Hurricanes can cause catastrophic damage to coastlines and several hundred miles inland. Hurricanes and tropical storms also spawn tornadoes, create storm surges along the coast, and cause power and utility outages.

When a hurricane warning is issued by the National Weather Service and the coastal area is threatened, you should:

- Monitor your local TV and radio stations.
- Fuel your vehicles and generators.
- Check your disaster supply kit.
- Cover windows with plywood.
- Bring in all furniture, toys and any other objects that could become missiles.
- Moor boats to a safe and secure place.
- Take pictures of property and contents for insurance purposes.
- Evacuate immediately, if advised.

If you stay in your home during the hurricane and are not in a flood prone area:

- Fill bathtubs and all available containers with water.
- Turn off utilities, if requested.
- Remain indoors in a closet, bathroom or hallway on the lower level of your house, away from windows.
- Cover yourself and family members with a mattress or a dining room table to protect yourself from falling debris.

**DISASTER SUPPLY KIT CHECKLIST**

- Water – At least seven day supply (one gallon per person per day)
- Food – At least seven day supply of nonperishable/canned food (Change out stored water and food supplies every six months)
- First aid kit
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Battery powered radio
- Medications and special items (pain relievers, diapers, etc.)
- Tools and supplies
- Sanitation (toilet paper, personal hygiene items, etc.)
- Change of clothes and bedding
- Cash
- Important family documents (birth certificates, insurance/bank account information, etc.)
- Food, water and medicine for your pets
- Kennels or crates for pets

**HURRICANES**

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo

6922 Katy Road
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www.readyharris.org

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- ReadyHarris
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Ready Harris App available at
- App Store
- Google Play
If you live in a low-lying, flood-prone area, you may be mandated to leave, because heightened seas and tides can affect your home.

If you live in a mobile home in any evacuation zone, plan to evacuate anytime a hurricane threatens. Powerful winds are capable of destroying mobile homes.

If you are traveling with young children, elderly family members or people with functional access needs, you should leave early. Waiting for a general evacuation can put their health at risk and lengthen your travel time.

Zip codes have been provided to help you determine what evacuation zone, if any, you live in.

Evacuation zones will be announced in time to evacuate. You should leave when your evacuation zone is announced.

Zip code evacuations allow the residents in the greatest danger, the opportunity to leave first.