

Hurricane Harvey: September 3, 2017

Harvey aftermath: Toxic waste sites flooded in Texas, EPA says

At least 13 toxic waste sites in Texas were flooded or damaged by Hurricane Harvey, adding to the challenges as the state and the region begin cleanup efforts following the deadly storm.

The Environmental Protection Agency announced Saturday that it had assessed 41 Superfund sites using aerial images, and determined the ones badly affected by the storm.

The impact of flooding on the sites is unknown. The EPA said its workers have not been able to "safely access the sites" but are ready to do so as soon as the floodwaters recede.

A Superfund site is land that is contaminated by hazardous waste and identified by the EPA as a candidate for cleanup because it poses a risk to human health and/or the environment. The 13 affected sites have industrial waste from petrochemical companies, acid compounds, solvents and pesticides.

In the Houston area, authorities had said it would take 10-15 days for floodwaters to recede.

More challenges

The toxic waste sites are not the first environmental threat Texas has faced since Harvey swept through the region.

Fires broke out over two days at a flooded [chemical plant near Houston](#).

People living within 1.5 miles from the Arkema site in Crosby were evacuated days before the explosions and now officials are letting chemical containers catch fire and burn out rather than endanger firefighters, the EPA and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality said in a joint statement.

The Superfund sites and the Arkema plant represent just a snapshot of the cascading effects of the catastrophic storm.

[Why we don't yet know Harvey's true toll?](#)

'Please don't come home'

More than a week after Hurricane Harvey swept through Texas, thousands of people are still unable to return home. Tens of thousands of people are still living in shelters seeking aid.

"Please don't come home," Brazoria County Judge Matt Sebesta said at a news conference Saturday.

Residents were evacuated last week when floodwaters breached a levee in the county south of Houston. Water is going through septic systems in rural areas, creating a health hazard for residents. "It's like a huge lake sliding across the county," he said.

In Houston, nearly 300 people who chose to stay in flooded homes after Hurricane Harvey are expected to evacuate before the CenterPoint Energy utility turns off power to those residences.

[Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner ordered the evacuation](#) after emergency workers scouted the area Friday and learned that many people had not left their flooded homes. Areas of western Houston have seen sustained flooding in part because the Army Corps of Engineers has [intentionally released water from two swollen reservoirs](#) -- and the flooding there won't recede soon, Turner said.

Mexico set to send help

Relief supplies and up to 50 Mexican medical professionals will soon cross the border to help thousands of flood evacuees in Texas, Mexican officials said.

Mexico offered the US aid days ago, but Texas officials gave Mexico the green light Saturday to start sending help, said Carlos Manuel Sada, Mexico's undersecretary for North-American relations.

More than a dozen trailers loaded with beds, portable generators, mobile community kitchens and other supplies will cross the border into Laredo, Texas "in the coming days," and transported by land to the Houston area.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2017/09/03/us/houston-texas-flood-aftermath/index.html>

To Get Help

Texas

- United Way 2-1-1: Dial 2-1-1 or visit <http://www.211texas.org/>
- American Red Cross: 512.928.4271; <http://www.redcross.org/local/texas/central-and-south-texas>
- Texas Division of Emergency Management: 512.424.2208; <https://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/>

Shelter

Crisis Map

- Google has created an interactive map displaying all available shelters in the Gulf Coast area.
 - <http://google.org/crisismap/2017-harvey>

Red Cross Shelters

- Website: <http://www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services/find-an-open-shelter>

Shelter Name	County	Address	City	St.	Zip	Pop.
Bell County Expo Center	BELL	301 W Loop 121	BELTON	TX	76513	44
AT&T Center	BEXAR	1 AT&T Center Pkwy	SAN ANTONIO	TX	78219	0
San Antonio Reception Center	BEXAR	200 Gemblar Road	SAN ANTONIO	TX	78219	907
Kazen Middle School	BEXAR	1520 Gillette	SAN ANTONIO	TX	78224	610
Angleton ISD Admin Building	BRAZORIA	1900 N Downing	ANGLETON	TX	77515	184
City of Pearland Rec Center	BRAZORIA	4141 Bailey Road	PEARLAND	TX	77584	388
Luling Civic Center	CALDWELL	333 E. Austin	LULING	TX	78648	6
Churchill Middle School	COMAL	1275 N Business 35	NEW BRAUNFELS	TX	78130	268
Walnut Hill Recreation Center	DALLAS	10011 Midway Rd	DALLAS	TX	75229	89
Kay Bailey Hutchinson Convention Center	DALLAS	650 Griffin St	DALLAS	TX	75202	1964
Second Baptist Church Of La Grange	FAYETTE	1010 VON MINDEN	LA GRANGE	TX	78945	63
Bay Harbor Methodist Church	GALVESTON	3459 Deke Slayton Expressway	LEAGUE CITY	TX	77573	505

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Hometown Heroes Park	GALVESTON	1001 E League City Pkwy	LEAGUE CITY	TX	77573	75
Victory Lakes Intermediate	GALVESTON	2880 W Walker St	LEAGUE CITY	TX	77573	0
Wildwood Baptist Church	HARDIN	98 Cypress Inn	WILDWOOD	TX	77663	0
Baytown Community Center	HARRIS	2407 Market ST	BAYTOWN	TX	77520	160
Baytown-Lee College	HARRIS	200 Lee Dr	BAYTOWN	TX	77520	85
Channelview High School	HARRIS	1100 Sheldon Road	CHANNELVIEW	TX	77530	360
American Legion Post 658	HARRIS	14890 FM 2100	CROSBY	TX	77532	53
Crosby High School	HARRIS	333 Red Summit Dr	CROSBY	TX	77532	0
Church of Christ in Champions	HARRIS	13902 Cutten Rd	HOUSTON	TX	77069	150
Cypress Ridge High School	HARRIS	7900 N Eldridge Parkway	HOUSTON	TX	77041	1000
First Baptist Church Of Jacinto City	HARRIS	10701 Wiggins	HOUSTON	TX	77029	27
Forge for Families	HARRIS	3435 Dixie Drive	HOUSTON	TX	77021	102
George R. Brown Convention Center	HARRIS	1001 Avenida De Las Americas	HOUSTON	TX	77010	1700
J. Frank Dobie High School	HARRIS	10220 Blackhawk Blvd	HOUSTON	TX	77089	150
Jacinto City Municipal Courts & Community Building	HARRIS	1025 Oates Rd	HOUSTON	TX	77029	0
Lone Star College- North Harris	HARRIS	2700 W W Thorne Dr	HOUSTON	TX	77073	55
NRG Center	HARRIS	2 NRG Park	HOUSTON	TX	77054	1700
Old Matzke Elementary School	HARRIS	13102 Jones Rd	HOUSTON	TX	77070	900
Patrick Henry Middle School	HARRIS	10702 E Hardy Rd	HOUSTON	TX	77093	0

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Saint Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Community	HARRIS	10135 WEST ROAD	HOUSTON	TX	77064	155
Sunnyside Multi-Service Center	HARRIS	9314 Cullen Blvd	HOUSTON	TX	77033	0
The Community of Faith Church	HARRIS	1024 Pinemont Dr	HOUSTON	TX	77091	0
Third Ward Multi-svc Center	HARRIS	3611 Ennis St	HOUSTON	TX	77004	0
First Baptist Church	HARRIS	25503 FM 2100	HUFFMAN	TX	77336	250
Atascocita Community Center	HARRIS	17271 W Lake Houston Pwky	HUMBLE	TX	77346	40
Cinco Ranch High School	HARRIS	23440 Cinco Ranch Blvd	KATY	TX	77494	200
Golden Acres Baptist Church CLC	HARRIS	2812 Pansy Street	PASADENA	TX	77503	150
Lone Star College- Tomball	HARRIS	30555 Tomball Pkwy	TOMBALL	TX	77375	22
First United Methodist Church	JASPER	936 TX-62	BUNA	TX	77612	48
Beaumont Civic Center	JEFFERSON	701 Main St	BEAUMONT	TX	77701	0
Salvation Army- Beaumont	JEFFERSON	2350 I-10 Frontage Road	BEAUMONT	TX	77703	50
Carl Parker Multi-Purpose Center	JEFFERSON	1800 Lakeshore Drive	PORT ARTHUR	TX	77640	173
Alexander Convention Center	LA SALLE	290 N Interstate 35	COTULLA	TX	78014	17
Giddings Elementary School	LEE	1010 E. Industry	GIDDINGS	TX	78942	0
College Park High School	MONTGOMERY	3701 College Park Dr	CONROE	TX	77384	0
Sacred Heart Catholic Church	MONTGOMERY	109 N. Frazier St.	CONROE	TX	77301	0
Saint Simon's and Saint Jude's Catholic Church	MONTGOMERY	26777 Glen Loch Road	SPRING	TX	77381	69
Church Project	MONTGOMERY	295 Sawdust Rd	THE WOODLANDS	TX	77380	0

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Abundant Life	MONTGOMERY	200 W Mink Street	WILLIS	TX	77378	0
Flrst United Methodist Church	NEWTON	308 High St.	NEWTON	TX	75966	205
First United Methodist Church-Katie Pittman Building	ORANGE	501 North Main	VIDOR	TX	77662	120
Martin Creek State Park	RUSK	9515 Co Rd 2181D	TATUM	TX	75691	0
Shepherd Community Center	SAN JACINTO	10251 Hwy 150	SHEPHERD	TX	77371	0
Worth Community Center	TARRANT	3551 New York Avenue	FT WORTH	TX	76110	0
LB Johnson Early High School	TRAVIS	7309 Lazy Creek Drive	AUSTIN	TX	78724	201
Bloomington IDS Dome	VICTORIA	200 N Leonard St	BLOOMINGTON	TX	77951	350

Road Conditions

Call 511: The Department of Transportation offers its free 511 service for travel information and roadway conditions, including road and bridge closures, toll suspensions and major evacuation routes.

Texas

- <https://www.txdot.gov/>
- EVACUATION MAP FOR COAST REGIONS: <http://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/pub/txdot-info/tr/evacuation/corpus.pdf>

Road Closures in Houston

HOUSTON - Going into Labor Day Weekend, most major roads in Houston have re-opened and are not experiencing flooding.

As of Thursday night, the southbound lanes of the Eastex Freeway at the San Jacinto River reopened with northbound lanes to reopen soon, TxDOT says.

One major roadway still closed is the main route to Beaumont and Louisiana. I-10 East is blocked with several high water spots east of Houston. Even those areas where the water has receded, heading to Winnie, I-10 remains closed for debris removal.

Here are some of the other major highways in and around the city that are still experiencing at least partial flooding, debris or damage and should be avoided:

- I-10 East Freeway in both directions all mainlanes are blocked between Channelview & Lynchburg
- I-69/Southwest Freeway at the Brazos River - 2 northbound lanes blocked & u-turn blocked in both directions
- Beltway 8 West/Sam Houston Tollway at Briar Forest
- Beltway 8/Sam Houston Tollway from Blackhawk to Mykawa on the service road of Loop 8 Eastbound
- Highway 6 both directions from Clay Road to I-10 and Memorial Drive to Richmond Avenue
- Highway 90 Eastbound from Pitts Road to Cunningham Creek Boulevard, all traffic diverted to Westbound lane
- Highway 90 from FM 2100 to FM 1413 due to chemical plant emergency
- The Katy Freeway frontage road in both directions still has high water at Eldridge

Outside the city there continue to be a number of waterlogged roads around Beaumont and in the Sugar Land area. It's a

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good idea to be cautious and plan ahead when returning to the roads.

Map: [Use DriveTexas.org to plan your drive and view high water roads](#)

Source: <http://www.khou.com/traffic/list-high-water-locations-on-houston-roads/467355690>

High Water Locations:

<http://traffic.houstontranstar.org/roadclosures/#highwater>

Evacuation Info

Info for all counties and cities with an evacuation order are listed here: <http://abc13.com/traffic/evacuation-orders-issued-in-epic-flooding-emergency/2337616/>

Mayor Sylvester Turner is urging residents of dwellings with water already inside in west Houston to leave their homes. This is a voluntary evacuation of homes, including apartment buildings, of the already inundated properties west of Gessner, east of Highway 6, south of IH 10/Katy Freeway, and north of Briar Forest.

A voluntary evacuation means a threat to life and property exists or is likely to exist in the immediate future. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers says that to avoid a larger catastrophe, it must continue to release reservoir water into the Buffalo Bayou watershed and that water may be present in homes for 15 days.

Mayor Sylvester Turner said evacuations of flooded homes is advised because of potential dangers such as electrocution. If you are in the voluntary evacuation area and need assistance, the City of Houston urges you to call 911.

The city will provide transportation to the NRG Park shelter for those in need of housing or residents can proceed there directly.

The evacuation request does not affect homes without water inside in the described area.

MANDATORY EVACUATION:

UPDATE 4:40 A.M. FRIDAY - Brazoria County Office of Emergency Management issues mandatory evacuation order for following areas of Lake Jackson: Dewberry Street, Dewberry Court and Strawberry Street.

UPDATE 10 A.M. FRIDAY - Brazoria County Office of Emergency Management issues mandatory evacuation order for following areas of Richwood: Audubon Woods 2 and 3, Brazos Crossing. There are several new road closures in the area.

UPDATE 7 P.M. THURSDAY - Mandatory evacuation issued for Audubon Wood 1 and surrounding areas. The sewer service has become overcapacitated.

UPDATE 6 P.M. THURSDAY - The mandatory evacuation order has been lifted for Inverness Forest Subdivision has been lifted. Residents may return home.

UPDATE 9:30 A.M. THURSDAY - Dickinson lifted its mandatory evacuation for residents. Some services may be limited or delayed. A dusk-til-dawn curfew is in effect until further notice.

UPDATE 8:25 A.M. THURSDAY - Fort Bend County clarified and updated the neighborhoods that are under and no longer under a mandatory evacuation order around Barker Reservoir.

The sections that are now under mandatory evacuation includes: Cinco Ranch South Lake Village, Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, and Villas of Villagio Townhomes.

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The sections that are no longer under mandatory evacuation are: Cinco Ranch Greenway Village, Sections 1-9; Cinco Ranch Meadow Place, Section 4; and Cinco Rancho North Lake Village, Sections 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

[A map](#) of the update evacuations was also released.

The county added the areas of the evacuation order will reduce as water recedes.

Power Outage

To report an outage, call:

Texas

- Center Point Energy 800.332.7143
- Texas New Mexico Power 888.866.7456

Airport Closures

Passengers are urged to not come to the local airport unless your flight has been confirmed. If your flight was canceled, please call your airline's customer service telephone number or rebook through your airline's website.

Flight delay information: <http://www.flightstats.com/go/Home/home.do>

- All flights to and from Houston have been delayed indefinitely.

Hurricane Evacuee Camping

Governor Abbott opens Texas state parks to hurricane evacuees.

Hurricane Harvey evacuees can stay for free in Texas state parks. Please call parks to check availability.

Some parks in coastal and south Texas regions are closed due to the hurricane. Parks not listed here may have limited availability; if you are an evacuee and you are near a TPWD park that is not listed here, you can [check this map to see if the park is open](#).

Abilene State Park	(325) 572-3204	150 Park Road 32	Tuscola	79562	32.240614	-99.879079	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/abilene
Atlanta State Park	(903) 796-6476	927 Park Rd 42	Atlanta	75551	33.231561	-94.267788	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/atlanta
Bonham State Park	(903) 583-5022	1363 State Park 24	Bonham	75418-9285	33.544812	-96.145404	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/bonham
Cleburne State Park	(817) 645-4215	5800 Park Road 21	Cleburne	76033	32.266556	-97.55685	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/cleburne
Cooper Lake State Park -	(903) 945-	1690 FM 3505	Sulphur Springs	75482	33.28966	-95.652852	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/cooper-lake

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South Sulphur Unit	5256						
Daingerfield State Park	(903) 645-2921	455 Park Road 17	Daingerfield	75638	33.010936	-94.693999	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/daingerfield
Dinosaur Valley State Park	(254) 897-4588	1629 Park Rd 59	Glen Rose	76043	32.251511	-97.81219	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/dinosaur-valley
Eisenhower State Park	(903) 465-1956	50 Park Road 20	Denison	75020-4878	33.814601	-96.60951	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/eisenhower
Fairfield Lake State Park	(903) 389-4514	123 State Park Rd. 64	Fairfield	75840	31.761169	-96.070204	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/fairfield-lake
Fort Parker State Park	(254) 562-5751	194 Park Road 28	Mexia	76667	31.569973	-96.543936	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/fort-parker
Fort Richardson State Park & Historic Site	(940) 567-3506	228 State Park Road 61	Jacksboro	76458	33.20615	-98.156969	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/fort-richardson
Guadalupe River State Park	(830) 438-2656	3350 Park Rd. 31	Spring Branch	78070	29.87607	-98.504058	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/guadalupe-river
Hill Country State Natural Area	(830) 796-4413	10600 Bandera Creek Rd	Bandera	78003	29.631061	-99.191801	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/hill-country
Inks Lake State Park	(512) 793-2223	3630 Park Road 4 West	Burnet	78611	30.739195	-98.370808	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/inks-lake
Lake Arrowhead State Park	(940) 528-2211	229 Park Road 63	Wichita Falls	76310	33.758069	-98.395571	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/lake-arrowhead
Lake Bob Sandlin State Park	(903) 572-5531	341 State Park Road 2117	Pittsburg	75686	33.049185	-95.092292	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/lake-bob-sandlin
Lake Brownwood State Park	(325) 784-5223	200 State Highway Park Road 15	Lake Brownwood	76801	31.858162	-99.029785	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/lake-brownwood

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Lake Colorado City State Park	(325) 728-393	4582 FM 2836	Colorado City	79512	32.324143	- 100.932756	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/lake-colorado-city
Lake Mineral Wells State Park	(940) 328-1171	100 Park Road 71	Mineral Wells	76067	32.832393	-98.030831	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/lake-mineral-wells

Source: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/park-information/evacuee-parks>

School and Business Closures

- ABBEY ACADEMY PREPARATORY SCHOOL and amp; DAYCARE - Opens Sept. 5.
- Academy of Accelerated Learning - Opens Sept. 5.
- Art Institute of Houston - Opens Sept. 5.
- ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC SCHOOL - Opens Sept. 5.
- AVONDALE HOUSE - Opens Sept. 5.
- FORT BEND CHRISTIAN ACADEMY - Opens Sept. 5.
- Houston Baptist University - Closed Through Monday.
- KIPP Houston Public Schools - Opens Sept. 5.
- LONE STAR COLLEGE - ALL LOCATIONS - Opens Sept. 5.
- MEMORIAL LUTHERAN SCHOOL - Opens Sept. 5.
- RYSS K-12 SCHOOLS - HOUSTON - Opens Sept. 5.
- Sam Houston State University - Opens Sept. 5.
- ST. CHRISTOPHER CATHOLIC SCHOOL - Opens Sept. 5.
- St. Thomas More Parish School - Opens Sept. 5.
- Texas Serenity Academy North Houston - Rosslyn and Gano campuses - Opens Sept. 5.
- Tulsa Welding School and amp; Technology Center - Houston Campus - Opens Sept. 5.
- UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS - Opens Sept. 5.
- Westbury Christian School - Opens Sept. 5.
- WHARTON COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE - Opens Sept. 5.
- ALVIN ISD - Closed through Sept. 5.
- ASCENSION EPISCOPAL SCHOOL - Opens Sept. 5.
- BARBERS HILL ISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- BRAZOS ISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- BRAZOSPORT ISD - CLOSED ALL WEEK - CLASSES RESUME SEPT. 5.
- COLDSRING-OAKHURST CISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- COLUMBIA-BRAZORIA ISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- CONROE ISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- CYPRESS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL - Opens Sept. 5.
- EAST CHAMBERS ISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- FORT BEND ISD - Opens Sept. 11.
- GOOSE CREEK CISD - Opens Sept. 11.
- HARDIN ISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- HARRIS COUNTY DEPT OF ED - Opens Sept. 5.
- HEMPSTEAD ISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- HIGH ISLAND ISD - Opens Sept. 5.

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- HOLY SPIRIT EPISCOPAL SCHOOL - Opens Sept. 5.
- HOUSTON ISD - Opens Sept. 11.
- HUFFMAN ISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- HUMBLE ISD - Closed until further notice - At least through Sept. 6.
- KATY ISD - Schools will reopen on Monday, Sept. 11.
- LA PORTE ISD - Opens Sept. 6.
- MAINLAND PREPARATORY ACADEMY - Opens Sept. 5.
- MATAGORDA ISD - Closed until further notice.
- NEEDVILLE ISD - Classes will begin on Sept. 11.
- NEW WAVERLY ISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- ROYAL ISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- SANTA FE ISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- SPLENDORA ISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- SPRING ISD - Schools and offices will remain closed until Tuesday, Sept. 5.
- ST AUGUSTINE SCH - Opens Sept. 5.
- ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC SCH - Opens Sept. 5.
- ST PIUS X HIGH SCHOOL - Opens Sept. 5.
- STAFFORD MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT - Students will return on Thursday, Sept. 7.
- SWEENEY ISD - Opens Sept. 5.
- TEXAS CITY ISD - Closed until Sept. 11.
- TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY - Opens Sept. 5.
- THE REGIS SCHOOL OF THE SACRED HEART - Closed all week - Late open Sept. 5 at 9 a.m..
- THE RHODES SCHOOL - Re-opens Sept. 5.
- THE VILLAGE SCHOOL - Opens Sept. 5.
- THE WESTVIEW SCHOOL - Opens Sept. 5.
- TWO DIMENSIONS PREPARATORY ACADEMY - Opens Sept. 5.
- VARNETT CHARTER SCHOOL - Opens Sept. 5.

Source: <http://abc13.com/community/schoolclosings/>

LiveHealth Online Offers Free Doctor Visits for the People of Texas and Louisiana Impacted by Hurricane Harvey

LiveHealth Online, a mobile app and website that provides consumers with a convenient way to have live video visits with doctors for non-emergency health conditions announced today that it is making access to live doctor visits available free for the people of Texas and Louisiana who have been impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

Anyone in Texas or Louisiana who downloads the mobile app and registers will be able to access a free online visits by selecting LiveHealth Online Help for Harvey. The free visit offer will be available through October 31, 2017.

"Thousands of Americans have been stranded, displaced or otherwise unable to get care during this difficult time and our team stands ready to support anyone who cannot get to a doctor when they need it," said John Jesser, President of LiveHealth Online. "Our hope is that by providing access to high quality care for non-emergency conditions we can help hurricane victims take care of their health right now and in the weeks to come."

Video doctor visits via LiveHealth Online are an easy and convenient way to get quality medical care for common health conditions like a cough, cold, cuts, bruises, sprains or strains and other non-emergency issues. Prescriptions and/or

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prescription refills can be provided by board-certified doctors if needed. For more information visit livehealthonline.com/harvey.

Airbnb Urgent Accommodations

All service fees are waived for those affected by the disaster and checking in between August 23, 2017 and September 25, 2017.

How it works

Airbnb hosts can respond to crises in their community by offering housing to displaced neighbors and relief workers deployed to help.

During an emergency, Airbnb may email local hosts with information about how to help and how to offer their extra space to affected community members. These hosts are still covered by the Host Guarantee, and Airbnb's fees are waived.

[Learn more](#) about how Airbnb partners with government organizations and NGOs to support communities during and after a disaster.

- You can locate a participating Airbnb residence here: <https://www.airbnb.com/disaster/hurricaneharveyevacuees>

Wifi availability:

Wifi: XFINITY is making WiFi hotspots available to non-subscribers in the Houston area. Connect to "xfinitywifi" and select "Not an XFINITY Internet Customer" on the sign in page to get started.

Pets and Animals

Make a Plan

Remember, during a disaster what's good for you is good for your pet, so get them ready today.

If you leave your pets behind, they may be lost, injured – or worse. Never leave a pet chained outdoors. Plan options include:

- Create a buddy system in case you're not home. Ask a trusted neighbor to check on your animals.
- Identify shelters. For public health reasons, many emergency shelters cannot accept pets.
 - [Find pet friendly hotels](#) along your evacuation route and keep a list in your pet's emergency kit.
 - Locate boarding facilities or animal hospitals near your evacuation shelter.
 - Consider an out-of-town friend or relative
- Locate a veterinarian or animal hospital in the area where you may be seeking temporary shelter, in case your pet needs medical care. Add the contact information to your emergency kit.
- Have your pet is microchipped and make sure that you not only keep your address and phone number up-to-date, but that you also include contact info for an emergency contact outside of your immediate area.
- Call your local emergency management office, animal shelter or animal control office to get advice and information.
- If you are unable to return to your home right away, you may need to board your pet. Find out where pet boarding facilities are located.
- Most boarding kennels, veterinarians and animal shelters will need your pet's medical records to make sure all vaccinations are current.
- If you have no alternative but to leave your pet at home, there are some precautions you must take, but remember that leaving your pet at home alone can place your animal in great danger!

Tips for Large Animals

If you have large animals such as horses, cattle, sheep, goats or pigs on your property, be sure to prepare before a disaster.

- Ensure all animals have some form of identification.

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- Evacuate animals whenever possible. Map out primary and secondary routes in advance.
- Make available vehicles and trailers needed for transporting and supporting each type of animal. Also make available experienced handlers and drivers.
- Ensure destinations have food, water, veterinary care and handling equipment.
- If evacuation is not possible, animal owners must decide whether to move large animals to shelter or turn them outside.

Take extra time to observe livestock, looking for early signs of disease and injury. Severe cold-weather injuries or death primarily occur in the very young or in animals that are already debilitated.

Animals suffering from frostbite don't exhibit pain. It may be up to two weeks before the injury becomes evident as the damaged tissue starts to slough away. At that point, the injury should be treated as an open wound and a veterinarian should be consulted.

Make sure your livestock has the following to help prevent cold-weather problems:

- Plenty of dry bedding to insulate vulnerable udders, genitals and legs from the frozen ground and frigid winds
- Windbreaks to keep animals safe from frigid conditions
- Plenty of food and water

Build a Kit

Include basic survival items and items to keep your pet happy and comfortable. Start with this list, or download [Preparing Makes Sense for Pet Owners](#)-Emergency Preparedness Pet Kit List (PDF) to find out exactly what items your pet needs to be Ready.

- Food. At least a three day supply in an airtight, waterproof container.
- Water. At least three days of water specifically for your pets.
- Medicines and medical records.
- Important documents. Registration information, adoption papers and vaccination documents. Talk to your veterinarian about microchipping and enrolling your pet in a recovery database.
- First aid kit. Cotton bandage rolls, bandage tape and scissors; antibiotic ointment; flea and tick prevention; latex gloves, isopropyl alcohol and saline solution. Including a pet first aid reference book is a good idea too.
- Collar or harness with ID tag, rabies tag and a leash.
- Crate or pet carrier. Have a sturdy, safe crate or carrier in case you need to evacuate. The carrier should be large enough for your pet to stand, turn around and lie down.
- Sanitation. Pet litter and litter box if appropriate, newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags and household chlorine bleach.
- A picture of you and your pet together. If you become separated, a picture of you and your pet together will help you document ownership and allow others to assist you. Add species, breed, age, sex, color and distinguishing characteristics.
- Familiar items. Familiar items, such as treats, toys and bedding can help reduce stress for your pet.

Shareables

- [American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals \(ASPCA\)](#)
- [American Humane Association](#)

Source: <https://www.ready.gov/animals>

Texas Resources for pet owners

Pet friendly shelters

- List of [Texas Animal Holding Facilities and Shelters list](#) (from [Texas Animal Health Commission](#))
- Dial 211 if you are seeking a large or small animal shelter or holding facility.
- Via [Houston SPCA](#): If you have an animal emergency, inquiry or report related to #Harvey, please call our Animal Emergency Response Hotline at 713-861-3010. For all other inquiries that are not related to hurricane assistance,

Contact us anytime for confidential assistance.

please call 713-869-7722 or visit <http://www.houstonspca.org/>

San Antonio (Host city to storm evacuees)

- All evacuees are advised to check in at **200 Gemblar Road, just northeast of AT&T Center**. Evacuees with pets can also go to the Gemblar check-in point, but pets can't stay in the same facilities as people. All pets, with the exception of service animals, will be kept in separate facilities. However, the city will provide shuttle service so people can visit their animals.

Austin (Host city to storm evacuees)

- Two shelters are now open, according to Statesman.com:
 - Delco Center, 4601 Pecan Brook Drive
 - LBJ High School, which shares a campus with the Liberal Arts and Science Academy at 7309 Lazy Creek Drive.

Travis County

- Gulf Coast evacuees can bring cats and dogs to shelter locations, which will have an area to keep them.

Livestock resources

Travis County and the Texas Animal Health Commission are coordinating efforts to house horses and other livestock at the Travis County Fairgrounds, both for out-of-area evacuees and local residents who live in flood-prone areas.

Social media

Note: Always use caution when posting personal information or using information posted on social networking sites. RedRover cannot vouch for the accuracy or intention of any of the links below.

Twitter:

- [@HoustonOEM - City of Houston Office of Emergency Management](#)
- [@NuecesOEM - Nueces County OEM](#)
- [@TAHC - TX Animal Health Commission](#)
- Popular hashtags: #HurricaneHarvey, #Harvey, #Harvey2017, #HarveyStorm

Facebook:

- [Texas Animal Health Commission](#)
- [Houston SPCA](#)

Pet friendly lodging resources:

- [Bringfido.com](#)
- [Dogfriendly.com](#)
- [Doginmysuitcase.com](#)
- [Pet-friendly-hotels.net](#)
- [Pets-allowed-hotels.com](#)
- [Petswelcome.com](#)
- [Tripswithpets.com](#)

Veterinary care:

- [RedRover Relief: Financial assistance grants](#) for emergency veterinary care. Applications accepted online.

Source : <https://redrover.org/article/resources-gulf-coast-hurricane-harvey-victims>

Replacing Lost or Damaged Documents

- SNAP Card (food stamps): call the Lonestar helpdesk toll-free at 1-800-777-7328.
- Green Cards: Call 800-375-5283 or [click here](#).

Contact us anytime for confidential assistance.

- Birth and Death Certificates: Call 888-963-7111 or [visit this website](#).
- Texas Driver's License: Call 512-424-2600 or [click here](#).
- Bank Checks, ATM/Debit Cards, or Safe Deposit Boxes: Call 877-275-3342 or [click here](#).
- Credit Cards: Contact your issuing institution: [American Express](#) (800-992-3404), [Discover](#) (800-347-2683), [MasterCard](#) (800-622-7747), or [Visa](#) (800-847-2911).
- Credit Reports: Contact Equifax, Experian, or Transunion at 877-322-8228 or visit [annualcreditreport.com](#)
- Social Security Card: Call 800-772-1213 or [click here](#).
- Fraud Alerts or a Credit Freeze: Call 877-438-4338 or [click here](#).
- Medicare Cards: Call 800-772-1213 or [click here](#).
- Passport: Call 202-955-0430 or 877-487-2778 or [click here](#).
- U.S. Savings Bonds: Call 800-722-2678 or 800-553-2663 or [click here](#).
- Tax Returns: Call 800-829-1040 or [click here](#).
- Military Records: Call 866-272-6272 or [click here](#).
- Vehicle Titles: Call 888-368-3689 or [click here](#).
- Replace a Texas Marriage Record or Certificate: [Visit this website](#) for statewide information or visit [this site](#) for your issuing Clerk of Court.
- Proof of Address/Residency: [Click here](#).

Source: <https://www.cornyn.senate.gov/content/page/hurricane-harvey-resources>

GasBuddy Activates Gas Availability Tracker

Residents Impacted by Hurricane Harvey Can Find Which Stations Have Fuel and Electricity

Hurricane Harvey shuts down refineries in the nation's largest refining hub and the strain on fuel supply continues to rise across the country.

- GasBuddy has activated its gas availability tracker to help motorists in affected areas find gasoline: <http://tracker.gasbuddy.com>
- Consumers can report the status – “Has Fuel,” “No Fuel,” or “No Power” – at any gas station to help others. Currently, the tracker shows a number of stations throughout Texas affected by the Hurricane and without fuel, including stations in Houston, Dallas, Austin, and San Antonio.
- Users who have the free GasBuddy smartphone app can receive push notifications on rising gas prices in their areas.

About GasBuddy

GasBuddy is a smartphone app connecting drivers with their Perfect Pit Stop™. With nearly 70 million downloads, GasBuddy is the leader in crowdsourced information to help drivers find the best gas prices, closest stations, friendliest service, cleanest restrooms, tastiest coffee and much more. GasBuddy is the leading source for the most accurate, real-time fuel prices at more than 140,000 gas stations in the U.S., Canada and Australia. The Company's B2B Retailer Software-as-a-Service (SaaS), known as GasBuddy Business Pages, provide Fuel Marketers and Retailers their best opportunity to maintain their station information, manage their brand, and promote to their target consumer audience. For more information, visit www.gasbuddy.com or email press@gasbuddy.com.

Source: <http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/GasBuddy-Activates-Gas-Availability-Tracker>

FEMA- Sheltering and Immediate Assistance Available after Hurricane Harvey

As Tropical Storm Harvey continues to batter eastern Texas and southwest Louisiana, life safety and access to safe shelters remain a priority of local responders, Texas officials, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the entire federal family.

More than 230 shelters are currently open across the affected and surrounding areas. [Download the FEMA mobile app](#) (available in English and Spanish) to register for assistance, and for directions to open shelters, a customizable checklist of emergency supplies, disaster survival tips, and weather alerts from the National Weather Service. The app also enables users to receive push notifications reminding them to take important steps to prepare their homes and families for disasters.

While immediate lifesaving and life sustaining operations are the priority for FEMA and our partners, residents and business owners in designated counties who sustained damage due to Tropical Storm Harvey, and are able to do so, should apply for assistance by registering online at <http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov>.

Registering online is the quickest way to register for FEMA assistance since the event will last several days and the full scope of damages may not be evident until the storm has passed. If you do not have access to the internet you may register by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY). If you use 711 relay or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 800-621-3362 directly. The toll-free telephone numbers will operate from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. (local time) seven days a week until further notice.

For survivors who have registered, short-term housing assistance and other immediate funding is available:

- **Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA)** was approved in Texas for eligible disaster survivors who have a continuing need for shelter because they are unable to return to their homes for an extended period of time. This initiative is intended to provide short-term lodging for eligible disaster survivors whose communities are either uninhabitable or inaccessible due to disaster-related damage. FEMA will contact you if you are eligible for the program. A listing of available properties under this program can be found at www.femaevachotels.com.
- **Two Months of Expedited Rental Assistance** was also approved in Texas for eligible disaster survivors. Due to the size of the disaster, FEMA is using coastal depth and riverine flooding data to identify damaged homes, so survivors can get funds quickly and begin making decisions regarding their temporary housing solutions.
- **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Advance Payments**. If a survivor has NFIP flood insurance and suffered damage during the recent floods related to Hurricane Harvey, they may be eligible to receive up to \$5,000 for building and contents damages prior to the adjuster's inspection with a signed advance payment request agreement. If a policyholder has photos and receipts that validate out-of-pocket expense, they may receive an advance payment up to \$10,000. If the flood insurance adjuster has inspected a loss, and the policyholder's property has significant damage, and a copy of a contractor's estimate, they may receive a larger advance payment of the estimated covered loss. Any advance payments are deducted from a final claims payment.
- **Critical Needs Assistance (CNA)** may now be available to individuals and households who, as a result of the disaster, have immediate or critical needs because they are displaced from their primary home. Immediate or critical needs include, but aren't limited to, water, food, first aid, prescriptions, infant formula, diapers, consumable medical supplies, durable medical equipment, personal hygiene items, and fuel for transportation. CNA is a one-time, limited payment per household for eligible applicants who register for FEMA assistance.
- **Disaster Unemployment Assistance** is available for Texas residents whose jobs were affected by Tropical Storm Harvey in Texas, specifically those who live or work in the counties included in the major disaster declaration. This may include people not normally eligible for unemployment benefits, such as self-employed persons and farm-workers. They can apply for unemployment benefits online at <https://apps.twc.state.tx.us/UBS/security/logon.do>.
- **Immediate Foreclosure Relief** from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) may be available for Texas residents. HUD is granting a 90-day moratorium on foreclosures and forbearance on foreclosures of Federal Housing Administration (FHA)-insured home mortgages. There are approximately 200,000 FHA-insured homeowners living in these impacted counties that may be eligible. HUD is also offering longer-term recovery assistance to survivors and impacted communities. For more information, visit [HUD's website](#).

FEMA assistance could also include grants for temporary housing, home repairs and uninsured property losses. Loans from the Small Business Administration (SBA) may also be available to help repair flood-related damage to your home or

Contact us anytime for confidential assistance.

business and replace personal property. The SBA provides low-interest disaster loans of up to \$200,000 to repair a primary residence, up to \$40,000 for homeowners and renters to replace personal property and up to \$2 million to businesses and most private non-profits for physical damage and economic injury needs as a result of the disaster. Survivors need to register with FEMA first to determine their eligibility for any federal assistance that may be available. For additional information about recovery resources in states affected by Tropical Storm Harvey, visit www.fema.gov/hurricane-harvey.

Source: <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2017/08/30/sheltering-and-immediate-assistance-available-after-hurricane-harvey>

FEMA Advises Disaster Applicants to Beware of Rumors, Misinformation, and Fraud

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is raising awareness that Hurricane Harvey disaster survivors, and their friends and family, must be alert for false rumors, scams, identity theft, and fraud. Although many Americans are working hard to help their neighbors now, during chaotic times, some will always try to take advantage of the most vulnerable.

To dispel some of the false rumors circulating on the internet and social media, FEMA created a dedicated website to address some of the most common themes. Remember, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Visit <https://www.fema.gov/hurricane-harvey-rumor-control> to get the most accurate information from trusted sources.

Here is how to protect yourself, or someone you care about, from disaster fraud:

- Federal and state workers do not ask for, or accept, money. FEMA staff will never charge applicants for disaster assistance, home inspections, or help filling out applications. Stay alert for false promises to speed up the insurance, disaster assistance, or building permit process.
- In person, always ask to see any FEMA employee ID badges. FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance teams may be in impacted communities providing information and assisting survivors with the registration process or their applicant files.
- A FEMA shirt or jacket is not proof of identity. All FEMA representatives, including our contracted inspectors, will have a laminated photo ID. All National Flood Insurance Program adjusters will have a NFIP Authorized Adjuster Card with their name and the types of claims they may adjust.
- If you are unsure or uncomfortable with anyone you encounter claiming to be an emergency management official, do not give out personal information, and contact local law enforcement.
- If you suspect fraud, contact the FEMA Disaster Fraud Hotline at 866-720-5721 or report it to the Federal Trade Commission at www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov.
- More information on disaster-related fraud is available at the Texas Attorney General's Office website at texasattorneygeneral.gov/cpd/disaster-scams or call -800-252-8011.

Source: <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2017/08/31/fema-advises-disaster-applicants-beware-rumors-misinformation-and-fraud>