

Hurricane Tips from the Texas Department of Transportation

1. Plan ahead

- i. Know if you are in a hurricane evacuation zone.
- ii. Pay attention to advisories or directives from local officials regarding evacuation.
- iii. If you live outside of an evacuation zone but do opt to evacuate, leave early so you do not delay those included in a staggered, mandatory evacuation.
- iv. If you do not leave, avoid using roads or highways that are part of the evacuation route system.

2. Evacuation

- i. Be sure you already know what evacuation route you should take.
- ii. Tune in: Listen to local radio or television for evacuation information.
- iii. Wait your turn to leave. Local officials will try to stagger the evacuation to keep traffic moving.
- iv. Leave as early as you can after receiving an evacuation order.
- v. Secure your home before leaving. Take your pets with you.
- vi. Take only one vehicle to help lessen congestion and fuel demand.
- vii. Don't trailer boats or campers. If you need to get them away from the coast, leave earlier.
- viii. Don't carry extra fuel. It's dangerous.
- ix. Carry an emergency kit in your car.

- x. Motorists should turn off their ignition when stopped for a long time in traffic.

3. Fuel

- i. During hurricane season, coastal residents should never operate their vehicles with less than half a tank of fuel.
- ii. Motorists should fill their tanks before evacuating.
- iii. TxDOT has worked with the private sector (Texas Oil and Gas Association and the Texas Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association) to assure maximum-possible fuel availability during an evacuation.
- iv. Should fuel supplies become low, evacuees should look for TxDOT signs indicating key fuel locations.
- v. TxDOT will assist stranded motorists along evacuation routes with courtesy vehicles.

4. Key telephone numbers to remember

- i. The number to call for road conditions on state highways is 1-800-452-9292.
- ii. If you have an emergency, call 911.
- iii. For information on evacuation routes, shelters and special needs transportation, call 211.

5. Re-entry

- i. Return only after the all-clear is given.
- ii. Do not venture onto roads until you have been advised that they are passable and safe.
- iii. TxDOT will post staggered re-entry maps on TexasOnline.com