



LONE STAR
LEGAL AID

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR A HURRICANE?



At the beginning of hurricane season:

- Prepare a disaster supply kit.
- Keep important documents and records in a waterproof container:
 - Personal identification cards
 - Important telephone numbers, including your insurance agent
 - Wills, insurance policies, contracts, deeds, car title, rental agreements, etc.
 - Passports, Social Security cards, immunization records
 - Bank account numbers and companies, credit card account numbers and companies
 - Inventory of valuable household items
 - Family records (birth, marriage, death certificates)
- Know your evacuation route- and make sure your emergency contact knows it too!
 - If possible, make sure you can get there with less than one tank of fuel. Local authorities may close exit ramps and cut off evacuees' access to gas stations.
 - Contraflow lanes only have a few exits. If you want to use them, make sure you won't miss your exit.
 - If you plan on staying with relatives, make sure they're ok with it.
- Have a communication plan for friends, family, and your emergency contact.
- Plan for pets! Not all shelters allow pets. Check with your vet, local Humane Society, or SPCA.
- Have a 90- day supply of medicine available in case you might not have access
- Sign up for local emergency alerts. You can sign up through your local Office of Emergency Management website for alerts about bad weather, road closings, local emergencies, etc.
- Make sure you have a plan for electronics.
 - Back up important files. If you use a backup device, make sure to store it in a waterproof container.
 - Get a car charger and cord for your phone, and keep them in your car.
- Make transportation plans if you don't have a car.
- If you are elderly, disabled, or have access and functional needs, and need transportation assistance, you can call 2-1-1 to register with STEAR, or register online at stear.tdem.texas.gov. You will need to register every year.

When a hurricane approaches:

- Check local weather. If possible, listen to a weather radio, and/or track the storm at nhc.noaa.gov.
- Check your disaster supply kit.
- If you have a car, make sure it's ready.
 - Check the fuel, oil, and tire pressure.
 - Check fluids.
 - Fill the gas tank
- Plan on where you're staying. If you plan on staying in a hotel after you evacuate, make a reservation now. Confirm the reservation before you leave and save your receipts.
- If evacuating with pets, make sure to bring any pet food and medicines they may need.
- Be able to deal with potentially heavy traffic when evacuating:
 - Leave early. Don't get caught in severe weather.
 - Take some food and water with you.
 - Don't idle your car for longer than 2 minutes if traffic has completely stopped. Turn off the engine to save fuel.
 - Do not try to cross high water. "Turn around, don't drown."
- Register family members with special medical needs, as necessary.
- Make sure to prepare your home:
 - Bring in anything that can be picked up by the wind (trash cans, potted plants, bicycles, outdoor furniture).
 - Secure windows and doors. If you do not have hurricane shutters, close and board up all windows and doors with plywood.
 - Turn off propane tanks, and unplug small appliances and electronics. Do not turn off utilities or home natural gas unless the authorities tell you to.

1 How can LSLA help survivors?

Lone Star Legal Aid provides free legal assistance to disaster survivors to aid in the recovery process.

2 Who is eligible?

We help low-income people living in the 72 Texas Counties we serve. We only work on civil legal cases.

All clients must meet financial eligibility requirements for our free legal assistance.

3 What assistance is available?

We can help disaster survivors with legal issues like:

- Disaster SNAP,
- Contractor Fraud Issues,
- FEMA Assistance,
- Landlord/Tenant Issues; and more.

4 How do I ask for help?

You can apply 24 hours a day and 7 days a week by visiting www.lonestarlegal.org or calling 1-800-733-8394, Monday through Friday, during regular business hours.

Lone Star Legal Aid does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, national origin, ancestry, disability, marital status, or military status, in any of its activities or operations.

