Hurricane season: a little now helps a lot later.

Season runs June 1 to November 30. Flooding and wind can hit far inland, too.

Before the storm

1. **Know your zone** (Coastal, A, B, or C). Use this year's H-GAC map by ZIP code at h-gac.com/hurricane. Evacuate only if you're in a zone *and* told to go. Otherwise, plan to shelter in place.
2. **Sign up for alerts** at ReadyHarris.org. Deaf, blind, or hard of hearing? Text **Ready** to **(281) 609-9093**. Follow weather.gov/hgx.
3. **Need help to evacuate?** Register free with **STEAR** at stear.texas.gov or dial 2-1-1. It doesn't guarantee a service, so keep your own plan.

Build a kit (at least 3 days)

- ☐ Water: 1 gallon per person, per day
- ☐ Food that won't spoil, can opener
- ☐ Battery or crank radio, flashlight, batteries
- ☐ Phone chargers and backup battery
- ☐ Medicines, glasses, first aid kit
- ☐ ID and papers in a waterproof bag
- ☐ Pet food and water

During the storm

- **Turn Around, Don't Drown.** 6 inches of moving water can knock you down; 1 foot can sweep a car away.
- Flooding? Go up high, but not into a closed attic.

After the storm

- Wait for officials to say it's safe. Stay away from downed power lines and flood water.
- **Generators outdoors only**, 20+ feet from windows, doors, and garages. Never heat your home with a gas stove or oven.
- Take photos of damage before you clean up.
- **Food:** fridge is safe about 4 hours without power; full freezer about 48. Toss meat, milk, and leftovers above 40°F for 2+ hours. When in doubt, throw it out.
- **Water:** follow boil-water notices. To boil, bring to a rolling boil for 1 minute.
- **Repair scams:** get more than one estimate and everything in writing. Out-of-area emergency contractors generally can't require payment up front.

Where to get help

Life in danger
9-1-1

2-1-1 Texas (also STEAR sign-up)
Dial 2-1-1 or (877) 541-7905

FEMA Helpline
1-800-621-3362 · DisasterAssistance.gov
7 a.m.–10 p.m., 7 days

Texas Attorney General (scams, price gouging)
800-621-0508

Harris County alerts
ReadyHarris.org

Full guide, with every source: whatwouldjesusprompt.org/hurricane-season

Last checked: October 11, 2026. General information, not legal advice. What Would Jesus Prompt? is not a government office or emergency service. During a storm, follow local officials. Rules and numbers can change, so confirm with the official source.

Free from What Would Jesus Prompt? Questions or need free help? Use the request form at whatwouldjesusprompt.org