



**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Township encourages residents to prepare for hurricane season**

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (June 3, 2020) – Hurricane season is officially underway for 2020 and The Woodlands Township encourages residents to plan ahead and make preparations in case of a weather event.

Hurricane season officially began on June 1, 2020, and ends on November 30, 2020. According to forecasters with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center, a division of the National Weather Service, an above-normal 2020 Atlantic hurricane season is expected. Prior to the start of the season, two named tropical storms formed in the Atlantic, indicating that residents should be on alert for an active hurricane season. Additionally, residents should bear COVID-19 precautions in mind and consider how to continue social distancing and maintain the health of their household during a storm.

### **How to Prepare for Hurricane Season**

#### **1. Be Informed - Stay Connected to The Woodlands Township and Counties for Alerts**

- a. Know the potential risks a hurricane in the area can bring such as heavy wind and rain, flooding and tornadoes resulting in power outages, property damage, dangerous outdoor conditions and limited access to communications and supplies. Learn more at [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/getready](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/getready).
- b. Sign up for The Woodlands Township Emergency Alert Notifications:
- c. [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/notifyme](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/notifyme)
- d. Follow Township social media accounts: [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/stayinformed](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/stayinformed)
- e. Sign up for Alert MCTX if you reside in Montgomery County: [www.mctxoem.org](http://www.mctxoem.org)
- f. Sign up for Ready Harris Alerts if you reside in Harris County: [www.ReadyHarris.org](http://www.ReadyHarris.org)
- g. Look for credible sources of information, such as from agencies listed at [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/emergency](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/emergency)

## **2. Make a Plan**

- a. Prepare an emergency plan for your family. Consider an out-of-town contact to text during an emergency who can maintain contact with your loved ones. Have phone numbers written down in an easily accessible, secure place.
- b. Identify a location in your neighborhood where your family will meet in case you are separated. Ensure that children know the emergency plan and practice it with them in advance.
- c. If you must evacuate for some reason, consider staying at a family or friend's home to avoid COVID-19 exposure. If you must go to a shelter, take emergency supplies with you, including personal support items and COVID-19 prevention supplies. Keep 6 feet apart from other households, if possible.

## **3. Build a Kit**

- a. Prepare an emergency supply kit for your family. An emergency supply kit should include water, batteries, nonperishable food, flashlights, a first aid kit, a battery-powered radio and more. Consider including face coverings, hand sanitizer, soap and other sanitary items that will help to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Please visit [www.ready.gov/kit](http://www.ready.gov/kit) for more details.
- b. Gather important documents and financial information and visit <https://ready.gov/get-tech-ready> for storage tips or use a waterproof Emergency Document Bag to keep the documents in a safe place.

## **4. Get Involved**

- a. Contact your Neighborhood Services Specialist for more information about The Woodlands Township Neighborhood Watch at [neighbor@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov](mailto:neighbor@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov).
- b. Get to know your neighbors, even if from a distance, before an emergency.
- c. Consider an online safety class from American Red Cross, such as the free *Water Safety for Parents and Caregivers*.

For more information about The Woodlands Township, please call 281-210-3800 or visit [www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov](http://www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov). Please follow Township Neighborhood Watch on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/townshipneighborhoodwatch](http://www.Facebook.com/townshipneighborhoodwatch).



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