

KNOWING WHAT TO DO
IS YOUR BEST PROTECTION
AND YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

What would you do if basic services – water, gas, electricity or telephones – were cut off? Relief workers cannot reach everyone right away. Therefore, prepare before disaster strikes. You and your family will cope best by preparing for the hurricane before a storm is in the Gulf of Mexico. One way to prepare is by assembling a disaster supply kit. Once a storm is in the Gulf, you may not have time to shop or search for supplies or you may have difficulty finding needed items. However, if you have gathered your supplies in advance, your family can endure an evacuation or home confinement.

DISASTER SUPPLY KIT CHECKLIST

- ☐ Water – At least a five to seven day supply (one gallon per person per day)
- ☐ Food – At least a five to seven day supply of nonperishable/canned food (Change out stored water and food supplies every six months)
- ☐ First Aid Kit
- ☐ Flashlight with extra batteries
- ☐ Battery powered radio
- ☐ Medications and special items (pain relievers, diapers, etc.)
- ☐ Tools and supplies
- ☐ Sanitation (toilet paper, personal hygiene items, etc.)
- ☐ Change of clothes and bedding
- ☐ Cash
- ☐ Important family documents (birth certificates, insurance/bank account information, etc.)
- ☐ Food, water, and medicine for your pets
- ☐ Kennels or crates for pets



EVACUATION
TIPS

- ▶ If you evacuate, remember to take your disaster supply kit with you on the road.
- ▶ During hurricane season (June 1 – November 30), keep at least half a tank of gas in your car at all times.
- ▶ Rethink your needs every year and update your kit as your household changes.
- ▶ To learn how you can be a part of an improved evacuation, please visit www.hcoem.org.

HELPFUL
NUMBERS

**Evacuation Assistance
Registration**
2-1-1
3-1-1 (in Houston)

Harris County
713-755-5000

**County Judge
Ed Emmett**
713-755-4000

**Harris County Office of Homeland
Security & Emergency Management**
713-881-3100



Harris County Judge Ed Emmett joins a neighborhood clean-up effort after Hurricane Ike.



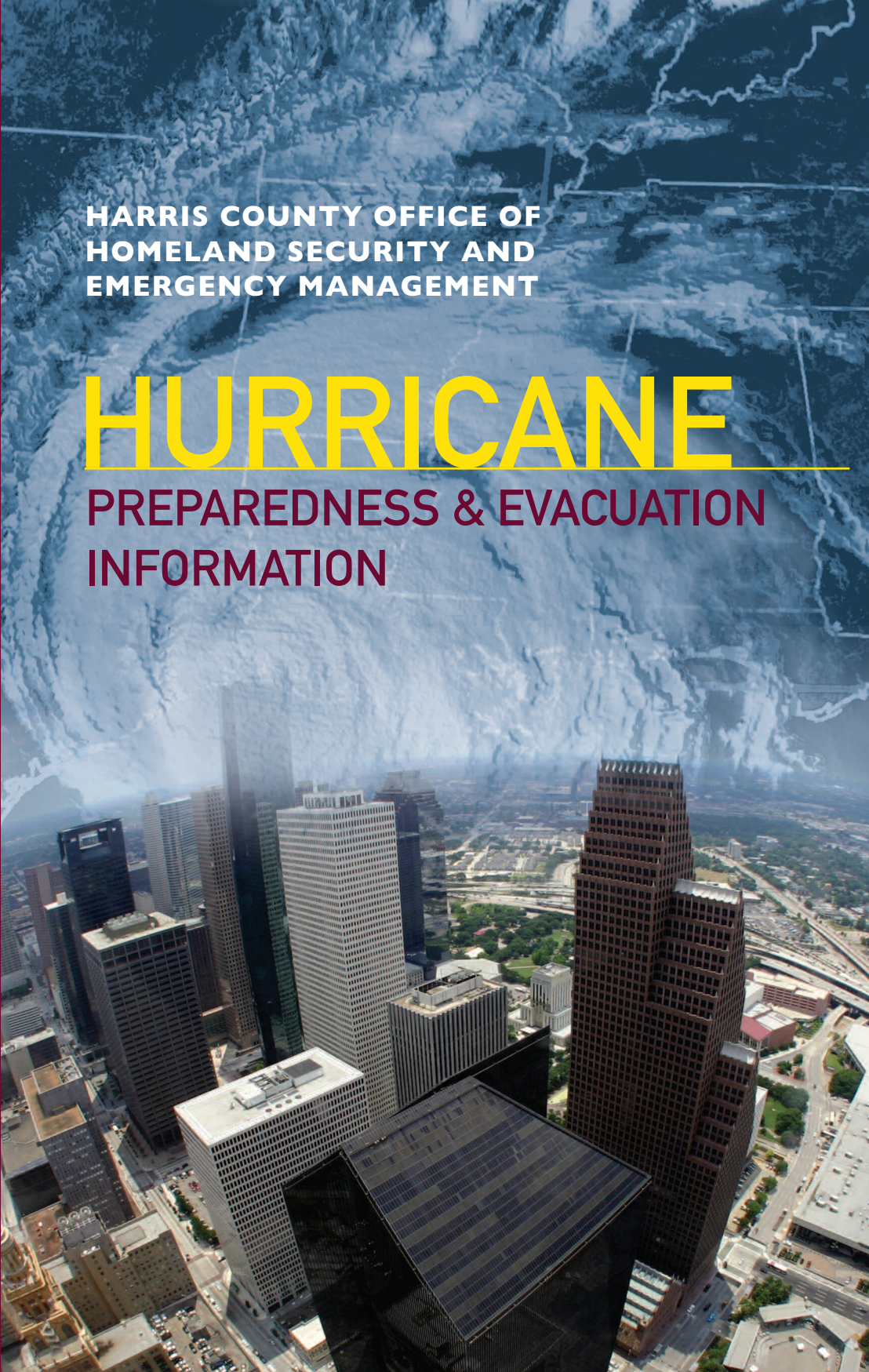
COUNTY JUDGE ED EMMETT
DIRECTOR

HARRIS COUNTY OFFICE OF HOMELAND
SECURITY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

6922 Katy Rd.
Houston, Texas 77024
713-881-3100
www.hcoem.org
www.judgeemmett.org

HARRIS COUNTY OFFICE OF
HOMELAND SECURITY AND
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

HURRICANE
PREPAREDNESS & EVACUATION
INFORMATION



* For additional items you may want to include in your kit, please visit www.hcoem.org.

HURRICANES

Hurricanes can cause catastrophic damage to coastlines and several hundred miles inland. Hurricanes and tropical storms also spawn tornadoes, create storm surges along the coast, and cause extensive damage from heavy rainfall.

Hurricanes are classified into five categories based on their wind speed. Categories 3, 4, and 5 are considered major hurricanes, though categories 1 and 2 are still considered dangerous.

When a hurricane watch is issued by the National Weather Service and the coastal area is threatened, you should:

- Monitor your local TV and radio stations.
- Fuel your vehicles and generators.
- Check your disaster supply kit.
- Cover windows with plywood.
- Bring in all furniture, toys, and any other objects that could become missiles.
- Moor boats to a safe and secure place.
- Take pictures of property and contents for insurance purposes.
- Evacuate immediately, if advised.



Protect your home. Cover windows with plywood.

If you stay in your home during the hurricane and are not in a low-lying/storm surge area, you should:

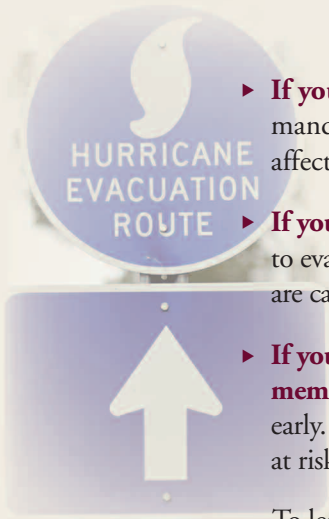
- Continue to monitor local TV and radio stations for updated information.
- Fill bathtubs and all available containers with water.
- Turn off utilities, if requested.
- Remain indoors in a closet, bathroom, or hallway on the lower level of your house, well away from windows.
- Cover yourself and family members with a mattress or a dining room table to protect yourself from falling debris.

EVACUATION

Hurricane Ike reminded Gulf Coast residents about the importance of engaging in staggered, scheduled evacuations that give our neighbors in the greatest danger the opportunity to leave first – followed by those in lower risk areas. The State of Texas has since revised contraflow, fuel, and re-entry plans to make the new staggered evacuation plan more efficient and understandable for all communities that will need to evacuate.

When the threat of severe weather exists, listen regularly to local radio or television stations. If the storm appears to affect your area, local officials may order or recommend that residents evacuate.

The decision to evacuate is based on information provided by the National Weather Service and local offices of emergency management. Once your local officials order an evacuation, follow instructions on when you evacuate, what to do, and where to go.



- ▶ **If you live in a low-lying, flood-prone area**, you may be mandated to leave, because heightened seas and tides can affect your home.
- ▶ **If you live in a mobile home in any evacuation zone**, plan to evacuate anytime a hurricane threatens. Powerful winds are capable of damaging or destroying mobile homes.
- ▶ **If you are traveling with young children, elderly family members, or people with special needs**, you should leave early. Waiting for a general evacuation can put their health at risk and lengthen your travel time.

To learn how you can be a part of an improved evacuation, please visit www.hcoem.org.

If you live in a mobile home in any evacuation zone, plan to evacuate any time a hurricane threatens.

Zip codes have been provided to help you determine what evacuation zone, if any, you live in. Evacuation zones will be announced in time to evacuate. You should leave when your evacuation zone is announced. This will allow the residents in the greatest danger the opportunity to leave first.

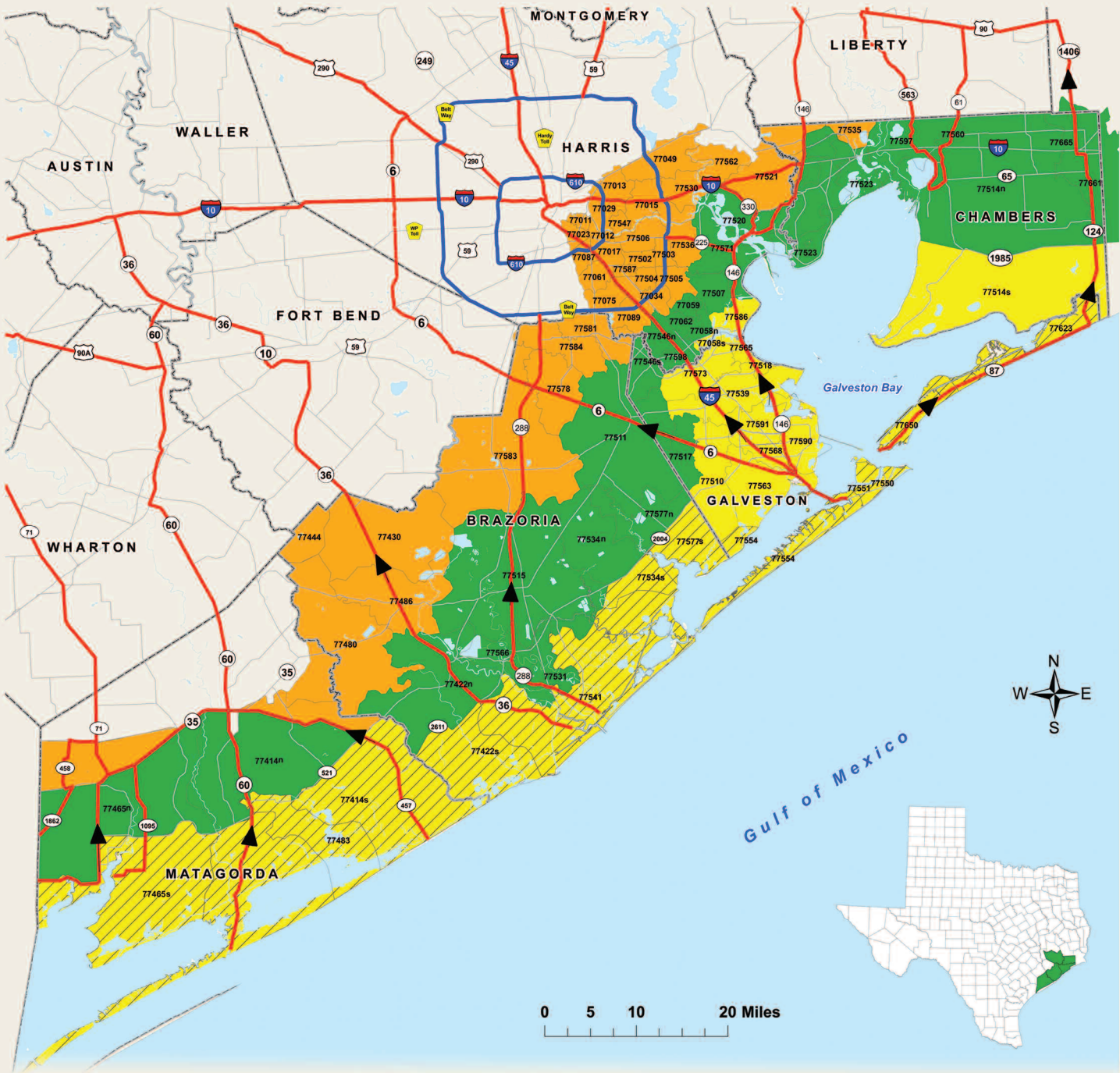
EVACUATION MAP

Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, Harris and Matagorda Hurricane Evacuation Zip-Zones Coastal, A, B, C

Zip-Zone Coastal				
77414s	77483	77550	77577s	77650
77422s	77534s	77551	77617	
77465s	77541	77554	77623	
Zip-Zone A				
77058s	77518	77565	77586	
77510	77539	77568	77590	
77514s	77563	77573	77591	
Zip-Zone B				
77058n	77507	77522	77560	77661
77059	77511	77523	77566	77665
77062	77514n	77531	77571	
77414n	77515	77534n	77577n	
77422n	77517	77546n	77597	
77465n	77520	77546s	77598	
Zip-Zone C				
77011	77034	77444	77505	77562
77012	77049	77463	77506	77578
77013	77061	77480	77521	77581
77015	77075	77486	77530	77583
77017	77087	77502	77535	77584
77023	77089	77503	77536	77587
77029	77430	77504	77547	

Route Designation

- ◀ Evacuation Corridors
- Evacuation Connections
- Other Roads
- County Boundary



TUNE IN TO YOUR LOCAL EMERGENCY RADIO OR TELEVISION STATION. FOR THE HARRIS COUNTY AREA, TUNE TO KTRH 740 AM FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.