

Hurricane & Flood Preparedness Guide for Homeowners

Hurricane season runs from **June 1 to November 30**. The homes in the lower areas of River Plantation are prone to flooding due to the San Jacinto River. The neighborhood has also experienced heavy wind damage and flash flooding due to blocked or slow drainage. It is important for all homes within the neighborhood to prepare for possible weather. Make sure any drainage on your property is clear, inform owners of adjacent property if their drainage is blocked, and prepare your home for power outages, wind debris or flooded properties and roadways.

During heavy rainstorm events, an informative post on the neighborhood Facebook page and Nextdoor will be made giving updates on the river levels, lake levels, dam release rates. These are the best locations to receive up to date information regarding the current conditions.

Flooding occurs when the river height reaches 115.8 ft above sea level.

Be Prepared

It is always a good idea to prepare for a hurricane well in advance to avoid supplies shortages.

Emergency Supply Kit

- Non-perishable food (3-day supply)
- Water (1 gallon per person per day, 3-day supply)
- Flashlights and batteries
- First aid kit and prescription medications
- Portable battery chargers
- Manual can opener
- Personal hygiene items
- Blankets, rain gear, and extra clothing
- A few hundred dollars in cash, in the case a storm knocks out power/internet at stores for an extended amount of time and credit is not an option.

Home Preparations

- Clean gutters and downspouts
- Clean property drainage and culverts
- Service Generators and run them once a month
- Fill Gas cans for your generator and add Gas Preserver to maintain the gas.
- Trim trees and remove debris
- Check sump pumps and drainage systems
- Service Chainsaws and other tools that may help with cleanup efforts
- Review flood insurance coverage
- Be aware of the Kidd Rd exit from the neighborhood if the Bridge area of RP Drive is closed due to water.

In Case of Flooding

If you are informed you are in an area that could flood, remember the following:

- Place valuable items on higher levels
- Seal important items in waterproof containers
- Consider sandbags for low-lying entry points
- Relocate vehicles you are not taking to a higher location, like the Charleston Pool parking spots.
- Bring all animals with you or arrange for a place they can stay during the situation
- Bring important documents with you. Setting up a folder with scans of important documents on websites like Dropbox, Google Drive, etc. may be beneficial.
- Turn off the electricity to your home at the breaker box.

Important Documents

The following will be important to bring with you if you evacuate or store in waterproof containers/bags. Scanning some of these documents and storing them on a digital platform may be helpful as well.

- Driver's license or state ID
- Passports
- Social Security cards
- Homeowner's/renter's insurance
- Flood insurance policy
- Bank account info
- Prescriptions and health insurance cards
- List of medications and doctors
- Mortgage papers or lease
- Vehicle titles and registrations
- Photos of home and valuables (for insurance)

Remember your best resource is your community. Many of your neighbors have been through storms before and have a routine on handling any situation that may occur. Your immediate neighbors may know if your street has any history of flooding and how much water was in the area. Knowing your history can help you prepare for the future.

Helpful Information and Links

RP Flood Response Committee and the Notification List

Jaime Barnes, with the Flood Response Committee will start the “River Watch” posts on Facebook and Nextdoor in the case that a storm may result in flooding.

As Part of the Flood response committee, the RPCIA has an Emergency Contact List. When there is a high risk of flooding, the CIA is normally notified by County Officials. If that call is received, the CIA would like to have the ability to email / call those who may be affected. Phone calls will ONLY be made if we are alerted overnight of risk and it is thought to start affecting homes before the morning hours.

To be placed on the list, please email FloodGroup@RPCIA.com and include your NAME, ADDRESS, and PHONE NUMBER. Approximately 40% of the emails received are missing some or all of this information. This information will not be used for anything other than contacting you during an emergency.

THIS LIST IS FOR FLOOD NOTIFICATION ONLY. I do not send mass emails with updates regarding storm movement, non-water damage, etc. Please utilize Facebook and Nextdoor for this type of update. I only send emails when flooding is highly anticipated and only those in the anticipated flooding area will receive an email (based on elevation of address given).

River Level at the West Fork San Jacinto River near Conroe

<https://water.noaa.gov/gauges/cfkt2>

Lake Conroe Information, including lake level and release rate

<https://sanjacinto.onerain.com/dashboard/?dashboard=c03aab24-7518-419b-9dfa-b151879a06c8>

Flood Plain Website

<https://moco.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=cd03f1d7f1f74889af7a75d79a80f4b4>

Home Elevation

You can download an Elevation App on your smart phone or use a website to determine elevation via address. These are estimates and may not be precise.

<https://whatismyelevation.com/>

FEMA

<https://www.fema.gov/>

Flood Preparedness and Response

<https://www.osha.gov/flood>

Explanation of FEMA 1316

The denial of flood insurance coverage due to the flood prone nature of the property.

<https://www.fema.gov/glossary/section-1316>