

WHAT'S YOUR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GAME PLAN?

VICTORIA OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



INTRODUCTION

MISSION

The Victoria Office of Emergency Management works to develop, maintain, and collaborate with local, state, and federal response agencies and community partners to sustain an effective emergency management program for Victoria County and the City of Victoria.

COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS

The Victoria Office of Emergency Management promotes and engages Victoria-area responding agencies, industry partners, and community members in becoming better equipped, knowledgeable, and resilient in the face of disaster and other emergencies. The Victoria Office of Emergency Management is employed to provide knowledge, information, and training to those groups and agencies who will ultimately need to be well-informed about preparedness and resiliency; **everyone** can benefit from being more prepared.

THE VICTORIA OEM TEAM



X RICK MCBRAYER
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR



X JENA WEST
DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR



X RALPH MONTES
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR



X JESSICA KALMUS
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

TABLE OF CONTENTS

UNDERSTANDING HURRICANES -PAGE 3

HAVE A GAME PLAN BEFORE AN EMERGENCY -PAGE 5

PLANNING FOR ADDITIONAL FAMILY NEEDS -PAGE 6

CREATE A GO BAG -PAGE 7

STAY INFORMED -PAGE 8

RETURNING HOME AFTER THE STORM -PAGE 9

EMERGENCY CONTACTS -PAGE 11

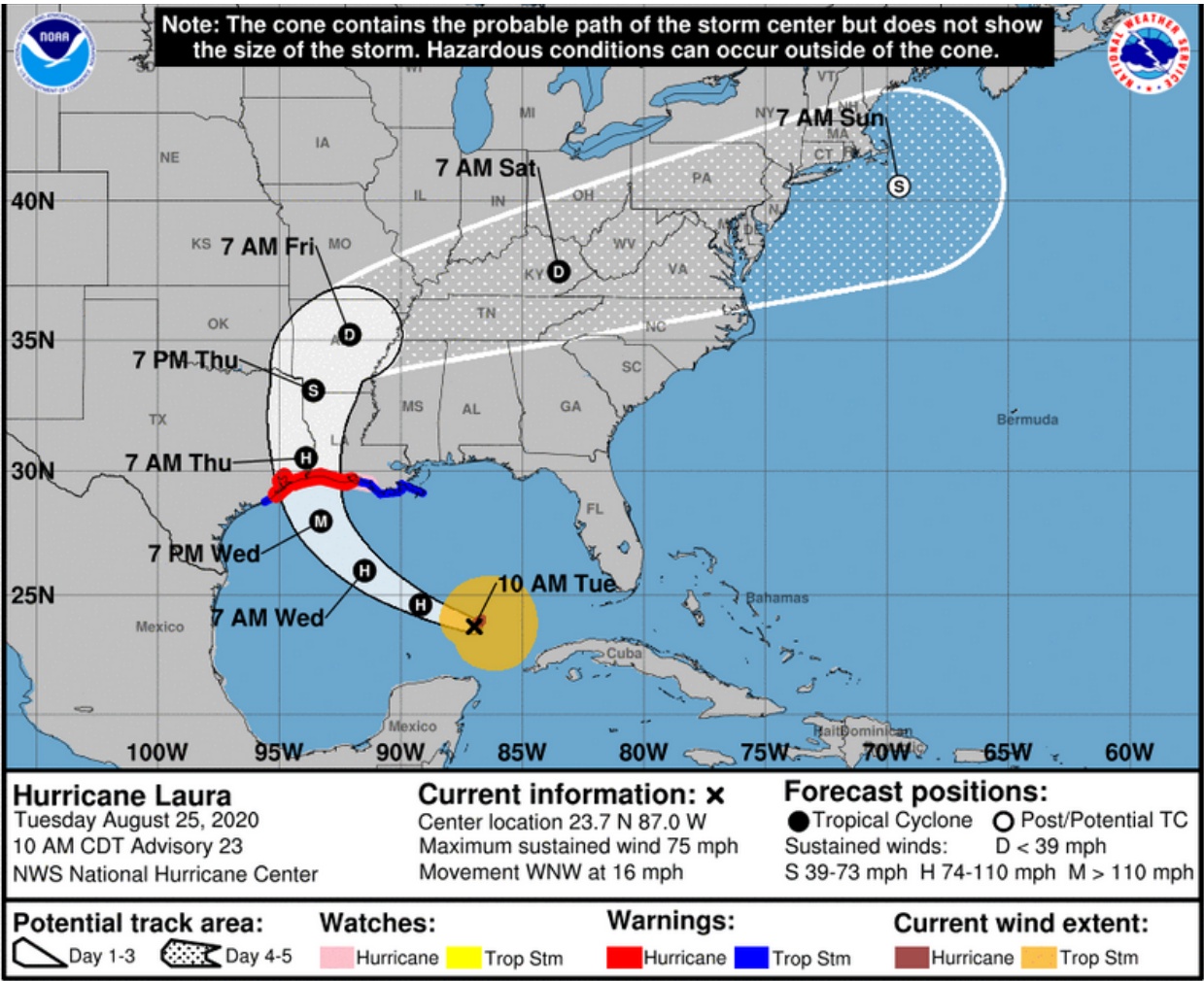
UNDERSTANDING HURRICANES

HURRICANE ACTIVITY

A hurricane is the strongest type of tropical cyclone, a weather system that derives its energy from warm ocean waters and is characterized by a closed, counterclockwise circulation. The best way for individuals, businesses, and communities as a whole to protect themselves from both severe weather and hurricanes is to understand forecast modeling, terms used, and information provided by subject-matter experts.

PROBABILITY OF ERROR

The Probability of Error Cone, utilized by the National Hurricane Center, represents the probable track of the center of a tropical cyclone, and is formed by enclosing the area swept out by a set of circles (not shown) along the forecast track (at 12, 24, 36 hours etc.) The size of each circle is set so that two-thirds of historical official forecast errors over a 5-year sample fall within the circle.



| Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Category | Sustained Wind |
| 1 | 74-95mph, 64-82kt |
| 2 | 96-110mph, 83-95kt |
| 3 | 111-129mph, 96-112kt |
| 4 | 130-156mph, 113-136kt |
| 5 | 157+mph, 137+kt |

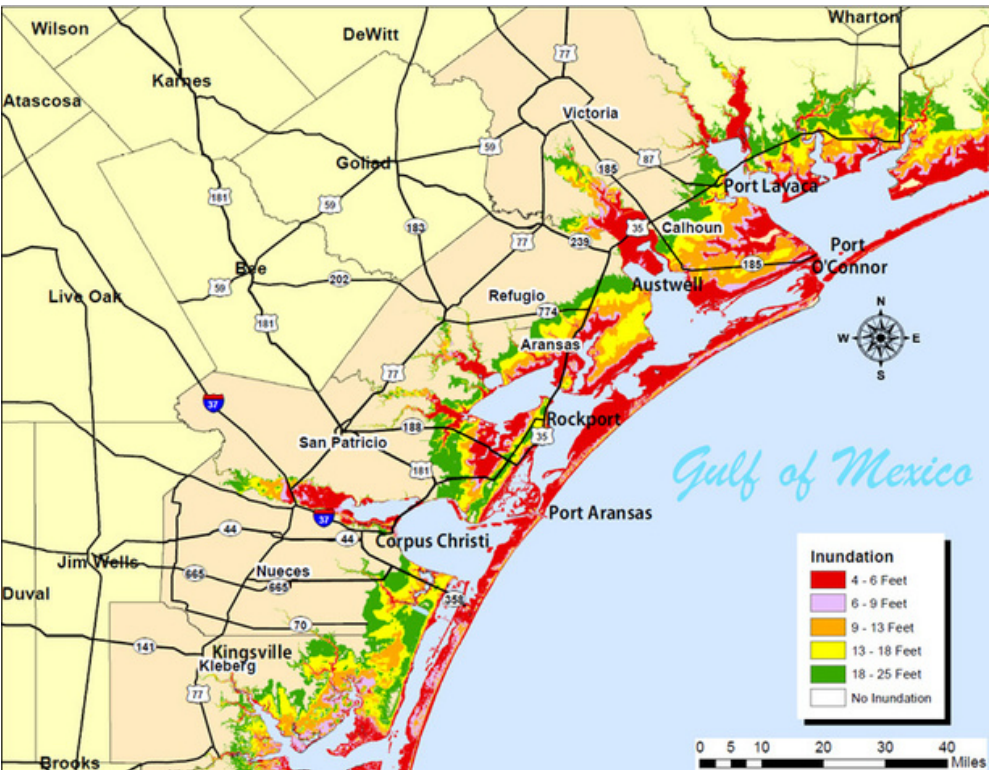


SAFFIR-SIMPSON SCALE

The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale is a 1-5 rating based on a hurricane's sustained wind speed. Hurricanes reaching Category 3 and higher are considered major hurricanes because of their potential for significant loss of life and damage. Category 1 and 2 storms are still dangerous, however, and require preventative measures.

EVACUATION ROUTES

Evacuees need to consider the projected path of the hurricane when choosing an evacuation route and destination. When evacuating, be sure to check local weather and highway conditions before departing. When local authorities order an evacuation of your area **LEAVE IMMEDIATELY!**



STORM SURGE FLOODING

Storm surge is the abnormal rising of water along the coast, generated by a storm, over the predicated astronomical tides. The surge is caused primarily by a storm's winds pushing water onshore. The amplitude of the storm surge at any given location depends on the orientation of the coast line with the storm track; intensity, size, and speed of the storm; and the local bathymetry.

| UNDERSTANDING 'WATCH' AND 'WARNING' TERMS | |
|---|--|
| Tropical Storm Watch | High winds (39-73 mph) are possible within 48 hours. |
| Tropical Storm Warning | High winds (39-73 mph) are likely within 36 hours. |
| Hurricane Watch | Hurricane-force winds (74 mph or greater) are possible within 48 hours. |
| Hurricane Warning | Hurricane-force winds (74 mph or greater) are likely within 36 hours. |
| Storm Surge Watch | Life-threatening coastal flooding from storm surge is possible within 48 hours. |
| Storm Surge Warning | Life-threatening coastal flooding from storm surge is likely within 36 hours. |

WHAT SHOULD YOUR GAME PLAN BE IF A WATCH IS ISSUED FOR YOUR AREA?

- Check supplies
- Continue to monitor TV & radio stations for instructions
- Fuel vehicles & generators
- Cover windows with plywood
- Bring in all outdoor furniture, toys and tools

WHAT SHOULD YOUR GAME PLAN BE IF A WARNING IS ISSUED FOR YOUR AREA?

- Continue to monitor local TV & radio stations for instructions
- Move out of evacuation zones EARLY if told to do so by officials
- Check tie-downs if you live in a mobile home
- Verify that your emergency plan is complete
- Clean & fill bathtubs and all available containers with extra water
- Turn off utilities, if requested
- Stay away from windows, doors and openings

2023 HURRICANE NAMES

ARLENE
BRET
CINDY
DON
EMILY
FRANKLIN
GERT

HAROLD
IDALIA
JOSE
KATIA
LEE
MARGOT
NIGEL

OPHELIA
PHILIPPE
RINA
SEAN
TAMMY
VINCE
WHITNEY

HAVE A 'GAME PLAN' BEFORE AN EMERGENCY



TIME OUT!

Did you know that by understanding your communities hazards and risks, you can better prepare yourself, your family, and increase your community's resiliency?

EMERGENCY PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS

- Find safe areas within your home for when you need to shelter in place
- Determine the quickest and safest escape routes from your home, and make sure you identify two ways out of every room
- Decide on a meeting place or "rally point" for your family in case you evacuate and become separated
- Keep a list of contacts by the phone(s) and in your emergency kit(s)
- Make sure everyone (including children) knows important phone numbers and that children know their parents full names
- Make a plan for what you will do if you have to evacuate with pets
- Plan an evacuation route ahead of time
- Make accommodations for individuals in your family who may have access or functional needs
- Install safety equipment such as smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, and fire extinguishers within your home
- Learn basic safety skills such as hands-only CPR, basic first aid, and the use of fire extinguishers
- Know how and when to turn off water and electricity at their primary connections
- Teach children how to dial 9-1-1 for police, fire, or an ambulance
- Keep a list of your possessions & keep important documents in a safe deposit box or another safe and dry location

CREATE AN EMERGENCY PLAN

Use the following information as a guide to creating your emergency plan. Remember, emergency plans will vary depending on your household's specific needs.

✗ CONTACT INFORMATION

- ☐ Contact information for all members of your household including work and school phone numbers
- ☐ Contact information for your emergency contacts (family, friends, neighbors)

✗ HEALTH AND MEDICAL INFORMATION

- ☐ List allergies of all household members
- ☐ List blood types of all household members
- ☐ List all prescriptions and over-the-counter medications taken
- ☐ Doctors & pharmacy phone numbers
- ☐ Document all access or functional needs of household members
- ☐ List all medical equipment, devices, and supplies
- ☐ Document all health & disability information

✗ EVACUATION INFORMATION

- ☐ Where will you go if an evacuation is ordered?
- ☐ How will you get there?
- ☐ Designate a meeting place in case a disaster occurs when household members aren't home
- ☐ For additional evacuation considerations, visit www.ready.gov/plan

PLANNING FOR ADDITIONAL FAMILY NEEDS


It is very important to plan for any access or functional needs that you or your family members may have when planning and preparing for an emergency. Below are some additional planning steps to consider:

X SUPPORT NETWORKS

- ☐ Create a support network of individuals who can help you or your family in an emergency. This support network could include family members, loved ones, friends, neighbors, or paid caregivers. These individuals should know your situation, needs, and should be able to help quickly.
- ☐ Inform your support network where you keep your emergency supplies. Additionally, you may want to consider giving a trusted member of your support network a key to your house or apartment.

X DAILY ROUTINE NEEDS

- ☐ Go over all of the tasks involved in your normal day and make a list of any accommodations, specialized equipment, or other necessities that you rely on, including:
 - Special vehicle or transportation requirements.
 - Medical equipment that requires electricity.
 - Adaptive equipment for dressing, showering, or eating.
 - Prescription and non-prescription medications that you take on a regular basis.



TIME OUT!

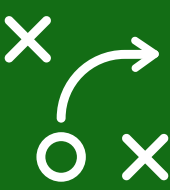
This list will be the backbone of your emergency preparedness 'game plan'. For each item on your list, identify what you would do if your normal routine were to be disrupted.

X TRANSPORTATION

- ☐ Plan ahead for accessible transportation that you may need for evacuation or getting around before or after an emergency.

STATE OF TEXAS EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE REGISTRY

The STEAR program is a **free** registry that provides local emergency planners and emergency responders with additional information on the needs in their community. Texas communities use the registry information in different ways. Registering yourself in the STEAR registry **DOES NOT** guarantee that you will receive a specific service during an emergency. Available services will vary by community.



Who should register?

- People with disabilities
- People who are medically fragile
- People with functional needs such as:
 - Limited mobility
 - Communication barriers
 - Require additional medical assistance during an emergency
 - Require personal care assistance
- People who require transportation assistance

How to register:

- Visit <https://STEAR.tdem.texas.gov>
- Dial 2-1-1 or use your video phone relay option of choice to contact 211Texas



Required information to register:

- Name
- Address
- Phone number
- Primary language

Additional questions asked:

- Emergency Contact information
- Caregiver information
- Pets
- Transportation assistance for home evacuation
- Communication barriers
- Disability, functional, and/or medical needs

CREATE A 'GO BAG'

Everyone should have some basic supplies on hand in order to survive several days if an emergency occurs. This list of emergency supply kit items is only a starting point, and you should include items that are unique to your family.

At least a 7-day supply of non-perishable food for all members of your household. One gallon of water per person, per day.

Battery-operated radio, flashlights, and extra batteries.

First Aid kit and prescription medications for all household members.

Blankets or sleeping bags, as well as extra clothing.

Cash and credit cards.

Matches in a waterproof container.

Important documentation such as: birth/marriage certificates, mortgage, household inventory, copy of insurance policy, etc.

Any specific items for infant, elderly, or family members with disabilities.

A list of family / friends phone numbers and addresses outside of the area.

Kitchen accessories, cooking utensils, and manual can opener.

Tire repair kit, booster cables, pump, and flares.

Toys and games for children.

Pet carriers, leashes, shot records, and food for each animal.

A map showing county roads and highways.

A whistle.

Sanitation and hygiene items.





TIME OUT!

Timely, accurate information is key. It is crucial to ensure you are receiving information from legitimate sources. Beware of inaccurate information online during emergencies.

CODERED

Keep yourself and your loved ones informed by signing up for CodeRed emergency notifications. If you have not signed up to receive emergency notifications please do so by texting "ALERTVICTORIA" TO 99411.



GET CONNECTED TODAY

To find accurate information during an emergency or just for general information please visit our website at [HTTPS://WWW.VCTX.ORG/PAGE/OEM](https://www.vctx.org/page/oem).

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on social media



@VICTORIA
OFFICE OF
EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT



@OEM_VICTOIRA_TX

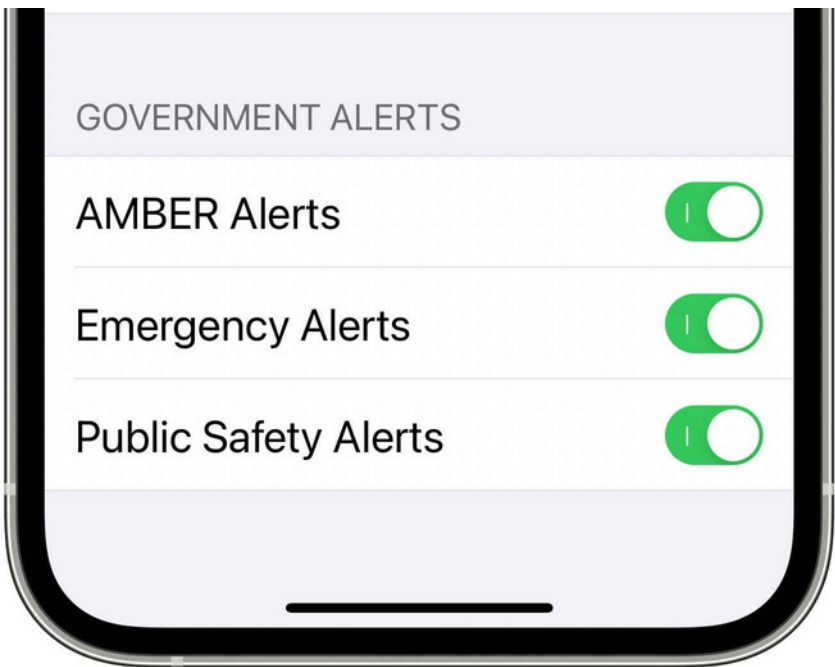


NOAA WEATHER RADIO

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service office. Weather service warnings, watches, forecasts, and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

EMERGENCY ALERTS

WEA is a public safety system that allows customers who own compatible mobile devices to receive geographically targeted, text-like messages alerting them of imminent threats to safety in their area.



RETURNING HOME **AFTER** THE STORM

IF YOU EVACUATED THE AREA, WAIT FOR AN ALL CLEAR FROM CITY OR COUNTY OFFICIALS BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO RETURN TO YOUR HOME.

✗ DEBRIS CLEANUP

- ☐ City or County officials will publish a schedule for debris pick- up and removal. Debris cannot be removed from private property.
- ☐ Construction materials, vegetative debris, household hazardous waste and household appliances will need to be placed into separate piles and moved to the curbside for pick-up.

✗ GENERAL CLEANUP

- ☐ Be cautious of structural damage and downed power lines.
- ☐ **DO NOT** attempt to move structural supports or large pieces of debris.
- ☐ **DO NOT** run power generators indoors. Inhalation of carbon monoxide from the exhaust can be deadly.
- ☐ **DO NOT** use open flames indoors.
- ☐ Restrict your driving to emergency use only. Road conditions may not be safe until road debris is cleared.

✗ WATER

- ☐ City or County officials will give instructions regarding public water supply. Use only bottled, boiled or treated water until officials lift a boil water notice if one is in place.
- ☐ You can use household bleach to treat water for drinking or cleaning. Add 1/8 teaspoon of bleach per gallon of clear water or 1/4 teaspoon of bleach per gallon if water is cloudy. Allow water to stand for 30 minutes before using.

✗ INTERIOR CLEANUP

- ☐ Disinfect and dry interior buildings and items inside. This will prevent growth of some bacteria, viruses, mold, and mildew that can cause illness.
- ☐ Clean walls, floors, and counter tops with soap and water. Disinfect them with a solution of 1 cup of bleach and 5 gallons of water.
- ☐ Wash all clothes and linens in hot water. Air dry and spray all un-washable items with disinfectant. Steam clean carpets. Throw away all items touched by water that cannot be disinfected.



RETURNING HOME AFTER THE STORM



TIME OUT!

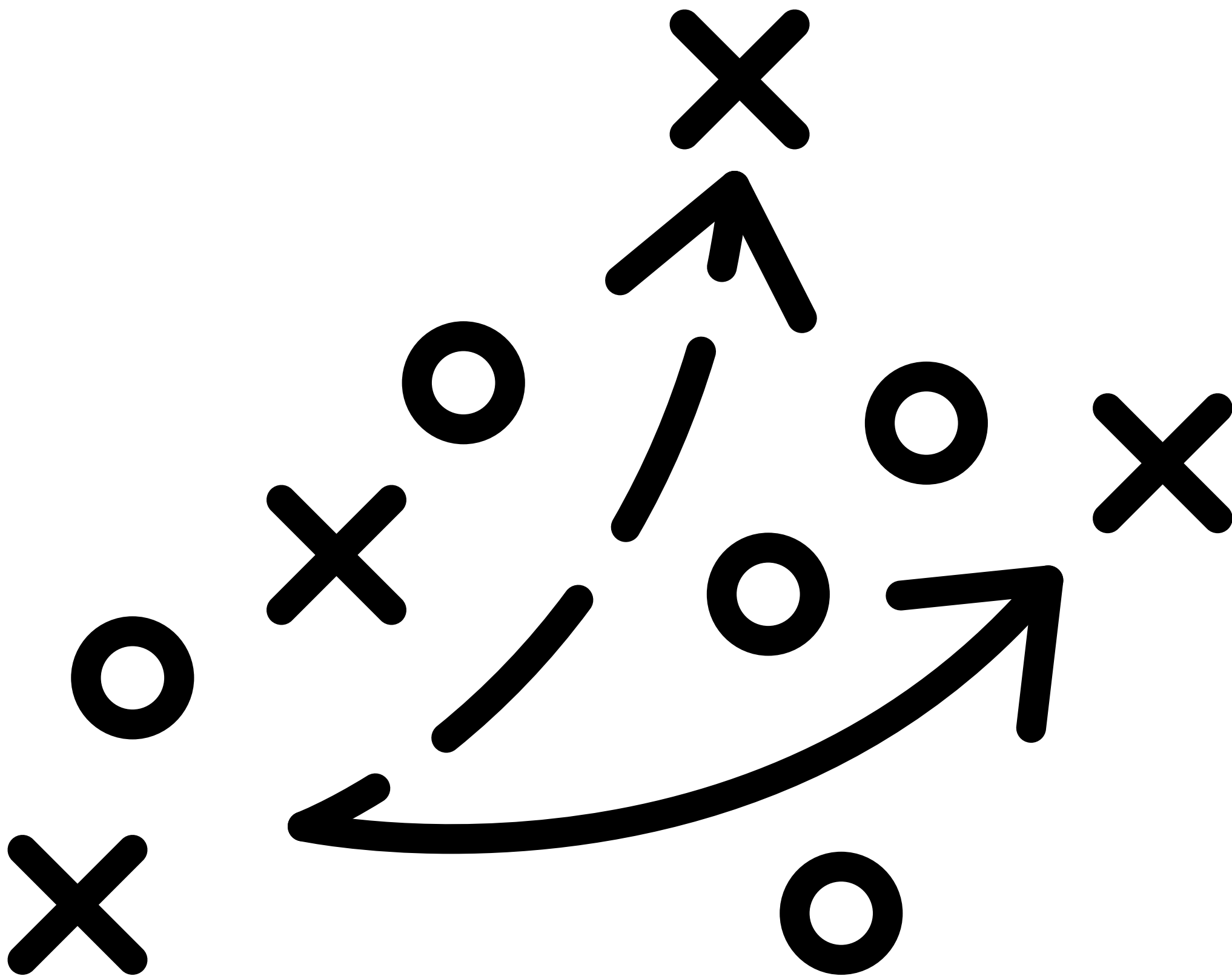
Did you know taking pictures of your home before you evacuate for a disaster, as well as damages to your home when you return after the storm can help to streamline insurance claims?

✕ UTILITY CLEAN UP

- ☐ Check for gas leaks. If you smell or hear gas leaking, leave **IMMEDIATELY. DO NOT** use the phone or turn on lights in your home. Call the gas company from a phone outside of the home.
- ☐ Report any visible damage of power lines to the electric company. Turn off power at main breaker if any electrical equipment or circuits have been exposed to water.
- ☐ **DO NOT** connect generators to your home's electrical circuits. If a generator is online when electrical service is restored, it can become a major fire hazard.
- ☐ It is likely that an electric company other than your own will reconnect the lines to your home; however, they cannot turn the service back on. Only your electric company can actually turn the power back on to your home.

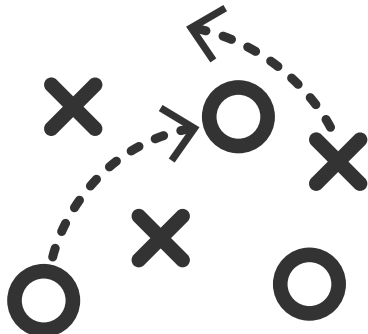
✕ SEWAGE CLEANUP

- ☐ If you suspect water or sewage lines are damaged, do not use your plumbing. Contact the water company or a plumber for repairs.
- ☐ Your toilet can also be used by flushing until the bowl has no water. Then, line with heavy duty trash bags and disinfect with bleach after each use. Remove waste to an outside location.
- ☐ If significant sewer outages have occurred, instructions for disposal of human wastes will be announced.
- ☐ **DO NOT** dispose of human waste through your regular trash!



EMERGENCY CONTACTS

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| ✕ VICTORIA POLICE DEPT. | 361-573-3221 | FACEBOOK.COM/VICTORIATX.POLICE/ |
| ✕ VICTORIA FIRE DEPT. | 361-485-3450 | FACEBOOK.COM/VICTORIA-FIRE-DEPARTMENT/ |
| ✕ VICTORIA COUNTY SHERRIFF'S OFFICE | 361-575-0651 | FACEBOOK.COM/VCSOTEXAS/ |
| ✕ VICTORIA COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE | 361-579-9103 | FACEBOOK.COM/VCFMO/ |
| ✕ VICTORIA OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MGT. | 361-580-5770 | FACEBOOK.COM/VICTORIA.OEM/ |
| ✕ VICTORIA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT. | 361-578-6281 | FACEBOOK.COM/VICTORIACOUNTYPUBLICHEALTH/ |
| ✕ VICTORIA LONG TERM RECOVERY GROUP | 361-703-5567 | HTTPS://VICTORIALTRG.ORG/ |
| ✕ GOLDEN CRESCENT COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER | | HTTPS://WWW.GCCOAD.ORG/ |
| ✕ TEXAS DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION | 361-293-4436 | HTTPS://WWW.TXDOT.GOV/TRAVEL |
| ✕ NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE - CORPUS CHRISTI | 361-289-0959 | HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/CRP/ |
| ✕ FEMA DISASTER ASSISTANCE | 800-621-3362 | HTTPS://WWW.DISASTERASSISTANCE.GOV |
| ✕ CDC | 800-232-4636 | HTTPS://WWW.CDC.GOV |
| ✕ NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM | 888-379-9531 | HTTPS://WWW.FLOODSMART.GOV |
| ✕ CENTER POINT ENERGY | 800-427-7142 | HTTPS://WWW.CENTERPOINTENERGY.COM |
| ✕ VICTORIA ELECTRIC COOP. (VEC) | 361-573-2428 | HTTPS://WWW.VICTORIAELECTRIC.COOP |
| ✕ AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER (AEP) | 877-373-4858 | HTTPS://WWW.AEPTEXAS.COM |
| ✕ AMERICAN RED CROSS - COASTAL BEND | 361-573-2671 | HTTPS://WWW.REDCROSS.ORG |
| ✕ POISON CONTROL | 800-222-1222 | HTTPS://WWW.POISONCONTROL.ORG |
| ✕ SALVATION ARMY | 361-572-3779 | HTTPS://WWW.SALVATIONARMYTEXAS.COM |
| ✕ 2-1-1 TEXAS | 2-1-1 OR 877-541-7905 | HTTPS://WWW,211TEXAS.ORG |
| ✕ VICTORIA COUNTY UNITED WAY | 361-578-3561 | HTTPS://WWW.UNITEDWAYVICTORIA.ORG |
| ✕ DISASTER DISTRESS HELPLINE | 800-985-5990 | HTTPS://WWW.SAMHSA.GOV/FIND-HELP/DISASTER DISTRESS-HELPLINE |



THANK YOU

To all of our Victoria first-
responding agencies for your
coordination, leadership, and
sacrifice to keep our community
safe.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Victoria County Public Health Dept.