

Hurricane Preparedness

June 1 through November 30 is the Atlantic hurricane season. If a hurricane is predicted for the Houston area, the Houston/Galveston Weather Services Office and the local Emergency Management Coordinator (Civil Defense Director) will release statements to the news media on the position and the intensity of the hurricane and their recommendations of which areas should be evacuated.

If our area is **not** to be evacuated, you still need to take some precautionary action:

1. WATER: Bottled water may be purchased or water may be stored in any container including bathtubs and sinks. If you store water in bathtubs, use rubber stoppers to prevent the water from draining out over a prolonged period of time.

2. FOOD: Stock up on non-perishable foods. Be sure the food does not require cooking and will not spoil due to lack of refrigeration. Use foods that require little or no added water, as water may later be in short supply. Have a manual can opener available. Turn your refrigerator up to maximum cold and only open it when absolutely necessary.

3. EMERGENCY LIGHTING: Candles and kerosene lamps are **not** recommended due to the potential fire hazard. Purchase battery-operated lanterns and flashlights. Be sure to have enough batteries to last for as long as two weeks.

4. RADIO: Have a battery-operated radio in order to receive accurate information from the local authorities.

5. MEDICINES: Check supplies of special medicines or drugs.

6. PATIOS/BALCONIES: Remove all patio/balcony furniture, potted plants, all loose outdoor items and bring them indoors. Flying debris can be extremely dangerous.

7. WINDOWS: Close all drapes and blinds in your home to help prevent glass from flying into the room. Tape, board or shutter windows to prevent glass from shattering.

8. SLIDING DOORS: Wedge sliding glass doors to prevent them from lifting out of their tracks.

9. STAY INDOORS: Stay indoors on the downwind side of your home or in the interior hallway and away from the windows during the storm. Avoid using elevators during the storm - a power outage stops elevator service.

In the event evacuation is recommended you need to have a pre-arranged location where you can wait out the storm. If you are in a high-rise building, follow the building's evacuation plan and be sure you notify the building management of a telephone number where you can be reached if it is necessary to provide information on the status of the building or of your unit.

For those properties managed by AMI, AMI will have an emergency team set up and will have contractors on 24-hour call to assist as soon as the storm has passed. All calls will be attended to on a priority basis. Be sure to report any damage as soon as feasible to AMI at (713) 932-1122 as they will be working with the Association's insurance company and adjusters.

Your personal property is **NOT** covered by the Association's policy. Please check that you have adequate coverage for your personal property.

The Houston Area Weather Services Offices provided part of this information. For additional information, please contact them at: 1620 Gill Road, Dickenson, Texas 77539