



# PREVIEW

# GUIDE

THE 3NEWS OFFICIAL COASTAL BEND

2021



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# A BRIEF HISTORY OF HURRICANES

Hurricanes form over warm ocean waters, like those found in the Gulf of Mexico. The hurricane season starts June 1 and ends November 30. The peak threat for the Texas coast exists from August through September. However, hurricanes can and have struck the Texas coast during every month of the hurricane season. Since 1527, over 217 hurricanes and tropical storms have impacted Texas - nearly one every other year on average.

## HURRICANE HAZARDS

### Storm Surges

A storm surge is an abnormal rise of water generated by a storm, over and above the predicted astronomical tides. The rise in water level can cause extreme flooding in coastal areas resulting in storm tides reaching up to 20 feet or more in some cases. Along the Texas coast, these flood waters can penetrate far inland depending on the elevation of land. If the storm tide is greater than the land elevation (even if well inland) then storm surge flooding will be possible.

### Tornadoes & Destructive Winds

Tropical cyclones also produce tornadoes. These tornadoes most often occur in thunderstorms embedded in rain bands well away from the center of the hurricane; however, they can also occur near the eyewall. Tornadoes produced by tropical cyclones are relatively weak and short-lived, but still pose a threat.

Hurricane force winds of 74 mph or more can destroy buildings, mobile homes, trees, and power poles. Debris such as signs, roofing material, siding, and small items left outside become flying missiles in a hurricane. The strongest winds occur in a region of the hurricane called the eyewall. Wind gusts in the right side of the eyewall are the most destructive. Hurricane force winds can be felt as far as 150 miles from the coast. The water can also rise well in advance of the coming storm, in some cases 36 hours or greater. When an evacuation is ordered, do not wait until the last minute to leave.

### Inland Flooding

There are numerous examples of significant flooding caused by land-falling tropical cyclones in Texas. Storms with a slow forward motion are the most dangerous as heavy rains persist for a longer period of time.

## SIX TIPS ABOUT "STORM SURGES"

1.

Storm surge flooding is often the greatest threat to life and property from a hurricane. It poses a significant threat for drowning. A mere six inches of fast-moving flood water can knock over an adult. It only takes two feet of rushing water to carry away most vehicles.

2.

Storm surge can cause water levels to rise quickly and flood large areas in just minutes, and you could be left with no time to take action if you haven't already evacuated as instructed.

3.

Storm surge is not dependent on Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. Hurricane categories are based only on winds and do not account for storm surge. Any wind category can cause life-threatening storm surges.

4.

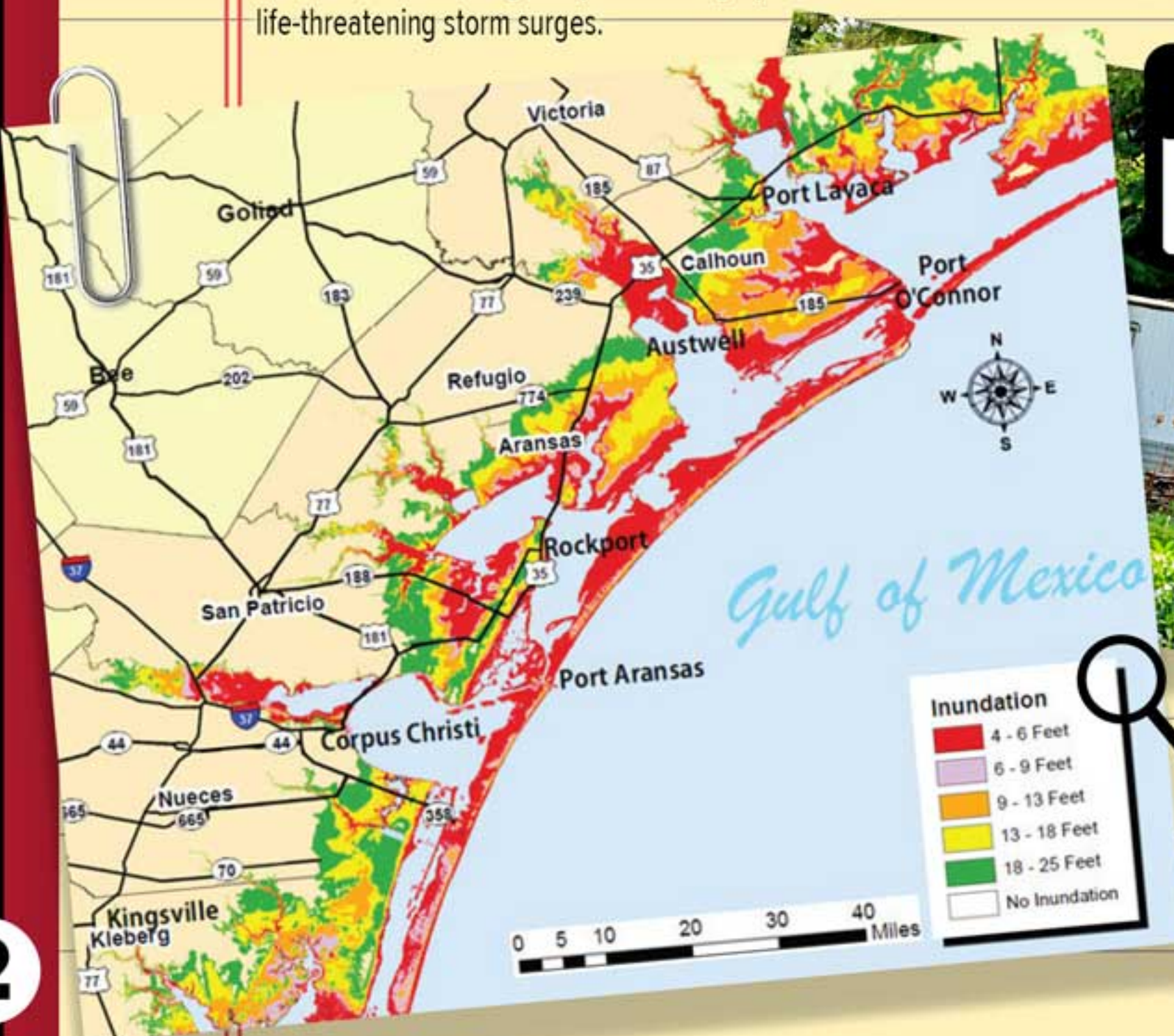
Many Gulf Coast areas are vulnerable to storm surge including areas many miles inland from the coastline depending on elevation of the coastal plan. Find out today if you live in an evacuation zone.

5.

Storm surge can occur before, during and after the center of the storm passes through an area, and sometimes cut off evacuation routes. The water can also rise well in advance of the coming storm, in some cases 36 hours or greater. When an evacuation is ordered, do not wait until the last minute to leave.

6.

During the peak of a storm surge event, it is unlikely that emergency responders will be able to reach you if you are in danger.



### MOBILE HOME RESIDENTS MUST EVACUATE!

No mobile home or manufactured home – no matter how new it is – can provide safe shelter from hurricane force winds. Straps or other tie-downs will not protect a mobile home from the high winds associated with a hurricane. Mobile home residents must evacuate when told to do so by local authorities.



## STORM SURGE MAP

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# 5 WAYS TO PROTECT YOURSELF & OTHERS

# 1

## Protect Your Personal Documents & Special Items

- Store valuables in plastic tubs with locking tops.
- In case of evacuation, you should be able to secure and move all your items within 15 minutes.

# 2

## Buy Flood Insurance: A Plan for Replaceable Items

- The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is available from an insurance agent or the NFIP.
- For more information, visit: [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)

# 3

## Take Steps to Flood Proof Your Home

- Shut off the main circuit breaker to prevent short circuiting and eliminate the threat of electrocution.
- Raise outside A/C units onto platforms above ground level.
- Store rarely used or expensive items in the attic or on high shelves.

# 4

## Develop a Family Flood Plan

- Make a plan of action in advance to keep from panicking during an emergency.
- Have an evacuation route and alternatives planned in the event you are asked to evacuate.
- Communicate your plans with friends or family outside of your home area.
- Battery powered radios or televisions can be used in the event of a power outage.



# AND 5



## NEVER DRIVE ON FLOODED ROADS

Driving into flooded roadways puts your life and the lives of others at risk. Unless told to evacuate, you are probably safest staying at your current location.

If you encounter flood waters when driving,

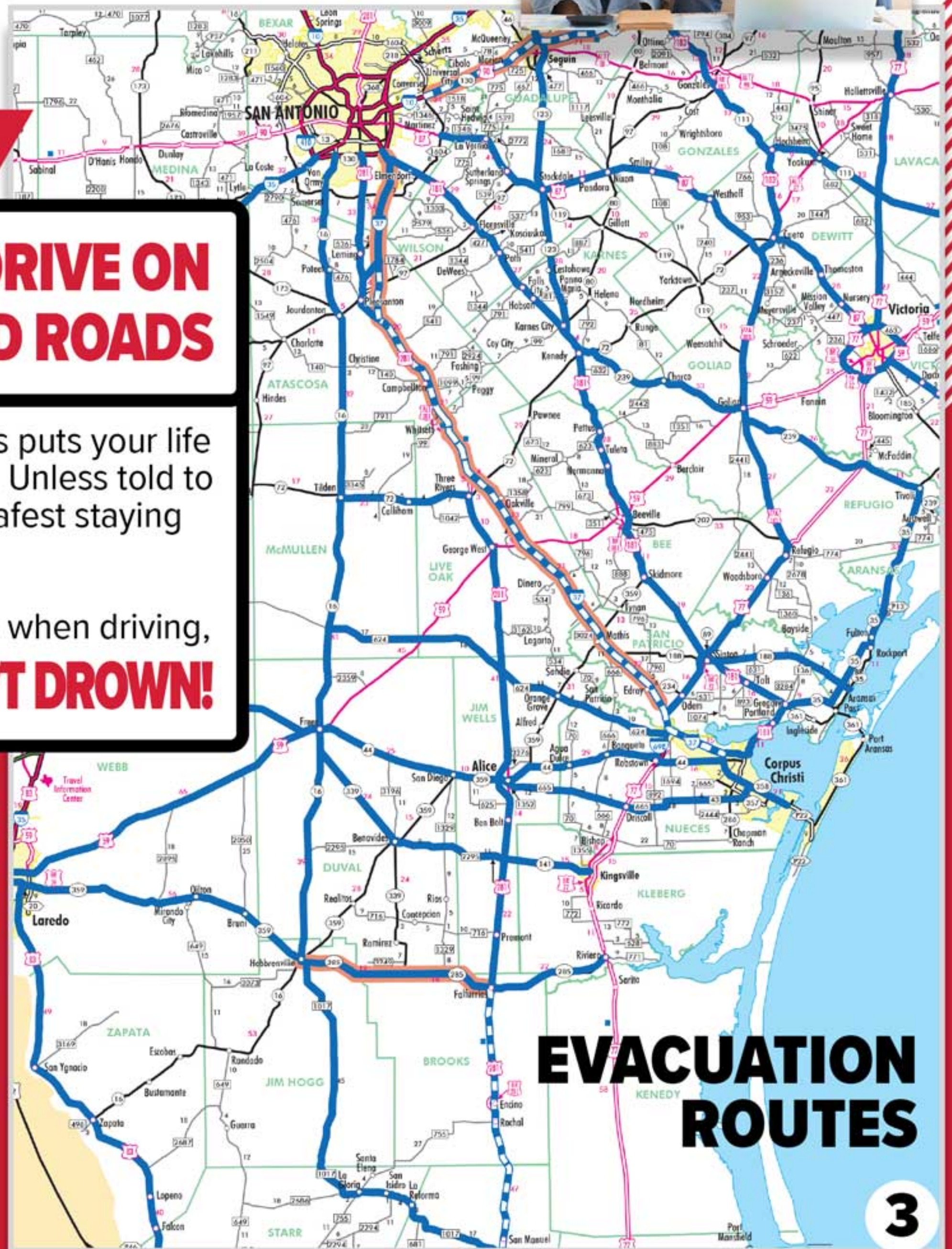
## TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN!

*Always check road conditions before heading out in a storm situation!*

*Call TxDOT for highway conditions at 800-452-9292 or visit [drivetexas.org](http://drivetexas.org).*



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# 3



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THE STANDBY POWER PEOPLE®



## PREPARING FOR YOUR PET'S SAFETY

Your pet should be part of your overall hurricane preparation plans. Below are a few important things to help you get ready:

- Make sure your pet's vaccinations are current and you have their shot records available.
- DO NOT assume that a public shelter or hotel will accept your pet.
- Be sure to have a current photo of your pet.
- Each animal should have a properly sized pet carrier - the carrier should be large enough for the animal to stand up in and turn around.
- Pack enough food and bottled water for the duration of your evacuation - DO NOT let your pet eat food or drink water from outside that may be contaminated.
- Be sure to pack all medications your pet may need along with a muzzle, collar, leash, paper towels, and trash bags.
- Make sure your pet has a proper ID collar.



## HURRICANE PREPARATION — HOME PREP —

- Elevation Matters**
  - Know the elevation of your home. Are you in a flood or evacuation zone? Be prepared with sandbags, if necessary.
- Mobile Homes**
  - Check tie-downs for rust or breakage.
  - Residents of mobile homes MUST EVACUATE when told to do so.
- Landscaping**
  - Trim trees, shrubbery, and dead limbs...especially ones close to your home.
  - Repair or replace broken / damaged fences.
- Roofing**
  - Inspect the roof for loose tiles, shingles, or debris.
  - Consider replacing old or damaged shingles with new ones rated for hurricane force winds.
  - Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- Doors**
  - Reinforce garage doors and tracks or replace with a hurricane-tested door.
  - Reinforce double entry doors with heavy duty foot and dead bolts.
  - Use a security dead bolt with one inch minimum bolt length.
- Windows**
  - If possible, install tested and manufactured hurricane shutters.
  - Inspect shutters to ensure they are in good working order.

*Alternative: Use 5/8" or greater exterior grade plywood secured by 2 1/2" screws and/or special clips. Obtain wood and fasteners, cut wood to size, pre-drill holes and place anchors to secure.*



# CHECK LIST & SUPPLY KIT

WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

## HURRICANE ESSENTIALS



### WATER

ONE GALLON PER PERSON, PER DAY  
(3-7 DAY SUPPLY)



### FOOD

NON-PERISHABLE, EASY TO PREPARE  
(3-7 DAY SUPPLY)

## BASIC SUPPLIES



FLASHLIGHT /  
LANTERN



RADIO OR TV  
BATTERY  
POWERED



EXTRA  
BATTERIES



FIRST AID  
KIT / MANUAL



N95  
MASKS



CELL PHONE  
& CHARGER



MEDICATIONS  
PRESCRIPTIONS, GLASSES, CONTACT  
LENS SOLUTION, HEARING AIDS/BATTERIES



MULTI-  
TOOL



EXTRA  
CASH



BABY ITEMS  
FORMULA, FOOD,  
DIAPERS, PACIFIERS



HYGIENE ITEMS  
HAND SANITIZER, TOILET PAPER, DEODORANT,  
WET WIPES, FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS



AREA  
MAPS



EMERGENCY  
BLANKET



PET NEEDS  
CARRIERS, LEASHES,  
FOOD, RECORDS



IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS  
BIRTH / MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES,  
BILLS, IDS, TITLES, INSURANCE



CAR REPAIR ITEMS  
TIRE REPAIR KIT, BOOSTER CABLES,  
AIR PUMP, BASIC TOOLS, FLARES

## ADDITIONAL ITEMS



WORK  
GLOVES



MATCHES  
WATERPROOF /  
WINDPROOF



KITCHEN UTENSILS  
MANUAL CAN OPENER,  
KITCHEN ACCESSORIES



EMERGENCY  
WHISTLE



PHOTOS / HOME  
INVENTORY



EXTRA BLANKETS/  
SLEEPING BAGS



ENTERTAINMENT  
ITEMS



EXTRA  
CLOTHING

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The American Red Cross recommends that you have a list of family phone numbers and addresses from outside your area. Use the grid below to make your list.

	( ) -	( ) -	( ) -
	PHONE	PHONE	PHONE
	ADDRESS	ADDRESS	ADDRESS
	NAME 1	NAME 2	NAME 3



# WHAT TO DO WHEN THE STORM NEARS YOU

## WHEN A STORM IS IN THE GULF:

- ✓ Listen frequently to radio, TV, or NOAA weather radio for bulletins and forecast of the storm's progress.
- ✓ Double check items in your emergency supply kit.
- ✓ Fuel and service your vehicles.
- ✓ Inspect and secure mobile home tie-downs.
- ✓ Board up windows (if shutters do not exist) in case storms move quickly and you have to leave! TAPE PROVIDES NO PROTECTION!
- ✓ Garage or store vehicles that are not being used.
- ✓ Follow instructions issued by local officials.
- ✓ Store lawn furniture and other loose, lightweight objects, such as garbage cans and garden tools.

# EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY IF ORDERED TO DO SO!

### FINAL ACTIONS TO TAKE — IF STAYING —

- ✓ Close storm shutters, if installed.
- ✓ Notify family members of your evacuation plans.
- ✓ Lower water level in swimming pool by one foot.
- ✓ Turn refrigerator or freezer to coldest setting and open / use only if necessary.
- ✓ Follow instructions from emergency managers and be prepared to turn off utilities, if ordered to do so.
- ✓ Board up remaining doors, brace garage door, and remain inside. STAY AWAY FROM WINDOWS.
- ✓ Take refuge in a predetermined safe room, such as an interior closet, bathroom, or hallway.

### FINAL ACTIONS TO TAKE (IF LEAVING)

- Turn off propane tanks.
- Unplug small appliances.
- Lock home securely.
- Shelter or take pets with you.

*Fridge*  
**DID YOU KNOW?**

25 pounds of dry ice will keep a 10-cubic foot freezer below freezing for 3-4 days.

**DO NOT EXPECT EMERGENCY RESPONDERS TO BE OF ANY ASSISTANCE DURING A LANDFALLING HURRICANE!**



## KEEP THESE NUMBERS HANDY!

### ARANSAS COUNTY ARANSASCOUNTYTX.GOV

- ROCKPORT POLICE **361-729-1111**
- COUNTY SHERIFF **361-729-2222**
- FULTON POLICE **361-729-5533 X3**

### BEE COUNTY CO.BEE.TX.US

- EMERGENCY MGMT. **361-621-1550 X8181**
- BEEVILLE POLICE **361-358-8100**
- COUNTY SHERIFF **361-362-3221**

### CALHOUN COUNTY CALHOUNCOTX.ORG

- EMERGENCY MGMT. **361-553-4400**
- COUNTY SHERIFF **361-553-4646**

### GOLIAD COUNTY CO.GOLIAD.TX.US

- COUNTY JUDGE **361-645-3337**
- COUNTY SHERIFF **361-645-3451**

### JIM WELLS COUNTY CO.JIM-WELLS.TX.US

- EMERGENCY MGMT. **361-668-1018 X8**
- COUNTY SHERIFF **361-668-0341**
- ALICE EMER. MGMT. **361-664-3111 X4**

### KLEBERG COUNTY CO.KLEBERG.TX.US

- EMERGENCY MGMT. **361-595-8527**
- COUNTY SHERIFF **361-595-8500**

### LIVE OAK COUNTY CO.LIVE-OAK.TX.US

- COUNTY SHERIFF **361-449-2271**

### NUECES COUNTY NUECESCO.COM

- EMERGENCY MGMT. **361-533-2355**
- CORPUS CHRISTI E.M. **361-826-1100**
- PORT ARANSAS CITY HALL **361-749-4111**
- ROBSTOWN FIRE / E.M. **361-387-2522**
- BISHOP POLICE **361-584-2443**
- DRISCOLL POLICE **361-221-2902**

### REFUGIO COUNTY CO.REFUGIO.TX.US

- EMERGENCY MGMT. **361-526-2820**
- COUNTY SHERIFF **361-526-2351**

### SAN PATRICIO COUNTY CO.SAN-PATRICIO.TX.US

- EMERGENCY MGMT. **361-587-3560**
- COUNTY SHERIFF **361-364-9600**
- INGLESIDE POLICE **361-776-2531**
- PORTLAND POLICE **361-777-4444**
- ARANSAS PASS POLICE **361-758-5224**

### VICTORIA COUNTY VCTX.ORG

- EMERGENCY MGMT. **361-580-5770**
- COUNTY SHERIFF **361-575-0651**
- VICTORIA POLICE **361-573-3221**

## 2021 HURRICANE NAMES

ANA  
BILL  
CLAUDETTE  
DANNY  
ELSA  
FRED  
GRACE  
HENRI  
IDA  
JULIAN  
KATE  
LARRY  
MINDY  
NICHOLAS  
ODETTE  
PETER  
ROSE  
SAM  
TERESA  
VICTOR  
WANDA

## 2021 SUPPLEMENTAL NAMES

ADRIA  
BRAYLEN  
CARIDAD  
DESHAWN  
EMERY  
FOSTER  
GEMMA  
HEATH  
ISLA  
JACOBUS  
KENZIE  
LUCIO  
MAKAYLA  
NOLAN  
ORLANDA  
PAX  
RONIN  
SOPHIE  
TAYSHAUN  
VIVIANA  
WILL

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



U.S. DEPT. OF  
HOMELAND SECURITY  
[WWW.READY.GOV](http://WWW.READY.GOV)



American  
Red Cross

24-HR ASSISTANCE  
1-800-RED CROSS  
[REDCROSS.ORG](http://REDCROSS.ORG)



HIGHWAY CONDITIONS  
800-452-9292, [DRIVETEXAS.ORG](http://DRIVETEXAS.ORG)

## SAFFIR-SIMPSON SCALE

DAMAGE MINIMAL MODERATE EXTENSIVE EXTREME CATASTROPHIC

SPEED (MPH) **74-95** **96-110** **111-129** **130-156** **157+**

CATEGORY



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THE 3NEWS OFFICIAL COASTAL BEND HURRICANE GUIDE



HURRICANE TRACKING MAP

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