

GOVERNOR'S DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Evacuations and Special Health Care Needs: *Dial 2-1-1 to register for a ride*

AUSTIN – If you live in a hurricane EVACUATION ZONE, and you have special health care or transportation needs, you need to make extra efforts to get ready for hurricane season. Hurricane season officially begins June 1 and continues through November 30.

It is critical that you begin now to make your evacuation plans, prepare an emergency kit and learn evacuation routes. This should be done well in advance.

To find out whether you are living in an evacuation zone, dial 2-1-1 for information. Operators answering the phones at 2-1-1 are also prepared to help you register for transportation and special assistance now, before hurricane season begins.

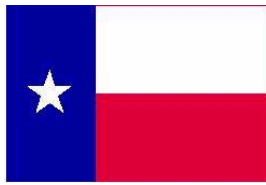
If you have special health care needs, register by dialing 2-1-1: Gulf coast residents with special health care needs (including those who are disabled or medically fragile) who live in evacuation zones and do not have friends or family to help in an evacuation should register for a ride in advance by dialing 2-1-1. The 2-1-1 registry must be dialed IN ADVANCE. Do not wait until a storm is in the Gulf to register for assistance. This service is for people who cannot drive themselves or make transportation arrangements.

If you need transportation, register with 2-1-1: If you do not have a car or other vehicle, and you cannot get a ride with friends, neighbors or family, register IN ADVANCE for a ride by dialing 2-1-1.

Hurricane Preparedness tips on the web: Governor's Division of Emergency Management Website: <www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem> FEMA website <www.Ready.gov> or <www.redcross.org>



For more information, contact Mary Lenz or William Ayres at (512) 424-2138 or visit GDEM's Web site: www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem.



GOVERNOR'S DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS FOR TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Planning for Emergencies

AUSTIN – Texans with disabilities and special health care needs can prepare for hurricanes and other disasters by becoming well informed; reviewing available resources, capabilities and needs; making evacuation plans and preparing evacuation supplies well in advance of hurricane season.

Hurricane season begins June 1 and lasts through Nov. 30.

Be Informed

Learn more about hurricane preparedness and planning for people with disabilities and special health care needs by reviewing helpful websites. A list of helpful websites is located at www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem under Threat Awareness Campaigns: Disaster Preparedness for People with Special Health Care and Mobility Needs.

Find out what emergency plans are in place in your community, school, workplace, service agencies, etc. Check whether those plans have considered your specific needs.

To find out whether you live in a hurricane evacuation zone, you may dial 2-1-1.

During hurricane season, pay attention to all types of media, including newspapers, radio, weather radio, television and the Internet, prior to an emergency. Determine which ones provide the best information and are most accessible to you. Use all methods and networks you have to get accurate and timely information – and ask friends and neighbors to keep you informed as well.

Consider how a hurricane evacuation will affect your daily activities and daily health care needs. Make a list of your specific needs before, during and after a hurricane evacuation.

If you require accessible transportation to evacuate an area, identify resources both public and private.

If you cannot drive and if you cannot make transportation arrangements with others to assist you in an evacuation, you may register in advance for a ride by calling 2-1-1. Local officials will use the registry information to make sure you get transportation.

- more -

Create a Support Network

Create a support network by making a list of family, friends, co-workers, personal attendants, service providers and others who can be part of your emergency plan. Choose at least three people in each location where you spend time, such as home, school and your workplace.

Talk to your support network in advance about your plan, and remind them of your plan as hurricane season approaches. Include people both in and out of your immediate neighborhood or community, such as a relative in another state.

If you receive regular services (home health care, transportation, dialysis), make a plan with each service provider. Learn about their disaster plans and how to contact them in an emergency. Work with them to identify back-up service providers.

Create an Emergency Plan

Work with your support network to create a personal emergency plan. You should have a different plan for places you spend time regularly: home, work or school. This will help as you consider alternative plans relating to hurricanes.

If local officials call for a hurricane evacuation, consider whether you want to shelter with friends and family, and how that would work for you. Also consider how a shelter designated for the public would meet your needs.

Use this opportunity to make a basic plan that includes not only hurricanes but all hazards that can impact your community, from a neighborhood fire to a major disaster of any kind. Learn about emergency exits in your school or office building and be sure you have at least two ways to get out of your home in an emergency. Discuss emergency exits and plans with officials in your school or workplace.

Remember to include strategies you already use to deal with power outages, or transportation delays or breakdowns.

Identify your Resources

Ask yourself what resources you rely on regularly and determine how a hurricane, electric power outages, lack of air conditioning or refrigeration might affect your access and ability to use them. This checklist can help.

- Do you use communication devices?
- Do you depend on accessible transportation to get to school, work, medical, appointments or to other places in your community?
- Do you receive medical treatments (e.g. dialysis) or self-administer treatments such as glucose testing and insulin shots on a regular basis? Do your medications need refrigeration?
- Do you need assistance with personal care?

- Do you rely on equipment depending electricity or other special medical equipment?
- Do you use mobility or daily living aids such as a walker, cane, wheelchair, scooter, bath safety or other bathroom products, dressing aids, drinking straws, etc.?
- If you have a service animal, do you know the plans in your city and state regarding service animals? Do you know what you will need to bring with your service animal— such as food and feeding bowls, identification tags, veterinary contact information, proof of up-to-date vaccinations.

A list of what you will need for an emergency supply kit is located at www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem under Threat Awareness Campaigns: Disaster Preparedness for People with Special Health Care and Mobility Needs.

Create a Communications Plan

Make sure you and members of your support network have a list of contact information for everyone in the network, along with names of your doctors and other service care providers.

Make sure you have alternate ways to communicate if phones are not working (such as an assigned meeting place, use of pagers, e-mail or other technology that does not depend on phone lines). In case telephones and cell towers are not operational, you may want to make a list of contact information on paper that you normally store in electronic devices.

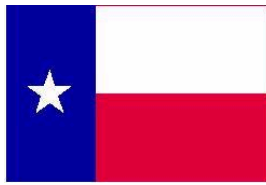
For individuals who use relay services, there are several options: dialing 711 (nationwide - landline), captioned telephone (CapTel), Internet-enabled relay service (Internet Relay and Video Relay Service - Internet). Individuals who have wireless notebooks, pagers or PDA can call Internet Relay Services.

For more information on how the public can prepare for hurricane season, visit the GDEM website at www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/hurrweek06index.htm. Other resources can be found at www.Ready.gov and www.redcross.org.

#



For more information, contact Mary Lenz or William Ayres at (512) 424-2138 or visit GDEM's Web site: www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem.



GOVERNOR'S DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS FOR TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Your Emergency Evacuation Kit

AUSTIN – If you have special health care needs and you live in a hurricane evacuation zone, it is essential to plan well in advance for the supplies you will need during evacuation from your home and for sheltering in another area.

Hurricane season begins on June 1 and lasts through November 30. If you will need help with transportation during a hurricane evacuation, dial 2-1-1 to register in advance for a ride. This service is for people who cannot drive themselves or make transportation arrangements.

Whether you need to register with 2-1-1 for transportation, or whether you will be evacuating with family or friends, here is a checklist for what you will need in your emergency kit for special health care needs, as well as a checklist for supplies any evacuee will need:

- 🌐 Medical equipment and assistive devices (glasses, hearing aid, catheters, augmentative communication devices, cane, wheelchair, scooter, walker, dressing aids, oxygen, tubing, feeding supplies, drinking straws, etc.) Label each with your name and contact information. Be sure to have extra batteries and chargers.
- 🌐 List of model numbers or serial numbers of medical devices and equipment.
- 🌐 Medical alert tags or bracelets and written description of your disability-related or health care conditions.
- 🌐 Medications and copies of all prescriptions, including a list of the prescription name, dosage, frequency, doctor and pharmacist. Also consider if medications need to be refrigerated and if so, bring a cooler with an ice pack or other coolant system.
- 🌐 Hygiene supplies including absorbent pads and urinal as needed and personal grooming items such as toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, towel, washcloth, comb, brush.
- 🌐 Phone numbers and names of your physicians or other health care providers, health insurance information, emergency contact information including your support network members.
- 🌐 Supplies for a service animal including food, identification tags, proof of up-to-date vaccinations and veterinarian contact.

- more -

Having emergency supplies in easy-to-carry containers will serve you well, no matter what kind of emergency you face. Here is a checklist ALL evacuees can use in preparing their emergency kits:

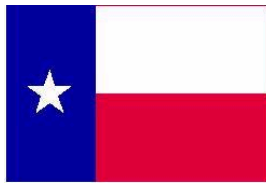
- 🌐 3-day supply of non-perishable food, one gallon of bottled water per person per day.
- 🌐 First-aid kit.
- 🌐 Important documents and records, photo IDs, proof of residence, information you may need to process insurance claims.
- 🌐 Extra keys.
- 🌐 Cash (power outages mean banks and ATMs may be unavailable).
- 🌐 Battery-operated radio, flashlight with extra batteries.
- 🌐 Phone numbers of family and friends.
- 🌐 Road maps, a travel plan, hotel reservations, list of places between your town and your destination where you can stop if the highways are clogged.
- 🌐 Coolers for food and ice storage, paper plates, plastic utensils.
- 🌐 Manual can opener, knife, tools, booster cables, fire extinguisher, duct tape, tarp, rope.
- 🌐 Blankets, pillows, sleeping bags and extra clothing.

For more information on how the public can prepare for hurricane season, visit the GDEM website at www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/hurrweek06index.htm. Other resources can be found at www.Ready.gov and www.redcross.org.

###



For more information, contact Mary Lenz or William Ayres at (512) 424-2138 or visit GDEM's Web site: www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem.



GOVERNOR'S DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS FOR TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Preparedness Websites

AUSTIN – Planning and preparedness information for Texans with disabilities or special health care needs, their friends and their families can be found on the following websites.

<http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/0,1082,0_603_00.html>

“Preparing for Disaster for People with Disabilities and other Special Needs” is a guide prepared by FEMA in partnership with the American Red Cross

<www.DisabilityPreparedness.gov>

This disability preparedness web site provides practical information on how people with disabilities can prepare for an emergency. It also provides key information that family members, service providers, emergency planners and first responders can use to help better prepare to assist persons with disabilities.

<<http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/emergencyprep.htm>>

This site links to an ADA Guide for Local Governments: Making Community Emergency Preparedness and Response Programs Accessible to People with Disabilities

<<http://www.prepare.org/disabilities/disabilities.htm>>

American Red Cross site where you can find versions in large print text, Arabic, Spanish, Farsi, French, Hmong, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Lao, Russian, Tagalog, and Vietnamese

<<http://www.prepare.org/disabilities/disabilitiesprep.htm>>

Disaster Preparedness for People with Disabilities is a comprehensive guide designed to help people who have physical, visual, auditory, or cognitive disabilities to prepare for natural disasters and their consequences. (June 1997)

<<http://www.prepare.org/basic/generators.htm>>

Using a Generator When Disaster Strikes: Developed with technical advice from the National Fire Protection Association (publisher of the National Electric Code®).

<www.emergencyprep.dot.gov>

Emergency Transportation Website for People with Disabilities: a site made available by the Department of Transportation to provide information on accessible evacuation

<www.dol.gov/odep/pubs/ep/preparing2.htm>

“Preparing the Workplace for Everyone” a guide for Federal agencies in ensuring that their emergency plans adequately cover the needs of employees with disabilities.

-more -

Disability Preparedness Resource Center

<http://www.disabilitypreparedness.gov/>

Emergency Managers, Responders, Service & Care Providers

<http://www.disabilitypreparedness.gov/emrscp/index.htm>

Disaster Preparedness for People With Disabilities

http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/0,1082,0_603_,00.html

Tips for People with Cognitive Disabilities

<http://www.prepare.org/disabilities/cognitivetips.htm>

Tips for People with Communication Disabilities

<http://www.prepare.org/disabilities/communicatetips.htm>

Tips for People with Disabilities and Medical Concerns

<http://www.prepare.org/disabilities/medicaltips.htm>

Tips for People with Environmental or Chemical Sensitivities

<http://www.prepare.org/disabilities/chemicaltips.htm>

Tips for People with Hearing Impairments

<http://www.prepare.org/disabilities/hearingtips.htm>

Tips for People with Life-Support Systems

<http://www.prepare.org/disabilities/lifesupporttips.htm>

Tips for People with Mobility Concerns

<http://www.prepare.org/disabilities/mobilitytips.htm>

Tips for People with Psychiatric Disabilities

<http://www.prepare.org/disabilities/psychiatrictips.htm>

Tips for People with Service Animals or Pets

<http://www.prepare.org/disabilities/animaltips.htm>

Tips for People with Visual Disabilities

<http://www.prepare.org/disabilities/visualtips.htm>

###



For more information, contact Mary Lenz or William Ayres at (512) 424-2138 or visit GDEM's Web site: www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem.