

Galveston County Disaster Guide

GCOEM.ORG



BUILDING A RESILIENT COMMUNITY



MAKE A PLAN - BUILD A KIT - STAY INFORMED

GALVESTON COUNTY

Emergency Management



BUILDING A RESILIENT COMMUNITY



Galveston County Office of Emergency Management

1353 FM 646 West
Dickinson, 77539

Main 281-309-5002
On Call 888-384-2000



Galveston County Emergency Management

Hurricanes are a serious threat here on the Texas Gulf Coast but they are not the only threats we face. The Galveston County Office of Emergency Management works around the clock to prepare for and respond to all types of disasters. We are also here to help you and your family get prepared and stay safe.

Our website, www.GCOEM.org, is full of resources that can help you develop an effective plan, build a suitable disaster kit, and keep you informed before, during, and after a disaster.

**Make a Plan. Build a Kit. Stay Informed.
Preparedness saves lives.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Henry".

Mark Henry
Galveston County Judge
Emergency Management Director

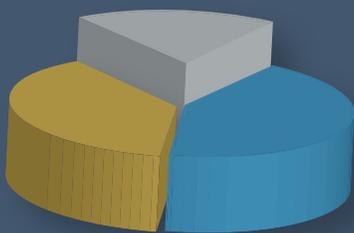
HURRICANE SEASON

June 1st - November 30th

MAKE A PLAN - BUILD A KIT - STAY INFORMED



IN THE LAST 10 YEARS
THERE HAVE BEEN 187
NAMED STORMS



 80 Tropical Storms

 72 Hurricanes

 35 Major Hurricanes



SAN LEON 2008

GALVESTON 1900



HURRICANE THREATS

S

SURGE

W

WIND

I

INLAND

F

FLOOD

T

TORNADO

Preparedness Saves Lives

MAKE A PLAN

PREPARE FOR THE NEXT DISASTER

Create A Communication Plan



Make a list of family, friends, schools, doctors, and work numbers to keep in your kit.



Create a Family Evacuation Plan



Learn your Zip Zone



Know your evacuation routes



Make a plan for shelter



Sign up for alerts GCOEM.org



Build a disaster kit



Scan for more!



Make your plan



Know your Zone



Sign up for Alerts

Preparedness Saves Lives

BUILD A KIT

Build a disaster kit specific to your needs. This is a good starting point to ensure that you have what you need to be prepared.

BASICS

- Water (a gallon per day per person)
- Food (3 day supply non-perishable)
- Baby food/formula
- Flashlight with batteries
- Radio (solar, hand crank, battery powered)
- Road maps
- Cash and cards
- Eating utensils
- Weather appropriate clothes, sturdy shoes
- Tent, pillows, blankets, sleepingbags

DOCUMENTS

- Insurance policy
- IDs, birth records card, SS card
- Deeds, leases, and titles
- Home inventory
- Family photos
- Digital backups

HYGIENE

- Trash bags
- Toilet paper
- Dental care products
- Diapers and wipes
- Towels
- Masks, hand sanitizer, wipes

FIRSTAID/MEDICAL

- Prescription medication
- Allergy and pain medication
- Bandages and gauze
- Antibiotic cream
- Medical gloves
- Tourniquet
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray

COMMUNICATION

- Cell phone with charger/battery
- Contact list
- Whistle
- Writing supplies
- Road flares

TOOLS/MISC.

- Pet food and extra water
- Pocket knife
- Saw or hatchet
- Manual can opener
- Matches
- Plastic sheeting
- Duct tape



STAY INFORMED

LISTEN TO LOCAL OFFICIALS

Galveston County's Emergency Management Office is the only one in North America co-located with the National Weather Service



WWW.GCOEM.ORG



WWW.WEATHER.GOV



[GALVCOUNTYOEM](https://twitter.com/GALVCOUNTYOEM)



[GALVESTONCOUNTYTX](https://www.facebook.com/GALVESTONCOUNTYTX)

STATE OF
TEXAS
EMERGENCY
ASSISTANCE
REGISTRY



Sign up for
local emergency
notifications at:
GCOEM.ORG



Register annually with STEAR by calling 2-1-1
or at: <https://stear.tdem.texas.gov>



CHOOSE TRUSTED NEWS SOURCES

Preparedness Saves Lives



ZIP ZONE COASTAL
 77541, 77550,
 77551, 77554, 77563,
 77577, 77623

ZIP ZONE A
 77058, 77510, 77518,
 77539, 77563, 77565,
 77568, 77573, 77586,
 77590, 77591

ZIP ZONE B
 77511, 77517,
 77546, 77577,
 77598

**GALVESTON COUNTY
 EVACUATION ROUTES**

EVACUATION PREP

Pack what you need for a week



BUILDING A RESILIENT COMMUNITY

PROTECT YOUR HOME

BEFORE THE STORM

Preparedness Starts in Blue Skies

Store tools and materials
to protect windows

Turn off gas, power, and
water before you leave

Inventory your home and
keep a list of valuables

Take steps to protect your home
before the storm hits



Review and assess your
insurance policy annually

Lock all your doors and
windows, including garage

Trim trees and shrubs to
prevent them blowing off

Bring outdoor items inside

Move your vehicle into a
garage or safe spot

AT A SHELTER

WHAT TO EXPECT

If you must evacuate, bring any specialized items you require to meet the medical and dietary needs of your household.



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INSURANCE

Protecting your home before the storm also entails insurance. Re-evaluate your coverage every year to ensure you are properly covered on your auto, home, and flood insurance.

National Flood Insurance Program



This is an organization managed by FEMA of more than 50 insurance companies. Flood insurance may not be covered by your current policy.



Texas Windstorm Insurance Association



Wind and hail may not be covered by your regular insurance. TWIA was established by the Texas Legislature in 1971 to help fill this gap.



Texas Department of Insurance



If you have experienced an insurance code violation contact TDI. This includes workers compensation claims.



COMING HOME

RETURNING FROM DISASTER



DEBRIS REMOVAL

1. Separate debris into piles within 10ft of street
2. Secure appliance doors
3. Keep debris from poles, hydrants, & mailboxes
4. Combine with neighbors
5. Don't block roadways

GENERATE SAFELY

Use outside 20 feet from home on a dry surface



BEWARE: DISPLACED WILDLIFE



Spiders
Snakes
Rodents
Fire ants

LISTEN TO LOCAL OFFICIALS FOR STATUS OF

Hospitals
Fuel & Food
Emergency Services
Utilities & Roadways



Preparedness Saves Lives

HEALTHY RESILIENCE

Just as you need to prepare your home and kits, you need to prepare your body as well. A healthy person is a prepared person.

EAT A HEALTHY DIET: A diet is not a short term sprint, but a lifestyle change. Choose a healthy diet you can stick to by consulting a doctor or nutritionist.



MAKE TIME FOR EXERCISE: As little as 10 minutes a day can provide benefits. Set small achievable and short term goals.

QUIT TOBACCO: Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death worldwide. For every death there are 30 people who live with illnesses related to their smoking.



LOOK AFTER YOUR MENTAL HEALTH: Mental health issues can be just as severe as your physical health issues. Make sure to prioritize them as such.

SOCIALIZE: Maintain a good work-life balance and be sure to put down the social media and get some face to face time.



WASH UP: wash your hands for 20 seconds in soap and running water. Keep hand sanitizer around for times when you cannot.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR TEETH: Floss once a day and brush twice. Make sure to visit your dentist every six months.



TAKE CARE OF YOUR EYES: Get an eye exam once a year and wear UV blocking sunglasses.

GET REGULAR CHECKUPS: Get a checkup at your primary care physician every year.



KEEP UP ON YOUR PRESCRIPTIONS: Make sure prescriptions are up to date and you have enough to last the course of an emergency or evacuation situation.

FLOOD HAZARDS

THE POWER OF WATER

TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN



6 INCHES	12 INCHES	18 INCHES
of moving water can carry away an adult	of moving water can carry away a small car	of moving water can carry away most trucks

WHAT'S IN FLOODWATER?



Downed Power lines
Sewage & Animal Waste
Hazardous Materials
Submerged Debris
Snakes & Fire ants



MUCKING & GUTTING

- Turn off utilities
- Wear protective gear
- Remove damaged furnishings
- Remove wet insulation and carpet
- Remove standing water, mud, and silt
- Remove sheetrock 2 feet above water line
- Use bleach or mold killer on flooded surfaces



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NAVIGATING

SEVERE WEATHER

DRIVING IN BAD WEATHER

90%

RAIN

➔ Seek shelter if needed

➔ Turn off cruise control

➔ Avoid standing water

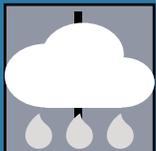
➔ Leave space in front

➔ Use middle lanes

➔ Brake cautiously

➔ Lower speed

➔ Signal early



7%
FOG



2%
**HAIL
SNOW
SLEET**



1%
WIND



CAUSES OF WEATHER RELATED CRASHES



SEEK SHELTER NOW

When Advised to Seek Shelter:

Listen to local officials

Go indoors quickly

Stay on lowest level

Find a small windowless room



WATCH VS WARNING

WATCH: Conditions are right for a weather event to take place

WARNING: The weather event is currently taking place

Preparedness Saves Lives

STAY SAFE THIS SUMMER

Heat Stroke Vs Heat Exhaustion

Heat Exhaustion

Heat Stroke

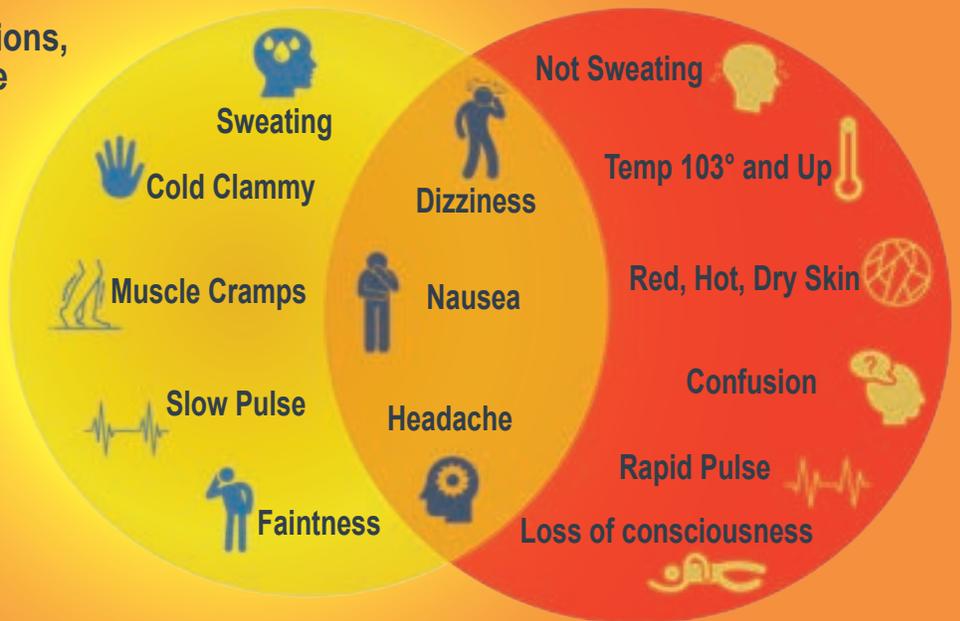
While both can be serious conditions, heat stroke will require immediate medical intervention.

Heat Exhaustion:

- Move person to a cool place
- Cold shower or compresses
- Drink fluids
- Loosen or remove clothing

Heat Stroke:

- Call 9-1-1 immediately
- Move person to a cool place
- Cold compresses



BEACH SAFETY

🚩 Watch for rip currents

Call or wave for help
Swim parallel to the shore
Don't swim against the current
Float or tread water if you can't escape

🚩 Check the beach flag status

🚩 Wear sunscreen & bug spray

🚩 Never leave a fire/bbq unattended

🚩 Swim near the lifeguard stations

🚩 Wear a life jacket while boating

🚩 Don't consume alcohol

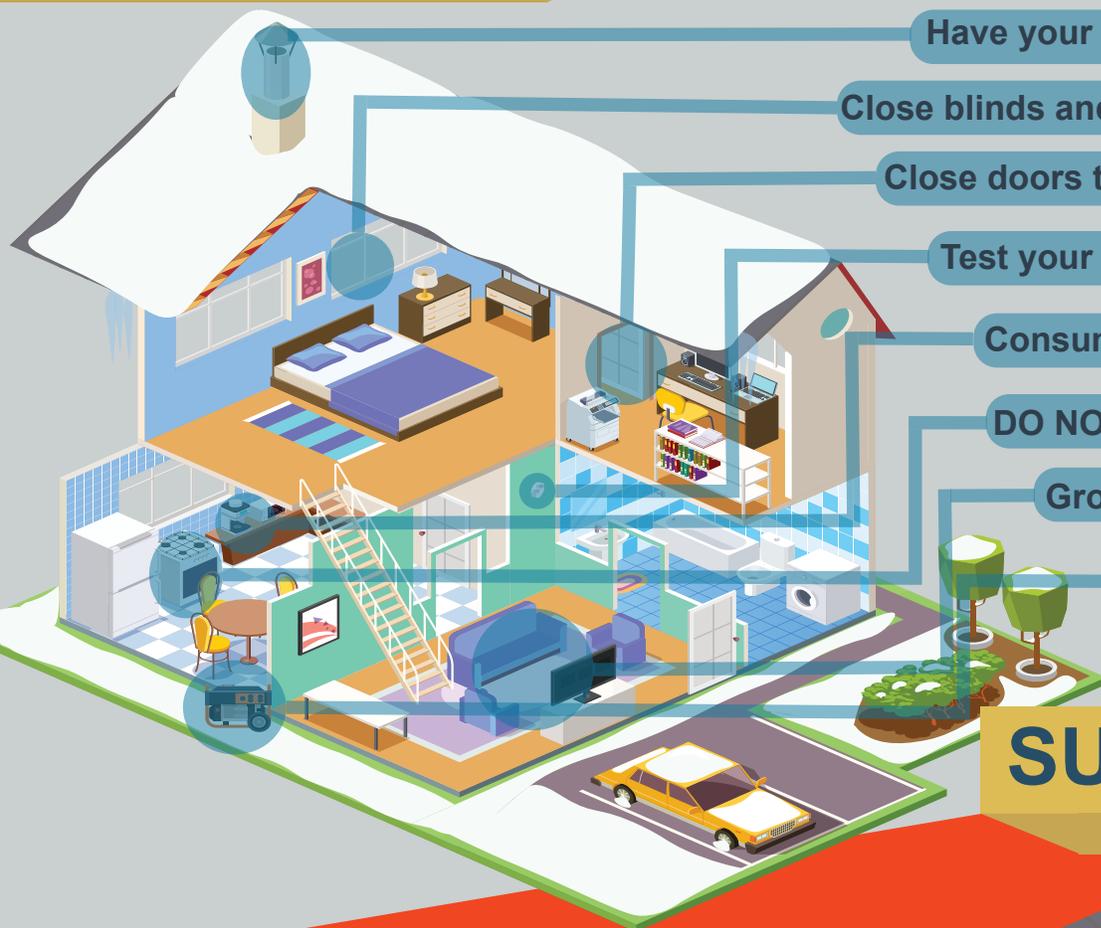
🚩 Drink plenty of water

🚩 Never swim alone

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POWER OUTAGES

WINTER WEATHER



Have your fireplace inspected

Close blinds and curtains and seal drafts

Close doors to unused rooms

Test your carbon monoxide detector

Consume warm food and drink

DO NOT use gas stoves for heat

Group together in one room

KEEP generators outdoors

SUMMER HEAT



Keep blinds and curtains closed

Close doors to unused rooms

Avoid warm food and drink

Take a cold shower

Use wet clothes/towels to cool off

Heat rises, stay downstairs

Do not open the fridge and avoid using oven

WINTER WEATHER

STAY SAFE WHEN TEMPS DROP

WARM SAFELY

Place heater on flat surface 3 feet from flammables

Do not use grills or ovens for heat



Install smoke & carbon monoxide detectors

Change batteries regularly



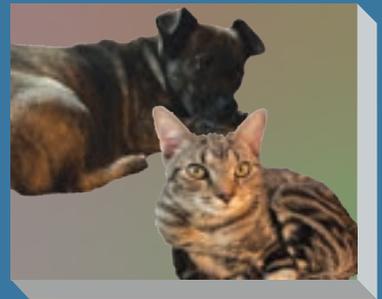
Do not run cars or generators in the garage

Keep grills & generators away from house



COVER UP

PEOPLE
PETS
PLANTS
PIPES



Preparedness Saves Lives

HAZARD AWARENESS

LISTEN TO LOCAL OFFICIALS



SHELTER
IN PLACE

HEED ALERTS AND
FOLLOW DIRECTIONS



GO INSIDE AND
CLOSE WINDOWS

TURN OFF AIR
CONDITIONER



SHELTER IN PLACE ALERTS
ARE ISSUED WHEN A POSSIBLE
CHEMICAL HAZARD IS BEING
INVESTIGATED



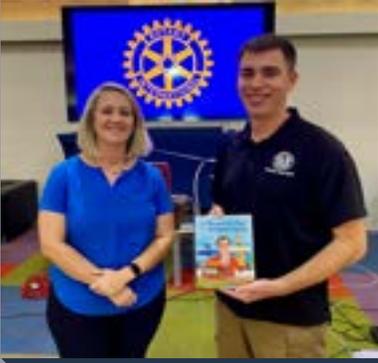
KNOW WHAT'S BELOW

**CALL 8-1-1
BEFORE YOU DIG**

**AVOID DAMAGING
PIPES AND CABLES**

Preparedness Saves Lives

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



PREPAREDNESS PRESENTATIONS

Prepare your church, club, school, or organization for disasters and hurricane season

281-309-5002

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Galveston County Emergency Management provides free training for your organization:

Call 281-309-5002

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS - STOP THE BLEED
ACTIVE THREAT- HURRICANE SEASON



VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS



Community Emergency Response Team



Medical Reserve Corps



Texas Search & Rescue



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LOCAL CONTACTS

JURISDICTIONS

Bayou Vista

409-935-8348 Main

409-935-0449 Non-Emergency

Clear Lake Shores

281-334-2799 Main

281-334-1034 Non-Emergency

Dickinson

281-337-2489 Main

281-227-4700 Non-Emergency

Friendswood

281-996-3200 Main

281-996-3300 Non-Emergency

Galveston

409-797-3500 Main

409-765-3702 Non-Emergency

Hitchcock

409-986-5591 Main

409-986-5559 Non-Emergency

Jamaica Beach

409-737-1142 Main

409-737-1800 Non-Emergency

Kemah

281-334-1611 Main

281-334-5414 Non-Emergency

La Marque

409-938-9200 Main

409-938-9269 Non-Emergency

League City

281-554-1000 Main

281-332-2566 Non-Emergency

Santa Fe

409-925-6412 Main

409-925-2000 Non-Emergency

Texas City

409-948-3111 Main

409-643-5720 Non-Emergency

Tiki Island

409-935-1427 Main

409-935-6579 Non-Emergency

GALVESTON COUNTY

Life Threatening Emergencies 9-1-1

Galveston County Emergency Management

281-309-5002 Main

888-384-2000 After Hours

Galveston County Sheriff's Office

409-766-2300 Main

Galveston County Health District

409-938-7221 Main

409-948-2485 Animal Services

409-763-7202 Birth and Death Records

409-938-2456 Community Health

409-938-2234 Coastal Health & Wellness

409-938-2411 Environmental Services

Gulf Coast Center - Mental Health

409-944-4520 Main

866-729-3848 Crisis Hotline

Galveston County Parks & Senior Services

409-934-8101 Main

Galveston County Mosquito Control

800-842-5622 Main

Galveston County Nuisance Abatement

409-766-4509 Main

Galveston County - Bolivar Beach Stickers

409-934-8103 Main

Galveston County Veterans Services

409-766-2448 Main

Galveston County Constable Precinct 1

281-316-8810 Main

Galveston County Constable Precinct 2

409-770-5477 Main

Galveston County Constable Precinct 3

409-770-5172 Main

Galveston County Constable Precinct 4

281-316-8711 Main



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For life threatening emergencies dial 9-1-1

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