

University of Houston  Clear Lake

# *HURRICANE!*

**STORM ADVISORY AND PREPARATION**



**University of Houston – Clear Lake Police Department**

**281-283-2222**

Bayou Bldg 1636

[www.uhcl.edu/police](http://www.uhcl.edu/police)

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## INTRODUCTION

The Hurricane season normally extends from June 1 to November 30 each year.

### **Definition:**

A hurricane is a severe tropical storm that forms in the North Atlantic Ocean, the Northeast Pacific Ocean east of the dateline, or the South Pacific Ocean east of 160E. Hurricanes need warm tropical oceans, moisture and light winds above them. If the right conditions last long enough, a hurricane can produce violent winds, incredible waves, torrential rains and floods. In other regions of the world, these types of storms have different names.

Hurricanes rotate in a counterclockwise direction around an “eye”. A tropical storm becomes a hurricane when winds reach 74 mph.

## HURRICANE PREPARATION

A number of hurricanes reach land each year, causing death and massive destruction of property. Local news media periodically broadcast alerts with regard to hurricane location, intensity and direction of travel.

Survival is the most important element in your hurricane plan. Surviving a hurricane is possible, if one considers that property is not worth risking life.

The key to survival is preparedness. Preparedness means a sound hurricane plan. Preparation for a hurricane involves knowing when to secure property and when to evacuate the threatened area.

Evacuation is the best precaution for surviving any hurricane. Hurricanes usually travel over sea or land masses at a speed that will allow people to evacuate. Any preparation plan should include the possibility of evacuation.

## HURRICANE WATCHES AND WARNINGS

A hurricane watch is a government agency announcement issued for an area when there is a threat of hurricane conditions, generally to strike within 36 hours.

A hurricane warning is an announcement issued for an area when hurricane conditions are expected to strike within 24 hours.

## HURRICANE WATCH

In the event of a *hurricane watch*, the University President will confer with members of UHCL administrative staff in preparation for hurricane protection activity. Members of the university community may begin plans for evacuating the campus and preparing facilities and equipment for hurricane protection.

## HURRICANE WARNING

### UNIVERSITY CLOSING

If a *hurricane warning* is issued, the University president will decide if the university will be evacuated.

If the president orders the *closing* of the university, the appropriate directives will be relayed by the vice presidents to their areas of responsibility.

UHCL Office of Communications will contact major news organizations for immediate broadcast notification.

University of Houston – Clear Lake also provides a 24 hour “**EMERGENCY HOTLINE**” which will advise of the university’s status during such events.

The HOTLINE number is **281-283-2221**.

Listen to local radio and television stations for information regarding shelters. KTRH 740 AM is the designated Emergency Alert Broadcast Station for the Houston area. For evacuation routes go to [www.houstontx.gov/oem/hcra.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/oem/hcra.html).

### DON'T FORGET

Batteries  
Evacuation Plan  
First Aid Kit  
Food  
Medications  
Pets  
Portable Radio  
Water

## SAFETY PROCEDURES DURING THE HURRICANE

- Follow the instructions of public safety, police officers and emergency personnel.
- **University Forest Apartments residents**, follow the instructions of the Residential Assistant.
- Stay indoors until advised to exit.
- Stay in interior hallways and keep doors closed.
- Do not open windows or doors to see what is happening outside.
- Beware of the “eye” of the storm. The “eye” is the center of the hurricane which may bring a **temporary** period of calm air and no rain. Do not leave the safety of your shelter until advised by public safety or the local officials. Residents of University Forest Apartments will be notified by Residential Assistants.
- When the “all-clear” is given, exit your location with extreme care. Beware of electric wires, broken glass and falling or fallen objects
- Do not enter structures, vehicles or areas that are damaged; many persons are killed after a storm by electrocution.

- For University of Houston – Clear Lake opening information, call the **UHCL Weather Hotline at 281-283-2221**.
- Enter UHCL property only after permitted and follow safety instructions.

## REOPENING INFORMATION

- University employees and students should tune into radio and television stations for a status report as to when the university will reopen.
- Keep a **portable radio** and plenty of spare batteries.
- RADIO STATIONS
- KIKK AM 650
- KIKK FM 95.7
- KTRH AM 740
- KPRC AM 950
- TELEVISION STATIONS
- KPRC Channel 2
- KHOU Channel 11
- KTRK Channel 13
- KRIV Channel 26

## REOPENING CONFIRMATION

For reopening information please visit the UHCL website at [www.uhcl.edu](http://www.uhcl.edu) or call the UHCL Emergency Hotline at **281-283-2221**.