



Harris County Water Control & Improvement District No. 36

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"A RECOGNIZED SUPERIOR WATER DISTRICT & Water Smart Participant"

August 2009 NEWSLETTER

"Hurricane Season is Here"

History teaches that a lack of hurricane awareness and preparation are common denominators among all major hurricane disasters. By knowing your vulnerability and what actions you should take, you can reduce the effects of a hurricane disaster. Officially, the Atlantic hurricane season is from June 1st to November 30th, but as the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory (AOML) notes: "There is nothing magical in these dates, and hurricanes have occurred outside of these six months, but these dates were selected to encompass over 97% of tropical activity." For this reason everyone needs to have an emergency plan in place. The District reviews and updates the District's emergency response plan several times a year. Also, most of the time when a hurricane or weather related disaster takes place the District will lose power. When this happens we ask everyone to conserve water. Please remember to conserve water at all times, but especially during an emergency. Water conservation also helps with large water bills. If the District were to lose power or water pressure we will have magnetic signs and banners placed at the office and water plant sites with information concerning the water quality. In addition to an emergency plan everyone should prepare an emergency kit. The following are a few of the items that we suggest to include in your emergency awareness kit:

- Foods (canned goods & non perishable foods) which do not need cooking.
- Drinking water in non breakable containers (at least 2quarts per person per day).
- Identification, cash, valuable papers, insurance policies & photos in a waterproof container.
- Flashlight and extra batteries for radio and flashlights.
- Battery-operated radio with an all weather radio.
- Personal hygiene items, such as: soap, deodorant, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, & aspirin.
- Diapers, washcloth, feminine products, towels, a change of clothing and extra pair of shoes.
- Infant care items, such as: formula, food, and disposable wipes.
- Personal aids, such as: eyeglasses, hearing aids, and batteries, prosthetic devices, etc.
- Utensils, such as: manual can opener, disposable plates, cups, forks, knives,
- Sleeping bag or blanket, sheet & pillow.
- First aid kit, Prescription medications, band aids, nonprescription medications, & insect repellent.

If anyone will needs transportation to leave their home in the event of an emergency please register ahead of time with the City of Houston by dialing 2-1-1 for evacuation transportation. Trained specialists will take personal contact information and ask additional questions about any special medical needs that may affect the type of transportation a person needs. The Special Transportation Registry is open year-round for registration and available 24 hours/day 7 days/week in multiple languages. Any individuals who need assistance may discuss available options with a specialist and learn about services in their local area. During disaster events, 2-1-1 is activated by local and state emergency management officials to announce official information about shelter availability, evacuation routes, road closures, and other important information about the circumstances.

There is a Burn Ban in effect for all areas of unincorporated Harris County. Burning is a violation and is a Class "C" misdemeanor, punishable for up to a \$500 fine. Any peace officer can issue a citation for violation of Section 352.081 of the Local Government Code. In addition you are responsible for any damage caused by a fire you start.

Garbage collection days are Wednesday and Saturday; please have your trash out to the street by 7:00 a.m. on collection day. Trash collection includes **household trash and lawn waste only**, in containers, which are limited to two containers per residence. To contact the trash company directly call telephone number 281-368-8397.

"Thank you for your continued support"

Board of Directors of Harris County W.C. & I.D. No. 36