
CITY OF DEER PARK

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

710 E. SAN AUGUSTINE ★ (281) 479-2394

WWW.DEERPARKTX.GOV





Dear Residents,

The safety and well being of the citizens of Deer Park is my greatest priority. For this reason, our Office of Emergency Management has developed this guide to help you prepare for natural and man-made disasters.

Hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30. In recent years, we have been fortunate to avoid a hurricane, but future hurricanes are inevitable. In 2008, our area endured significant damage and disruption during Hurricane Ike. Every year, residents should prepare for a hurricane and other types of disasters.

In the event of an emergency, having a plan and stocking up on vital supplies ahead of time will be crucial for the safety and well being of you and your loved ones. This guide contains useful information that will help you prepare and protect your family and property in the event of a hurricane, tropical storm, or chemical emergency. For more information, please visit www.deerparktx.gov or www.ready.gov.

Above all, please make sure that you and your family are prepared.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerry Mouton, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jerry Mouton, Jr.
Mayor

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PUBLIC INFORMATION NOTIFICATION

The following outlets will be used to communicate emergency and disaster information to residents of Deer Park:

- Blackboard Connect®
- DPTV on Comcast Channel 16 or AT&T U-verse Channel 99
- Local television and radio media (Houston)
- City of Deer Park website: www.deerparktx.gov
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/deerparktx.oem
- Twitter @deerparkoem
- *City News* e-mail alerts
- CAER Line (281) 476-2237
- Deer Park Information Line (281) 479-CITY (2489)
- City of Deer Park marquees
- AM 530 Radio

EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS

The city has an “all hazards” emergency operations plan and will communicate emergency information to its residents for emergencies and disasters using the outlets mentioned above.

What is the Blackboard Connect® service?

The Blackboard Connect® service allows authorized civic leaders to create and rapidly disseminate time-sensitive messages to every telephone number stored in the notification database. Only authorized officials are allowed access to the system.

How does the service work?

Authorized officials record a voice message that is then delivered quickly to individual phones in the notification database.

What types of messages will be sent using the service?

Any message regarding the safety or welfare of our community would be disseminated using the Blackboard Connect® service.

Does the Blackboard Connect® service replace other systems that have been used to provide time-sensitive information to residents?

This system is a significant enhancement to existing means of communication and is supplemental to, not a replacement for, the systems we have used in the past.

The emergency information line (281) 479-CITY (2489) and, for chemical emergencies, (281) 476-CAER (2237) will still be available. Also, TV, radio and our city website will continue to broadcast important announcements.

Is my telephone number included in the notification database?

It is our intention and hope that every residence in our community be included in the notification database. To provide contact information, please visit the city's website at www.deerparktx.gov or call (281) 479-2394, Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm, except holidays.

May I use a cell phone as my notification database listing?

Yes, we can accept cell phones in the database and encourage you to request that your number be included.

What precautions are being taken to protect personal information?

Blackboard Connect® is a service of The NTI Group, Inc. NTI takes security and privacy concerns very seriously and does not sell, trade, lease, or loan any data about our clients to any third party. From a technical perspective, we utilize multiple physical and virtual layers of firewalls to maintain data security. NTI only utilizes secure transmissions with its customers. No confidential information is ever transmitted between NTI and its customers using e-mail or FTP, but rather always utilizes either a VPN tunnel or SSL. Data is hosted in state-of-the-art facili-

ties which require photo identification, thumb-print recognition, keyed access, and are manned 24/7 with full-security personnel. All data is encrypted prior to being placed on tape for offsite storage. NTI also retains an external, independent security firm to perform annual security audits.

Will there be a way to positively identify incoming calls which are made by the city using the system?

The caller-ID for emergency notification calls generated by the Blackboard Connect® service will be (281) 479-2489. For non-emergency public information, the telephone number to the City of Deer Park department placing the message will display. In addition, every message will begin with the same standard announcement: "Hello, this is _____ calling with an important message from the City of Deer Park." The message content will follow this standard introduction.

Will the Blackboard Connect® service work if I have a call screening system on my phone?

There are several varieties of call screening devices which use differing protocols for screening. In general, the system has been found to work with these devices; but, some may require some type of pre-programming to allow our city's telephone number to pass through.

We may conduct periodic tests to assure that messages are being delivered to numbers in the notification database.

If I am a non-resident home or condominium owner, what phone number should be listed in the notification database?

For non-residents or owners who reside outside of our city, you may provide additional phone numbers to be included in our database to contact during certain situations. In general, calls are sent to the primary number only, but we also have the ability to call multiple numbers for each resident. Please visit the city's website at www.deerparktx.gov or call (281) 479-2394, Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm, except holidays.

If I have provided more than one phone number, when will they be called?

Should a situation arise that requires us to contact you at multiple phone numbers, we can activate the system to place a simultaneous call to all of your numbers. In most cases, we will be sending calls only to one phone number.

My primary phone or my second listing is a cell phone with a non-local area code. Will the Blackboard Connect® service call numbers outside the area?

Yes. The area code does not impact whether or not a call is made.

BLACKBOARD CONNECT®

How does the Blackboard Connect® system respond to busy signals or no-answer situations?

For busy signals, the call will be repeated several times in an attempt to reach you. The same is true for no-answer and call-waiting. If the phone is answered by a message recorder, the message will be left on the answering device. If, after several attempts the call does not successfully go through, the system will stop attempting to call.

I am receiving city notification calls at my fax or my secondary phone line. Can I switch to have the system call my primary phone number?

Yes. Please contact us at (281) 479-2394, Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm, except holidays, to change the phone number in our notification database.

I was not able to listen to the entire call. Is there a way to repeat the message?

Yes, at the end of the message playback, simply press the star (*) key on your telephone to have it repeated in its entirety.

I answer the phone but the “Hello” message repeats. It then hangs up, calls back, and the same thing happens again. How can I hear the entire message?

Repeating or looping of messages happens when the system detects excessive noise in the background. This can be caused by a loud radio, television volumes, people talking, or busy traffic noise. When you receive the next call, say “hello” once and turn down the volume of your radio/television or press the mute button on your telephone to allow full message delivery.

HURRICANES & TROPICAL STORMS

What is a Hurricane?

A hurricane is a type of tropical cyclone, which is a generic term for a low pressure system that generally forms in the tropics. The cyclone is accompanied by thunderstorms and, in the Northern Hemisphere, a counterclockwise circulation of winds near the earth's surface. Tropical cyclones are classified as follows:

- Tropical Depression — An organized system of clouds and thunderstorms with a defined surface circulation and maximum sustained winds of 38 mph (33 kt) or less.
- Tropical Storm — An organized system of strong thunderstorms with a defined surface circulation and maximum sustained winds of 39-73 mph (34-63 kt).
- Hurricane — An intense tropical weather system of strong thunderstorms with a well-defined surface circulation and maximum sustained winds of 74 mph (64 kt) or higher.

What are sustained winds?

A 1-minute average wind measured at about 33 ft (10 meters) above the earth's surface.

What is a Knot (kt)?

1 knot (kt) = 1 nautical mile per hour or 1.15 statute miles per hour.

What is the difference between a watch and a warning?

A hurricane watch indicates the possibility that you could experience tropical storm force winds within 48 hours and a hurricane warning indicates that tropical storm force winds are expected within 36 hours or less for our part of the coast.

SAFFIR-SIMPSON HURRICANE WIND SCALE

Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5
				
Sustained winds 74-95 mph	Sustained winds 96-110 mph	Sustained winds 111-129 mph	Sustained winds 130-156 mph	Sustained winds 157 mph or higher

The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale is a 1 to 5 categorization based on a hurricane's intensity at the indicated time. The scale provides examples of the type of damage and impacts in the United States associated with winds of the indicated intensity. In general, damage rises by about a factor of four for every category increase. The maximum sustained surface wind speed associated with the cyclone is the determining factor in the scale.

The scale does not address the potential for other hurricane-related impacts, such as storm surge, rainfall-induced floods, and tornadoes. It should also be noted that the wind-caused damage general descriptions are to some degree dependent upon the local building codes in effect and how well and how long they have been enforced.

Earlier versions of the scale, known as the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale, incorporated central pressure and storm surge as components of the categories. The central pressure was used during the 1970s and 1980s as a proxy for the winds as accurate wind speed intensity measurements from aircraft reconnaissance were not routinely available for hurricanes until 1990. Storm surge was also quantified by category in the earliest published versions of the scale dating back to 1972. However, hurricane size, depth of near-shore waters, topography, the hurricane's forward speed and angle to the coast also affect the surge that is produced. For example, Hurricane Ike in 2008 made landfall in Texas as a Category 2 hurricane and had peak storm surge values of about 20 ft. In contrast, Hurricane Charley struck Florida in 2004 as a Category 4 hurricane and produced a peak surge of only about 7 ft. These storm surge values were substantially outside of the ranges suggested in the original scale. Thus to help reduce public confusion about the impacts associated with the various hurricane categories, as well as provide a more scientifically defensible scale, the storm surge ranges, flooding impact, and central pressure were removed from the scale and only peak winds are employed in the revised version, the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale.

For more information, visit the National Hurricane Center website at www.nhc.noaa.gov.

PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

- Discuss the type of hazards that could affect your family. Know your home's vulnerability to fire, chemical emergencies, storm surge, flooding, and wind.
- Locate a safe room or the safest areas in your home for each type of hazard.
- Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet.
- Designate an out-of-state friend as a family contact so all your family members have a single point of contact.
- Make a plan now for what to do with your pets if you need to evacuate.
- Post emergency telephone numbers by your phones and make sure your children know how and when to call 9-1-1.
- Check your insurance coverage. Flood damage is usually not covered by homeowners insurance. Refer to page 23 for information on the National Flood Insurance Program.
- Prepare an emergency supply kit.
- Use a NOAA weather radio. Remember to replace the batteries every 6 months just as you do with your smoke detectors.
- Take First Aid, CPR, and disaster preparedness classes.



Be Informed.
Make a Plan.
Build a Kit.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

City of Deer Park	www.deerparktx.gov
Local Emergency Planning Committee	www.deerparklepc.org
City of Houston Storm Risk Calculator	http://risk.rtsnets.com
American Red Cross, Houston	www.houstonredcross.org
Houston-Galveston Area Council	www.h-gac.com
Federal Emergency Management Agency	www.fema.gov
National Flood Insurance Program	www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program
National Hurricane Center	www.nhc.noaa.gov
National Weather Service	www.weather.gov
Texas Department of Insurance	www.tdi.state.tx.us
Texas Department of Public Safety	www.txdps.state.tx.us
Houston Hide From the Wind	www.houstonhidefromthewind.org

FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

Develop a family hurricane preparedness plan before an actual storm threatens our area. If your family hurricane preparedness plan includes evacuation to a safer location, then it is important to consider the following points:

- If ordered to evacuate, do not wait or delay your departure. If possible, leave before local officials issue an evacuation order for your area. Even a slight delay in starting your evacuation will result in significantly longer travel times as traffic congestion worsens.
- During an evacuation, be prepared to wait in traffic. The large number of people in this area who must evacuate during a hurricane will probably cause massive delays and major congestion along most designated evacuation routes; the larger the storm, the greater the probability of traffic jams and extended travel times.
- If possible, make arrangements to stay with a friend or relative who resides outside of the evacuation zone. Discuss the details of your family evacuation plan with your intended host well before the beginning of hurricane season.
- If a hotel or motel is your final intended destination during an evacuation, make reservations before you leave. Most hotel and motels will fill quickly once evacuations begin. The longer you wait to make reservations, even if an official evacuation order has not been issued for your area or county, the less likely you are to find hotel/motel room vacancies, especially along interstate highways and in major metropolitan areas.
- If you are unable to stay with friends or family and hotel/motel rooms are not available, report to an approved evacuation shelter.

Remember, shelters are not designed for comfort and may not accept pets. Be sure to take your disaster supply kit with you to the shelter.

When developing a family emergency plan, please keep in mind that emergency responders will cease to respond to emergency calls once sustained winds reach unsafe levels.

PREPARING YOUR HOME

The most important precaution you can take to reduce damage to your home and property is to protect the areas where wind can enter. According to recent wind technology research, it's important to strengthen the exterior of your house so wind and debris do not tear large openings in it. You can do this by protecting and reinforcing the following five critical areas: roof, straps, shutters, doors, and garage doors.



Be Informed.
Make a Plan.
Build a Kit.

RED CROSS SHELTERS

The Red Cross opens shelters for those displaced after a disaster has occurred. For Red Cross Shelter information and locations, call (713) 526-8300.

EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

- Water (at least 1 gallon daily per person for 5 to 7 days)
- Food (at least enough for 5 to 7 days)
 - Non-perishable packaged or canned food/juices
 - Foods for infants or the elderly
 - Snack foods
 - Non-electric can opener
 - Cooking tools and fuel
 - Paper plates and plastic utensils
- Blankets and pillows
- Clothing and sturdy shoes (seasonal and rain gear)
- First aid kit and medications
- Special items for babies and the elderly
- Toiletries, hygiene items, and moisture wipes
- Flashlight and batteries
- Battery-operated NOAA weather radio
- Telephones (fully charged cell phone with extra battery and a traditional telephone set that is not cordless)
- Cash, including small bills, and credit cards (Banks and ATMs may not be available for extended periods.)
- Keys
- Toys, books, and games
- Important documents in a waterproof container or watertight resealable plastic bag (insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.)
- Tool set
- Vehicle fuel tanks filled
- Pet care items
 - Proper identification/immunization records/medications
 - Ample supply of food and water
 - A carrier or cage
 - Muzzle and leash



FOOD AND WATER SUPPLY

If disaster strikes, you might not have access to food, water, and electricity for days or weeks.



Having an ample supply of clean water should be a top priority in an emergency. A normally active person needs to drink at least 2 quarts of water each day. You can expect to double that amount in hot environments. You will also need water for food preparation and hygiene. Store at least one gallon per person, per day. Ideally, you should store at least a 2-week supply of water for each member of the family.

Store your water in thoroughly washed plastic, glass, fiberglass or enamel-lined metal containers. Never use a container that has held toxic substances. Plastic containers, such as soft drink bottles, are best. You can also purchase food-grade plastic buckets or drums. Seal water containers tightly, label them and store in a cool, dark place. Rotate water every 6 months.

Boiling is the safest method of purifying water. Bring water to a rolling boil for 3 to 5 minutes, keeping in mind that some water will evaporate. Let the water cool before drinking. Boiled water will taste better if you put oxygen back into it by pouring the water back and forth between 2 clean containers. This will also improve the taste of stored water.



Even though it is unlikely that an emergency would cut off your food supply for 2 weeks, you should prepare a supply that will last that long. The easiest way to do this is to increase the amount of basic foods you normally keep in your pantry.

If the electricity goes off, you can use a charcoal grill or camp stove outdoors. Canned food can be eaten right out of the can. If you decide to heat the food in the can, be sure to open the can and remove the label first.

PREPARING FOR SENIORS AND PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Emergencies and disasters can strike quickly and without warning. You are in the best position to plan for your own safety since you know what your functional abilities and needs are. You can cope with disaster by preparing in advance.

Create a Personal Support Network

Organize a network that includes your home, workplace, volunteer site, and any other place where you spend a lot of time. Members of your network can be roommates, relatives, neighbors, friends, and co-workers. They should be people you trust, who can check on you, and can provide help within minutes.

Make a Plan

- Meet with your family, friends and personal care attendants to review information about community hazards and emergency plans. Plan how to prepare for each hazard that could impact your local community and how to protect yourself.
- Choose an "out-of-town" friend or relative to be your contact. Following a disaster, family members should call this person and tell them where they are.
- Choose a place right outside your home to meet family in case of a sudden emergency, like a fire, and a location outside your neighborhood in case you can't return home.
- Develop a communications plan which includes contact information for family members, members of your support network, caregivers, your out-of-town contact, and emergency services.
- Be sure everyone in your family knows the best escape routes out of your home, as well as where the safe places are in your home for each type of disaster.
- Take your pets with you if you evacuate. Be aware that pets may not be permitted in emergency public shelters. Prepare a list of family, friends, boarding facilities, veterinarians, and "pet-friendly" hotels that could shelter your pets in an emergency.

Considerations for People with Disabilities

- Know how to connect and start a back-up power supply for essential medical equipment.
- Consider getting a medical alert system that will allow you to call for help if you are immobilized in an emergency.
- If you use an electric wheelchair or scooter, have a manual wheelchair available as well.
- Teach those who may need to assist you in an emergency how to operate the necessary equipment.

PREPARING FOR SENIORS AND PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

- Store back-up equipment at your neighbor's home.
- Arrange for more than one person from your personal support network to check on you in an emergency.
- If you are vision or hearing impaired, plan ahead for someone to convey essential emergency information to you.
- If you use a personal care attendant obtained from an agency, check to see if the agency has special provisions for emergencies.
- If you live in an apartment, ask management to identify and mark accessible exits and access to all areas designated as emergency shelters or safe rooms.
- Have a cell phone with an extra battery available.



People with special needs often need more time to prepare for an emergency. If you have special needs and do not have family or friends to assist you in an evacuation, call 2-1-1. For more information on the 2-1-1 State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR), refer to page 21.

PLANNING FOR YOUR PETS

When preparing for emergencies, remember to include your pets in the plan. Bring them indoors well in advance of an impending disaster.

Preparedness Checklist

- Make sure that your pet is current on vaccinations.
- Prepare a pet disaster supply kit.
- If you plan to shelter your pet, try to work it into your evacuation route. Keep in mind that pet shelters will be filled on a first come, first serve basis so try to call ahead to determine availability. Specialized pet shelters, animal control shelters, veterinary clinics, friends and relatives out of harm's way are all potential refuges for your pet during a disaster.

Pet Disaster Supply Kit

- Proper identification, including immunization records, proof of ownership, and current photograph of your pet
- 2-week supply of food (dry or canned), a can opener, a spoon, and food dish
- 2-week supply of water in plastic gallon jugs and non-spill water dish
- A collar with identification on your pet, a leash to control your pet, and a muzzle
- A properly-sized carrier or cage labeled with your contact information for each pet (Carriers should be large enough for the animal to stand and turn around.)
- Newspapers, trash bags, and paper towels for clean up
- Medications
- Specific care instructions including diet, known allergies, dose, and frequency for medications
- Familiar items to make pets comfortable, such as favorite toys, blankets and treats

If your pet is lost after a disaster, contact Deer Park Animal Control at (281) 478-7274.



PREPARE YOUR VEHICLE

- Fill up with fuel before you leave town. Always keep your tank at least half full during hurricane season.
- Check your vehicle's fluid levels and ensure there is adequate coolant in the radiator.
- Check for proper air pressure because hot road surfaces are rough on tires. Be sure your spare tire has air and that you have the proper equipment to change your tire. Ensure you have a jack and lug wrench in your vehicle.
- Make sure you carry water and non-perishable food for you and your passengers in case you become stranded.
- If you are stranded, stay with your vehicle and use emergency flashers. Tie a white cloth on the antenna or door handle and raise the hood.
- Have a working flashlight and extra batteries in your vehicle.



EVACUATION

Under Texas law, only the Mayor may advise or order an evacuation for our city. Should the Mayor advise or order an evacuation, the emergency message will be communicated to Deer Park residents through the outlets identified under the Public Information Notification section on page 4. Refer to page 20 for the Hurricane Evacuation Zip Code Map and page 21 for information on the 2-1-1 State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) for residents with special needs.



Please note that emergency responders will cease to respond to emergency calls once sustained winds reach unsafe levels.

HURRICANE EVACUATION ZIP CODE MAP

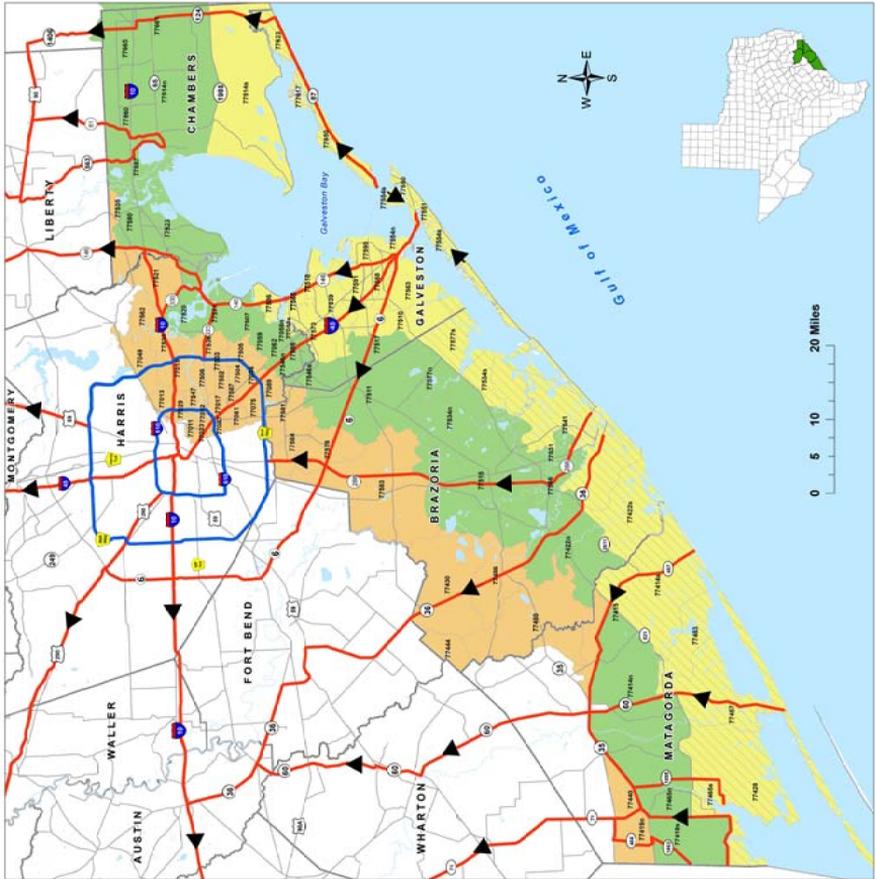
Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, Harris and Matagorda Hurricane Evacuation Zip-Zones Coastal, A, B, C

ZIP ZONE COASTAL	
71484	71415
71423	71428
71463	71483
71483	71434
71491	71500
71546	71563
71575	71601
71621	71650
ZIP ZONE A	
72006	72510
72510	72514
72518	72539
71584	71943
71955	71956
71978	72258
ZIP ZONE B	
72056	72059
72062	72414
72415	72416
71439	71422
71440	71456
71465	71517
71507	71511
71514	71515
71516	71517
71520	71521
71523	71524
71526	71527
71529	71530
71533	71534
71537	71538
71541	71542
71545	71546
71549	71550
71553	71554
71557	71558
71561	71562
71565	71566
ZIP ZONE C	
71011	71012
71013	71015
71017	71018
71024	71025
71027	71028
71034	71036
71040	71041
71044	71045
71048	71049
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71172	71173
71176	71177
71180	71181
71184	71185
71188	71189
71192	71193
71196	71197
71200	71201
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71404	71405
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71488	71489
71492	71493
71496	71497
71500	71501
71504	71505
71508	71509
71512	71513
71516	71517
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71524	71525
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71532	71533
71536	71537
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71548	71549
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71596	71597
71600	71601

- Route Designation**
- Evacuation Corridors
 - Evacuation Connections
 - Other Roads
 - County Boundary



Expiration Date: December 2014
 Also Created by:
 Houston-Galveston Area Council



To download a PDF of this map, visit the Houston-Galveston Area Council online at www.h-gac.com/taq/hurricane.

2-1-1 EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE REGISTRY

If you live in a hurricane evacuation zone and you will need assistance to get out before the storm, dial 2-1-1 to register in advance for transportation assistance.

Dial 2-1-1:

- If you have a disability or special health care need and require assistance to get out.
- If you cannot drive and cannot arrange transportation.
- If you do not have a vehicle and you have no one else to help you evacuate.
- If you want to register and you need to check whether you live in an evacuation zone.



Texas Division of Emergency Management

MANAGING STORM DEBRIS

In preparation for a potential hurricane or other impending storm, residents should take the following precautions to secure all items outdoors:

- 1) Place garbage containers in a location away from open spaces.
- 2) Bundle and tie down all loose trash, such as tree limbs or wood planks. Place these materials in a location where the debris cannot become hazards to homes and automobiles in high winds.
- 3) After any strong storm, separate household garbage, such as food, diapers and regular household waste, from debris caused by high winds, hail, and rain.

Separating Household Garbage from Storm Debris

Do your part to speed up the recovery process. Proper clean-up procedures can go a long way toward regaining your normal way of life.

Regular household garbage should be put in trash bags and placed in the usual pick-up location. Storm debris should be segregated into separate piles by category; vegetation (tree limbs, leaves, shrubs, etc.), construction (fencing, roofing, carpet, etc.), and white goods (refrigerators, freezers, appliances, etc.). Locate these piles between the sidewalk and curb or as close to the curb as possible. Debris located between the sidewalk and residence will not be picked up. Please do not mix household garbage with storm debris. Following these simple guidelines will make the clean-up process quicker and less costly.

Citizens are asked to cut limbs to lengths of no more than 4 feet and neatly stack at the curb. The city also asks that leaves and small twigs be placed in trash bags.

Please do not place debris on fire hydrants or near mailboxes. Debris must be placed between the street and the sidewalk. If possible, pair up with your neighbors and consolidate waste piles.



NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

The National Flood Insurance Program released the latest flood maps on June 18, 2007. To view the maps, visit the Public Works Department at City Hall, the Deer Park Public Library, or go to www.hcfcd.org/FEMT.

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) provides general flood insurance information at www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program. The *Ask the Expert* link allows you to send flood insurance-related inquiries about program policy, operations, and aspects of flood hazard mitigation. More technical questions are sent to specialists in FEMA's Mitigation Directorate or to underwriting and claims experts.

Homes are by far our most valuable possessions. Every year, more homes in the U.S. are damaged by floods than any other natural disaster. Because more roads, buildings and parking lots are being constructed where natural land once was, floods are becoming more severe throughout the U.S. Flood insurance is the best way to protect your home. Federal Disaster Assistance is only available when a disaster is federally declared by the President.

"NO WAKES" ON FLOODED STREETS

Due to the city's location on the Texas Gulf Coast, street flooding may occur as a result of hurricanes, tropical storms, or even intense thunderstorms. During these conditions, operators of vehicles are urged to drive slowly on flooded streets to avoid creating a wake. The



City of Deer Park has an ordinance making it unlawful to drive or operate a motor vehicle upon a public street within the city, while such street is flooded with water, at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions of flooding, and having regard to the actual and potential hazards then existing. Speed shall be controlled as may be necessary to prevent water from damaging any home, vehicle, or other property which is near the motor vehicle being operated. Criminal complaints against violators of this ordinance may be filed by any person or peace officer that witnesses the violation. It is recommended that persons filing a complaint have photographic evidence showing the vehicle, license plate number, and driver of the vehicle committing the violation.

Any person found guilty of violating this ordinance can be fined up to \$2,000.

CHEMICAL EMERGENCIES

The Deer Park Community Awareness and Emergency Response (CAER) Team was formed in 1986 as a joint effort between local industry and the City of Deer Park. The CAER Team helped develop a three-level system to categorize the severity of chemical releases and established the CAER Line (281) 476-CAER to provide the public with information about chemical releases.

CAER Line: (281) 476-2237

OUTSIDE ALARM SYSTEM

The outside alarm system is activated for chemical emergencies or severe weather, such as a tornado.

A voice message will not be broadcast over the loudspeakers. Sounding of the alarms is intended to alert residents to go inside and shelter in place.



The warning sound consists of 7 wavering tones.

When you hear the warning sound:

1. Go inside immediately and shelter in place. Refer to page 25 for more information on sheltering in place procedures and kit.
2. Close all doors, windows, and other sources of outside air. Turn off air conditioning and heating systems.
3. Stay off the telephone.
4. Stay informed by monitoring DPTV on Comcast Cable Channel 16 or AT&T U-verse Channel 99, visiting us online at www.deerparktx.gov/oem, or www.facebook.com/deerparktx.oem, or following us on Twitter @deerparkoem.
5. Stay inside until you receive the “all clear” message over the telephone notification system or hear the “all clear” signal (a continuous tone) sounded on the outside alarm system.

The outside alarm system is tested at noon every Saturday. The system includes 9 siren-type alarms mounted on utility poles throughout the City of Deer Park, in addition to an alarm installed at The San Jacinto Battleground State Park.

SHELTER IN PLACE

1. In case of a release of toxic chemicals in your area, you should immediately seek protection in the nearest building, such as your home. If you cannot shelter inside a building, sheltering inside your parked vehicle with the ventilation system turned off is a safe alternative to remaining outdoors.
2. Once inside a safe shelter, follow the same procedures as advised on page 24.
3. Select an interior room inside your home or business that is most easily sealed from outside air. Plan to use this room as your Shelter In Place room. Because of the difficulty of sealing rooms with window air conditioners, window fans, attic fans, and wall heaters, rooms with these devices should be avoided as shelter in place rooms.
4. A shelter in place kit should be stored inside your shelter in place room. This kit should contain the following items:
 - Masking tape (2-3 inches wide)
 - Plastic film or sheets (such as painting drop cloths)
 - Towels or sheets for sealing under doors
 - Battery-powered radio and extra batteries
 - Flashlight and extra batteries
 - Bottled water or access to running water
5. Pre-cut the plastic film to fit over all windows, air conditioner vents, electrical outlets, and light switches in your shelter in place room. Use the wide masking tape to secure the plastic sheets to the walls. Use the wide masking tape to seal between the door and door frame. Lay a slightly wet towel or sheet along the bottom of the door.
6. While you are safely sheltered in place, keep your phone line open to receive updates. Stay inside until the “all clear” signal is given, then remove the masking tape and plastic sheets. Open all doors and windows, turn on your air conditioning or heating system, and "air out" your home or building for 15 to 30 minutes.



IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

City of Deer Park	
Animal Control	(281) 478-7274
City Hall	(281) 479-2394
CAER (Chemical Information Hotline)	(281) 476-2237
Deer Park Information Line	(281) 479-2489
Fire Department	(281) 478-7281
Fire Marshal	(281) 478-7291
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)	(281) 478-7247
Office of Emergency Management	(281) 478-7298
Police Station	(281) 479-1511
Public Works	(281) 478-7270
State of Texas	
Texas Department of Transportation	(713) 802-5000
Local Road Conditions & Closures	(713) 802-5074
Texas Department of Public Safety	(281) 517-1300
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	(713) 767-3500
Volunteer Agencies	
American Red Cross Greater Houston Area	(713) 526-8300
The Salvation Army of Pasadena, Texas	(713) 378-0020
United Way of Greater Houston	(713) 685-2300
Federal Agencies	
Federal Emergency Management Agency	(800) 621-3362
Marine Information Recording	(281) 337-7895
National Flood Insurance Program	1-888-CALL-FLOOD
National Weather Service	(281) 337-5074
U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office (Houston-Galveston)	(713) 671-5100
Other	
CenterPoint Energy Customer Service	(713) 207-2222

City of Deer Park

Office of the Mayor

P.O. Box 700

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