

City of Port Arthur

Office of Emergency Management

# HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS GUIDE



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

- **The STAN** – Register your cell phones with the Southeast Texas Alerting Network (STAN) at <http://www.thestan.com> or 1-877-843-7826 to receive emergency notifications and instructions as soon as they are released.
- **211** – Call 211 and register any family members with *Functional and/or Access Needs* into the S.T.E.A.R. database to provide local emergency management information that will assist them with emergency planning and decision-making activities. *This must be done annually.*

## WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF A HURRICANE THREATENS OUR COMMUNITY?

- **Develop a family disaster plan**
- **Stay alert to storm advisories**
- **Purchase a NOAA weather radio**
- **Keep a Disaster Supply Kit ready**
- **Have enough food and water for at least three (3) days**
- **Protect valuable documents**
- **Make your home more disaster resistant:** Prepare to board up windows and glass doors, anchor loose yard objects or bring them inside
- **Get cash**
- **Fill your car with gasoline**
- **Have a pet plan:** Before a storm threatens, contact your veterinarian or local humane society for information on preparing your pets for an emergency.
- **Do not use candle or open flames as a light source**
- **Work with your neighbors:** Check on elderly or those with special needs
- **As the storm hits, gather your family in a safe room** (an interior room with no windows)
- **Following the storm, watch for downed power lines**
- **Listen to your local officials!**

## FAMILY PREPAREDNESS TIPS FOR EVACUATING DURING A HURRICANE

- **Stay alert to storm advisories**
- **Enact your family disaster plan**
- **Map out your route:** Use travel routes specified by local authorities. *DO NOT get on the road without a place to go.*
- **Fill your car with gasoline**
- **Evacuate if told to do so**
- **DO NOT get stranded, EVACUATE EARLY**
- **Enact your pet plan:** Before a storm threatens, contact your veterinarian or local humane society for information on preparing your pets for an emergency.
- **Bring your disaster supply kit:** Including all important documents

- **Secure your home before leaving:** Board up windows and glass doors, anchor loose yard objects or bring them inside
- **Bring cash** – Following a hurricane, banks and ATM's may be temporarily closed
- **Notify family and friends of your plans**
- **When evacuating:** If possible, evacuate to the home of either friends or family in a non-vulnerable area, or try a motel or hotel and as a last resort go to a shelter. Remember, shelters are not designed for comfort and usually do not accept pets.

## DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

**WATER** — At least 1 gallon PER PERSON for 3 days

**FOOD** — Enough for at least 3 days

Non-perishable packaged or canned food/juices  
Food for infants or elderly  
Snack foods  
Non-electric can opener  
Cooking tools/fuel  
Paper plates/plastic utensils

**CLOTHING** — Seasonal/rain gear/sturdy shoes

**BLANKET/PILLOWS, ETC.**

**FIRST AID KIT/MEDICINES** —

Prescription and non-prescription medications  
Glasses, dentures, hearing aids, etc.

**SPECIAL ITEMS** — For babies/elderly

**TOILETRIES** — Hygiene items

**MOISTURE WIPES**

**FLASHLIGHT/BATTERIES**

**RADIO** — Battery operated and NOAA Weather radio

**CASH**

**KEYS** — Extra set of home and car keys

**IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS** — In a waterproof container

Insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.

**TOYS/BOOKS/ENTERTAINMENT**

**TOOLS** — Keep a set with you during the storm

**VEHICLE FUEL TANKS FILLED**

**PET CARE ITEMS**

Proper identification  
Immunization records  
Ample supply of food/water  
Carrier cage  
Medications  
Muzzle or leash

## WATCH AND WARNING... KNOW THE DIFFERENCE

### A HURRICANE WATCH

issued for your part of the coast indicates the possibility that you could experience hurricane conditions within 36 hours. This watch should trigger your family's disaster plan, and protective measures should be initiated especially those actions that require extra time such as securing a boat, leaving a barrier island, etc.

### A HURRICANE WARNING

issued for your part of the coast indicates that sustained winds of at least 74mph are expected within 24 hours. Once the warning has been issued, your family should be in the process of completing protective actions and deciding the safest locations to be during the storm.

## IMPORTANT RESOURCES

City of Port Arthur Emergency Management Office  
409-983-8616

Ready-Prepare-Plan. Stay informed.  
<http://www.ready.gov>

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)  
<http://www.fema.gov>

American Red Cross  
<http://www.redcross.org>