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### **Tropical Storm Watch has been issued**

**South Padre Island, TX, Aug. 23, 2017:** A Tropical Storm Watch has been issued for the Lower Texas Coast. Currently there are a few models that continue to show Tropical Wave Harvey heading towards south Texas. Mother Nature is unpredictable and can raise some challenges when preparing for bad weather. The City of South Padre Island asks the community to be prepared during Hurricane season.

At this point, South Padre Island is expecting wind gusts up to 39 – 50 miles per hour and 2 – 5 inches of rain beginning as early as Thursday afternoon through Friday afternoon. Surge up into the dunes is anticipated, so the City has asked for removal of all equipment from the beaches. Localized flooding is very possible.

As a reminder, pick up of sandbags will begin today through Thursday, Aug. 24 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- Bags will be available for pickup at the Public Works Workshop located at the corner of West Venus and Laguna Boulevard.
- Sand will be available at the Convention Center located at 7355 Padre Boulevard.
- Residents will be allowed five bags per property.
- Businesses will be allowed ten bags per property.

The site is "self-bagging," meaning the bags and sand are provided for free, but residents and businesses will need to bring shovels and fill their own bags.

If the situation changes and an evacuation is ordered, it would require quick action. Please ensure you are prepared. This is not anticipated, however, if the situation changes a quick evacuation could be required.

A few tips to help aid your evacuation are listed below:

- Recreational Vehicles should be "road ready". It is suggested moving them every three months to keep the wheels from becoming stuck.
- If an evacuation is ordered, prepare to take your pets and animals with you provided this it is practical to do so.
- If evacuating to a hotel, make reservations now, as they may fill up.

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](http://www.myspi.org).

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