

BE PREPARED FOR ANY TYPE OF EMERGENCY

Do you have a family emergency plan? Local, state and federal officials urge citizens to become better prepared by developing a plan, putting together an emergency supply kit, and learning what to do during natural disasters or any emergency situation.

The Friendswood Office of Emergency Management has many systems to warn citizens of an impending emergency, potential danger, or hazardous conditions. Please look to these warning devices for your information and protection.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

E-MAIL ALERTS

Citizens can register for instant e-mail alerts regarding emergency notices or other official city business. These notices will be generated automatically from the city to the e-mail address you have registered. Go to the city's website www.ci.friendswood.tx.us and click on "Sign Up for E-mail Alerts". Your personal information will remain private and you will receive e-mails involving only official city business.

WARNING SIRENS

A total of seven sirens are installed throughout the city to warn the public in case of a pipeline emergency or other serious emergency. The Outdoor Warning Siren System is tested on the first Friday of every month at noon.

RADIOS AND TELEVISION

- Radio: Friendswood Information Radio 1650 AM or KTRH-740 AM Radio
- Television: City of Friendswood PEG Channel 17 & all Houston local stations

FIRST CALL, NEWS & PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The City of Friendswood is utilizing the First Call Notification System and the Harris County Neighborhood Early Warning System (NEWS). Both of these systems are telephone-based community warning systems for major emergencies in our city. These systems allow the City to quickly alert citizens in the area affected or if need be, the entire city, of an emergency, potential danger or hazardous condition. The system, when directed, will begin calling all the phone numbers in the affected area, alerting those individuals to the situation and how to protect themselves. **Citizens with unlisted numbers, who wish to be part of the Notification System, are encouraged to visit First Call's website, www.firstcall.net, and click on the tab titled "Unlisted Number Registration" and fill out all the required information or you can call the registration line at 866-484-3264.**

BASIC EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- Do not call 9-1-1 unless you need to report an emergency
- In the event of a power outage, do not call 9-1-1. Contact your local power provider.

EXTENDED POWER OUTAGES

Public service announcements (PSAs) will be posted on the doors of City Hall and the Friendswood Public Library.

EDUCATIONAL PREPAREDNESS INFORMATION

Reference these websites: www.fema.gov/areyouready; www.ready.gov; www.redcross.org; www.disastercenter.com; www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem; www.gcoem.org; www.hcoem.org.

Friendswood Office of Emergency Management

Phone: 281-996-3335

E-mail: eoc@ci.friendswood.tx.us

City of Friendswood's website: www.ci.friendswood.tx.us.

Your Family *Hurricane* Plan Checklist

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

BE PREPARED BEFORE THE HURRICANE

- Know the storm surge history & elevation of the area. (Emergency Management and National Weather Service officials can help supply this information).
- Learn a safe primary & alternate route inland. If you decide to evacuate, decide ahead of time where you are going & know what to bring with you.
- Inventory all property with a camera or video equipment, review all your insurance policies (homeowner's, flood, wind storm). Remember, all policies must be in effect at least 30 days prior to a disaster.
- Assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit
- Check food & water supplies. Have clean, air-tight containers to store at least 2 weeks of drinking water – 14 gallons per person.
- Stock up on canned & non-perishable food.
- Keep a cooler with frozen gel packs for packing refrigerated items.
- Check prescription medications – obtain at least 10 days to 2 weeks supply.
- Stock up on extra batteries for radios, flashlights & lanterns.
- Check for ample first aid supplies.
- Prepare a Disaster Supply Kit for pets.
- Make plans for your livestock.
- Keep the trees & shrubbery trimmed. Cut weak branches & trees that could fall against your house.
- Keep & store all legal documents in one secure container or safe which is easily moved. Make an inventory of documents, photos & other irreplaceable items that need to be taken in case of an evacuation.

WHEN A HURRICANE WATCH IS ISSUED

- A **WATCH** means that hurricane conditions pose a possible threat to the area within 36 hours)
- Monitor radio, TV, NOAA Weather Radio for official bulletins of the storm's progress.
- Fuel & service all vehicles
 - Inspect & secure mobile home tie downs.
 - Prepare to cover windows & door entrances with shutters or plywood.
 - Store & secure outdoor lawn furniture & other loose, lightweight objects (garbage cans, garden tools, potted plants, etc.).
 - Have an extra supply of cash on hand (ATM's may not be working during a storm or power outage).

WHEN A HURRICANE WARNING IS ISSUED

A **WARNING** means sustained winds of 74 mph or higher are expected within 24 hours or less

- Closely monitor radio, TV, NOAA Weather Radio for official bulletins.
 - Follow instructions issued by local officials.
- LEAVE IMMEDIATELY IF ORDERED TO DO SO**
- Complete preparation activities – putting up storm shutters, storing loose objects, filling up water containers, etc.
 - Evacuate areas that might be affected by storm surge flooding.
 - If evacuating, turn off & disconnect appliances from outlets (a precaution to prevent further damage).
 - If evacuating, leave early & if possible, during daylight hours.
 - Leave all mobile homes in any case.
 - Notify neighbors & family members outside of the warned area of evacuation plans.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

WEBSITES

EMERGENCY -- City of Friendswood

- Police/Fire/EMS 9-1-1

NON-EMERGENCY – City of Friendswood

- Police 281-996-3300
- Office of Emergency Management 281-996-3335

WEBSITES

- Houston/Galveston National Weather Service www.srh.noaa.gov/hgx
- National Hurricane Center/Tropical Prediction Center www.nhc.noaa.gov
- Harris County Office of Homeland Security www.hcoem.org
- Galveston County Emergency Management www.gcoem.org
- TX Department of Emergency Management www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem

Your Family *Hurricane* Plan Checklist

IF YOU ARE EVACUATING

- Stay with friends or relatives or at a low-rise inland hotel/motel outside of flood zones.
- Leave early to avoid heavy traffic, roads blocked by floodwaters, & impassable bridges due to high winds.
- Turn off your electricity at the circuit breaker before evacuating, or if you expect flood water to reach your home.
- Empty food contents from refrigerators and freezers.
- Unplug sensitive electrical appliances (computer, TVs, etc.)
- Put up shutters or plywood on windows and doors. Reinforce garage doors.
- Move all patio furniture, hanging plants, gas grills, etc. inside.
- Turn off the gas at each appliance (*Do not turn off gas at the gas meter as the proper pressure needs to be maintained in the gas piping*)
- Shelters will be available for people who have no other place to go. Shelters may be crowded & uncomfortable, with no privacy & no electricity. ***Do not leave home for a shelter until government officials announce on radio and/or TV that a particular shelter is open.***

IF YOU ARE STAYING AT HOME

Reminder! Only stay home if a mandatory evacuation order has not been made. If told to leave, DO SO IMMEDIATELY

- Store water. Fill sterilized jugs and bottles with two weeks supply of drinking water (. Fill bathtub and large containers with water for sanitary purposes (this can be used for bathing, washing dishes, etc.)
- Turn refrigerator to maximum cold and open only when necessary.
- Turn off utilities if told to do so by authorities.
- Turn off propane tanks
- Unplug small appliances.
- Stay inside the home at all times.
- ***DO NOT CALL UTILITY COMPANIES WITHIN THE FIRST FEW DAYS FOLLOWING THE STORM AS THEY WILL BE BUSY HANDLING EMERGENCIES.*** (*Instead, call your answering machine to see if it picks up; call your neighbors; monitor the news; check the website www.CenterPointEnergy.com for general outage information).*

IF WINDS BECOME STRONG...

Stay away from windows and doors even if they are covered. Take refuge in a small ground floor, interior room, closet, or hallway. Take a battery-powered radio, a NOAA Weather Radio, and a flashlight.

- Close all interior doors. Secure and brace external doors, particularly double inward opening doors and garage doors.
- If in a multiple-story building and away from the water, go to the first or second floors and take refuge in the halls or other interior rooms away from windows. Interior stairwells and the areas around elevator shafts are generally the strongest part of a building.

NOTE: Be alert for tornadoes, which often are spawned by hurricanes. Also, if the "EYE" of the hurricane should pass over your area, be aware that the improved weather conditions are only temporary and that the storm conditions will return with winds coming from the opposite direction some times in a period of just a few minutes.

AFTER THE STORM PASSES...

- Stay in protected area until announcements are made on the radio or TV that the dangerous winds have passed.
- If already evacuated, do not return home until officials announce area is ready. Remember, proof of residency may be required in order to re-enter the evacuation areas.
- Do not drive through standing or flowing water.
- Avoid creeks, streams and drainage systems.
- Be aware of the surroundings when returning as extreme damage could render a familiar landscape unrecognizable.
- Avoid standing water – energized power lines could be submerged in water.
- Avoid low-hanging or downed power lines.
- If water has reached your electrical outlets, contact a licensed electrician before turning on the main circuit breaker. Any submerged appliances or equipment will need to dry for at least one week and be checked by qualified repair personnel prior to being turned on.

Your Family *Hurricane* Plan Checklist

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT ASSEMBLE PRIOR TO HURRICANE SEASON

This emergency supply kit is adequate for all hazards – hurricanes, floods, or manmade disasters.

- Use an easy-to-carry container for the supplies you intend to take with you when evacuating. Example: large, covered trash container; backpack, duffel bag, cargo container which fits on roof of your car.
- Keep a smaller Disaster Supplies Kit in the trunk of each vehicle.
- Keep items in airtight plastic bags to prevent damage or spoiling.
- Replace stored food and water every 6 months to ensure freshness.
- Replace batteries, update clothes, etc.
- Have an adequate supply of all prescription medicines.
- Portable, battery-powered radio or TV with extra batteries.
- Flashlights and extra batteries.
- First aid kit and first aid manual.
- Supply of prescription medications.
- Cash and credit card.
- Personal identification with photograph.
- Extra set of car keys.
- Matches stored in waterproof container.
- Signal flare.
- Maps and phone numbers of possible places to go.
- 3 gallons of water per person/per day
- 3 day supply of nonperishable food/per person
- Disposable eating utensils, paper plates, cups, utility knife, can of cooking fuel, bleach to treat drinking water, salt/pepper, sugar, aluminum foil, plastic resealable bags.
- One complete change of clothing for each family member - sturdy shoes, work boots, raingear, gloves, hat, sunglasses, etc.
- Blankets or sleeping bags.
- Tools - pliers, wrenches, shovels, plastic sheeting, fire extinguisher, tape, etc.

- Hygiene items: toilet paper, towellettes, soap, hand sanitizer, liquid detergent, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and brushes, garbage bags, plastic bucket.
- Entertainment – games and books.
- Toys for children
- Valuable papers
- Water purification tablets
- Non-perishable food for pets

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

WATER:

- Minimum of 3 day supply of water per person, more if possible. (3 gallons of water per person/per day; more if weather is extremely hot)
- Bleach (for water purification if you can't boil water before drinking): Use only regular household liquid bleach that contains 5.25% sodium hypochlorite. **Do not use scented, color-safe or bleach with added cleansers.** Add 16 drops of bleach per gallon of water, stir and let stand 30 minutes. If water doesn't have a slight odor of bleach, repeat dosage and let stand 15 more minutes. If it still does not smell of chlorine, discard it and find another source of water.

FOOD:

- Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits & vegetables
- Canned juice, milk, & soup (if powdered, store extra water)
- High-energy foods (peanut butter, jelly, salt-free crackers, granola bars, trail mix)
- Comfort foods (hard candy, sweetened cold cereals, candy bars, cookies)
- Instant coffee/tea bags
- Food for infants, the elderly, people on special diets

IF YOUR ELECTRICITY GOES OFF:

- First: use perishable foods from refrigerator
- Second: use foods from freezer
- Third: Use non-perishable foods/staples

GENERATOR:

- Follow manufacturer's instructions for use.
- Always keep generators a safe distance from home (not in garage or near entrance doors).

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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

EMERGENCY SUPPLY KITS

This emergency supply kit is adequate for all hazards – hurricanes, floods, or manmade disasters.

Reminders:

- Have a two-week supply of emergency supplies ready.
- Make the Emergency Supply Kit portable if living in an evacuation zone.
- Gather supplies for children, the elderly & disabled persons.
- Keep supplies on hand in a safe room.

Emergency Supply Kit (2 week supply)

- Battery-operated radio and TV
- Enough batteries for radio, TV & flashlights for several days
- Battery-operated alarm clock
- Blankets & pillows
- Butane lighter
- Cans for gas and oil
- Cash
- Change of clothes for every family member
- Cooler for clean water
- Driver's license/identification
- Cooking & eating utensils
- Emergency cooking units (grill or camp stove)
- Extra pet food
- Fire extinguisher
- First Aid Kit
- Gloves & goggles
- Heavy shoes
- Glasses/contact lenses
- Important telephone numbers
- Insurance information
- Medicines & prescriptions
- Non-electric can opener
- Pots & pans
- Portable cooler
- Sleeping bags
- Soap, shampoo & toiletries
- Toilet paper & towelettes

FIRST AID KIT:

- First aid manual.
- Sterile adhesive bandages in assorted sizes
- Assorted sizes of safety pins
- Cleansing agent/soap
- Latex gloves
- Sunscreen
- 2" & 4" sterile gauze pads (4-6 each size)
- Triangular bandages
- Nonprescription drugs (aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever, antidiarrhea medication, antacid, syrup of ipecac, laxative, activated charcoal, vitamins)
- 2" & 3" sterile roller bandages (3 each size)
- Scissors
- Tweezers
- Needle
- Moistened towelettes
- Antiseptic
- Thermometer
- Tongue depressor blades (2)
- Tube of petroleum jelly (Vaseline) or other lubricant

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS:

- Will
- Insurance policies
- Contracts
- Deeds
- Stocks/bonds
- Passports
- Social security cards
- Immunization records
- Bank account numbers
- Credit card account numbers and companies
- Inventory of valuable household good
- Important telephone numbers
- Family records (birth, marriage, death certificates)