



**Harris County
Hospital District**

2011 Hurricane Preparedness *AT HOME*



**Harris County
Hospital
District**

**Department of
Emergency
Management**

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Preparing Your Home

- Cover all your home's windows with pre-cut ply wood or hurricane shutters to protect your windows from high winds
- Plan to bring in all outdoor furniture, decorations, garbage cans and anything else that is not tied down.
- Keep all trees and shrubs well trimmed so they are more wind resistant.
- Turn off utilities as instructed. Also, turn the refrigerator thermostat to its coolest setting and keep closed.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Ensure a supply of water for sanitary purposes, such as cleaning and flushing toilets. Fill the bathtub and other large containers with water.

A **Hurricane Watch** is issued by the National Weather Service about 36 hours prior to hurricane conditions threatening the coastal area. You should do the following:

- Continue to monitor local TV or Radio stations for instructions
- Check supplies, especially water (at least 5 gallons per person)
- Fuel vehicles and generators
- Prepare your home
- Moor any boats securely or move boats to a safe place.

A **Hurricane Warning** is issued when hurricane winds of 74 mph or higher or dangerously high water and rough seas are expected within 24 hours. When a warning is issued for your area, you should:

- Continue to monitor local TV and Radio stations for instructions
- Move out of Evacuation Zones early, if requested by officials
- Check tie-downs if living in a mobile home. LEAVE for substantial shelter

If NOT in an evacuation zone:

- Review and verify that Emergency Plan Checklists are complete
- Fill bathtubs and all available containers with extra water
- Turn off utilities, if requested
- Stay away from windows, door and openings