Emergency Management, P.O. Box 4087, Austin, Texas 78773-0001*