



SOUTH PADRE ISLAND
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Hurricane Watch issued

South Padre Island, TX, Aug. 24, 2017: A Hurricane Watch has been issued for south Texas. The City of South Padre Island has issued a voluntary evacuation for residents and business owners. If you choose to evacuate, please secure your property as appropriate. High-profiled vehicles and recreational vehicles are strongly advised to voluntarily evacuate by early this afternoon.

Due to the escalating wind projections of the storm, the Queen Isabella Memorial Causeway is likely to close as early as midnight tonight. The Causeway could remain closed for 12 – 15 hours.

The National Weather Service has predicted that South Padre Island will be affected by wind gusts of 45 – 70 miles per hour, expected to begin at 3 a.m. on Friday. Rainfall is predicted to be anywhere from 3 – 7 inches beginning Thursday. Surf is expected to reach 12 – 15 feet; Surge well into and possibly over the dunes, causing coastal flooding over a prolonged period beginning today through Friday afternoon.

Starting at 7 p.m., the City will have a check point for people entering the Island, limiting entry to those with residential or business interests.

The City of South Padre Island is focusing on emergency preparations at this time and would like to update the community to the following:

- City beaches will be closed effective 2 p.m. today.
- Re-entry stickers will not be issued after 7 p.m. today. Until 7 p.m., stickers are available at the Police Department.

Starting Friday, August 25:

- The City will be closed to non-emergency functions.
- Island Metro will suspend services.

Sign up for Swift911, the City's emergency notification system that sends out notifications directly to you via your home phone, cell phone and/or email, by going to www.myspi.org.

After the storm

South Padre Island will establish and monitor re-entry check points. South Padre Island Officers will be verifying and screening all those wishing to return to the Island. Only those with official business will be allowed to access the Island.

Re-Entry to the Island

Only after authorities have advised it is safe to return, may the residents and business owners be allowed entry. Residents will need to have re-entry stickers on their vehicles. Business owners will need to determine essential personnel and make arrangements for those people to have re-entry stickers on their vehicles. The Island may be without electricity and/or water for several days. These rules will be outlined upon your entry back onto the Island.

South Padre Island Official Telephone Numbers

Storm Information Hotline 956-761-8101
City Hall 956-761-6456
Fire Department 956-761-3040
Police Department 956-761-5454
Health and Code Enforcement 956-761-3226
Building Department 956-761-3217
Emergency Management 956-761-3210
Cameron County Judge 956-544-0830
Sheriff 956-544-0860
Office of Emergency Management 956-547-7000
State of Texas Department of Public Safety 956-440-6700
State of Texas Department of Transportation 956-542-2288
National Weather Service 956-504-1631

Many use social media in the event of a disaster to let relatives and friends know they are safe. Social media provides the perfect platform to model preparedness actions for others. It is a great way to stay current with the City, state and national social media resources and warnings. Here are a few to make sure you are following:

- www.myspi.org
- <https://www.facebook.com/SouthPadreTexas>
- <http://www.redcross.org/local/texas/gulf-coast/local-chapters/harlingen>
- http://co.cameron.tx.us/administration/emergency_management/index.php

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