

**HOUSTON
CITY
COUNCIL
DISTRICT
G**



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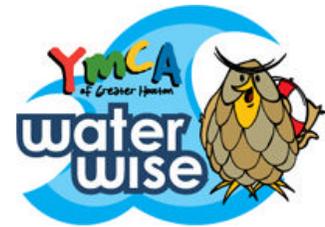
News From District G

May 2010

To The Residents of District G:



WATER WISE SWIMMING POOL SAFETY PROGRAM



On May 27, Council Member Pennington spoke at the kick off of the YMCA Water Wise campaign, and also helped unveil Clear Channel Outdoor billboards in English and Spanish that will be used to educate people about water safety (see the back page). In order to make sure the word gets out, Clear Channel has graciously donated more than \$30,000 worth of advertising to the YMCA Water Wise campaign. Council Member Pennington was joined at the Palm Court Apartments Swimming Pool by Clark Baker, President and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Houston, David Jones, the President of the Houston Apartment Association, and representatives from Child Protective Services, the Houston Fire Department, and Clear Channel Outdoor.

YMCA Water Wise is a multifaceted awareness program, designed to educate the community about drowning prevention and water safety. It includes free lessons at area apartment complexes which target low-income children. The program also includes a traveling speaker's bureau that promotes swim safety, a television and billboard PSA campaign, educational materials in English and Spanish, and a website with water safety, CPR and swim lesson information. For more information about the Water Wise program, swimming lessons, or to find the YMCA nearest you, please call 713-659-5566 or visit: <http://www.ywaterwise.org/>

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Gone But Never Forgotten



On May 7, Council Member Pennington had the great honor to attend the Houston Police Officers' Annual Memorial Service and Candlelight Vigil. The solemn ceremony included a Roll Call of Houston Police Officers Killed in the Line of Duty, a Presentation of the Memorial Wreath by Mayor Annise Parker and Chief of Police Charles A. McClelland, a Fly Over by the Air Support Division, a 21 Gun Salute and the Playing of Taps by the Honor Guard, the playing of Amazing Grace by the Honor Guard and the Bayou City Pipes and Drums, and an Invocation and Benediction by Chaplin Monty Montgomery.

Police Officers' Memorial Day and Police Week were created on October 1, 1962, by a Joint Resolution of the 87th Congress of the United States of America, and signed into law by Presi-

dent John F. Kennedy. The Joint Resolution recognizes that Police Officers work devotedly and selflessly on behalf of the American people regardless of the peril or hazard to themselves, that they safeguard the lives and property of their fellow Americans, giving our country internal freedom from the fear of violence and civil disorder.

With the May 19 death of Officer Eydelmen Mani, a seven year veteran of HPD, we are once again reminded of the great sacrifices our Houston Police Officers make in the line of duty.

"I never dreamed it would be me,
my name for all eternity.
Recorded here at this hallowed place,
alas my name, no more my face.
'In the line of Duty' I hear them say,
my family now the price to pay.
My folded flag stained with their tears,
we only had those few short years.
The badge no longer on my chest,
I sleep now in eternal rest.
My sword I pass to those behind,
and pray they keep this thought in mind.
I never dreamed it would be me,
and on my heavy heart and bended knee,
I ask for all those here from the past,
Dear God, let my name be the last."

City of Houston FY 2011 Proposed Budget



A LOOK at the BUDGET

On May 11 Mayor Parker released a \$4.12 Billion proposed city budget for FY 2011. The proposed budget is balanced without a property tax increase or the use of Pension Obligation Bonds, a form of debt that had been used to bridge budget gaps. Much of the savings will come from management efficiencies, which will include some consolidation, but does not include furloughs or mass layoffs. The budget includes a projected 5% decrease in anticipated property tax revenues in the amount of \$45 million.

Other noteworthy aspects of the proposed FY 2011 Budget:

- Maintains the preferred 7.5 percent undesignated reserve, which protects our bond rating
- \$22 million reduction in spending through management efficiencies
- \$24.4 million reduction in discretionary spending
- The City will hold two police cadet classes, which will add 140 officers, increasing the force to 5,195 officers
- The City will hold three fire cadet classes, adding 126 new firefighters
- Meets all contractual obligations to employee unions
- Covers contractual increase in health benefits costs in the amount of \$6.8 million
- No increase in the property tax rate of 63.875 cents
- Review of all fees for service to achieve total cost of service recovery

Budget workshops will be held in June according to the following schedule (note that many of these workshops have changed since the schedule was published in our April newsletter). Be sure to call 832-393-3004 before you come to a workshop just to make sure it is still being held at the scheduled time. Workshops are open to

the public and the opportunity for public comment will be available at each presentation. Call 832-393-3004 if you wish to reserve time to speak. All workshops will be held in the City Council Chamber, 901 Bagby, 2nd Floor, Houston, TX 77002.

Day	Date	Time	Department
Tues	June 1	9:00	Council Budget and Fiscal Affairs Committee Meeting
		10:00	Planning and Development
		10:30	Public Works and Engineering
		1:00	Police
Wed	June 2	9:00	Consolidated Council Meetings
		3:00	Controller
		3:30	Library
Thurs	June 3	1:30	Information Technology
		2:00	Municipal Courts Administration
		2:30	Municipal Courts Judicial
		3:00	Convention and Entertainment Facilities
Mon	June 7	10:00	Budget and Fiscal Affairs Committee Meeting
		2:00	Agenda Briefing
Tues	June 8	10:00	Solid Waste Management
		10:30	Health & Human Services
		11:00	Aviation
		1:30	Council Meeting-Public Hearing on FY11 Proposed Budget
Wed	June 9	9:00	City Council Meeting
		1:30	Human Resources
		2:00	Finance
		2:30	Administration and Regulatory Affairs
		3:00	Mayor's Office / HEC / Affirmative Action
Thurs	June 10	10:00-noon	Fire
		1:30	Legal
		2:00	Parks & Recreation
		2:30	General Services
		3:00	City Council

We would like to again thank Mr. Ramon Alvarez, the Public Relations Director for FOX Sports Southwest, FOX Sports Houston, and FOX Sports Oklahoma for his helping to make it a very special day for Mr. LeVias. Mr. Alvarez provided a DVD of *Jerry LeVias: A Marked Man* to the Mayor and each member of City Council. Mr. Alvarez was also instrumental in getting FOX Sports Net to replay *A Marked Man* at 5:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. on May 4.

District G Honors Jerry LeVias



District G City Council Member Oliver Pennington and Mayor Annise Parker honored Jerry LeVias on May 4 with an Official Proclamation declaring it "Jerry LeVias Day" in Houston, Texas. "The purpose of the ceremony on May 4 was not just to honor a great football player and civil rights leader, but a great man" said Council Member Pennington. "Through his faith and his strong family ties, Mr. LeVias was able to overcome a tremendous amount of hardship in his life. We consider ourselves lucky and blessed to have a man of such fine moral character living in District G. We took the occasion during National Child Abuse Prevention Month to honor his work on behalf of children throughout the state."

Jerry LeVias holds a special place as a pioneer in the history of college athletics. When he entered Southern Methodist University in 1965, he became the first African-American to receive an athletic scholarship in the Southwest Conference. His signing with SMU forever changed the racial makeup of college football in the South.

In addition to words of praise from Council Member Pennington and Mayor Parker, Rufus P. Cormier and Scott Dixon gave presentations to the Council.

Mr. Cormier, a partner at the prestigious law firm Baker & Botts LLP, and Mr. LeVias were one year apart at Hebert High School in Beaumont, Texas, and were teammates on the football team. Mr. Cormier also went to SMU and played football along side Mr. LeVias, where he was co-captain of the team, named outstanding defensive player in the 1968 Bluebonnet Bowl, and named to the consensus second All-Southwest Conference Team. After graduating from SMU with Honors, Mr. Cormier attended the Yale Law School, and in 1981 became the first African-American partner at a large Houston law firm.

Scott Dixon is the Region 6 Director of Child Protective Services, which covers 13 counties including Harris County. Mr. Dixon has 25 years of experience in the field of child welfare, and began his career on the front lines as a CPS caseworker. Known as an innovative leader, Mr. Dixon received a B.A. degree in Psychology from the University of Houston and a Masters degree in Social Work from Southwest Texas State University.

We thank both men for their kind and inspirational words about Mr. LeVias.

Hurricane Workshop Scheduled for June 19



This year's "Ready or Not" Hurricane Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, June 19, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the George R. Brown Convention Center. This is a FREE event and is open to the general public. It is the largest such event of its kind in the nation.

This year's workshop features Hurricane Predictions, Evacuation Plans, Power Restoration Information, and special appearances by Hurricane experts from the National Weather Service. While many more are sure to follow,

there are already quite a few exhibitors signed up: Armor Glass International, Inc., Harris County Flood Control District, Shelter Supplies Shelf Reliance, Neighborhood Centers, Inc., Solar X Window Film Systems, University of Houston Hurricane Business Recovery Center, Green Mountain Energy Company, Quality Generators, and Storm Guardian Generators.

There will also be a Kids Zone Activity Center featuring exhibitions by the Downtown Aquarium, ExxonMobil Science Ambassadors, Moody Gardens and the John C. Freeman Weather Museum. Visit <http://hurricaneworkshop.com/> to register for this free event, view the agenda to get an updated list of the exhibitors, or to get directions to the Convention Center.



District G Priorities

The District G Office continues to be responsive to the needs of our constituents. In our first five months in office, we have been able to assist over 600 constituents solve their issues. Our major focus continues to be in the areas of crime prevention, flooding and drainage, and economic development.

We have met and discussed security issues with a variety of groups working on the issue in the district—super neighborhoods, management districts, chambers of commerce, West Houston Crime Prevention Coalition, Houston Apartment Association, Houston Police Department, and the constable's Patrol Chief. Through these various discussions, we have promoted better communication and sharing of information and crime statistics between area residents and law enforcement.

As we all know, we must do more with less and we are looking for ways to utilize citizens and private security. We have met with the new Chief of Police and have briefed him on District G crime issues. We seek to get more officers in District G, and especially more patrol officers on the street. Council Member Pennington recently confirmed with Mayor Parker that the District Captain will be the "Line" officer responsible for interacting with citizens' groups, as opposed to a public affairs officer. This will be the one person at HPD who is charged with communicating with constituents. We have also continued to voice our support for the Briar

Forest Super Neighborhood's request to establish an HPD storefront near the intersection of Briar Forest and Wilcrest.

The number one flooding issue in District G is the flooding near the intersection of Gessner Road and IH-10 and west to the Beltway where one person died and over 500 homes were flooded during the April 2009 rain event. TIRZ 17, which covers Memorial City, has commissioned a hydrological study of 2000 acres to specifically identify the cause of the flooding there and to make a proposal to resolve the flooding. This study should be completed in June.

Part of Dr. Barton Smith's May 6 presentation, titled *Houston's Emergence from the National Economic Meltdown: The Short-Run and the Long-Run*, highlighted the economic development issues facing the City. Dr. Smith has traced the growth in areas outside the City limits, and predicts that eighty percent (80%) of the population growth and sixty-four percent (64%) of the employment growth over the next 20-30 years will be outside the city limits. This "decentralization" of Houston is a trend that began in the 1980's and has accelerated over the past decade. The net result is less growth in the city and stagnant or reduced ad valorem and sales taxes. This is a trend that must be analyzed and hopefully mitigated for the long term economic health of our City.

Out and About in District G



During the month of April, Council Member Pennington was extremely busy attending City Council Meetings and Committee Meetings held by the 8 City Council Committees he has been appointed to. In addition, Council Member Pennington and/or District G staff attended the following meetings/events outside the office.

- TIRZ 17
- Avalon POA
- Memorial Park Conservancy Fun Run
- Inter-Super Neighborhood Council Luncheon
- Briar Bend HOA
- State of the City Address
- Westside Homeless Partnership Luncheon
- Riedel Estates HOA
- Mid-West Super Neighborhood #20
- Washington Avenue Coalition/Memorial Park Super Neighborhood #22
- Center for Houston's Future Luncheon
- Eldridge/West Oaks Super Neighborhood #17
- West Houston Public Safety Coalition
- Mayor's Gala
- Association of Retired Houston Municipal Employees Meeting
- Briarhills HOA
- Royal Oaks Annual Meeting
- Off Street Parking Community Meeting
- Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Luncheon
- HPD Mediation Program
- Italian Expo Celebration
- Houston West Chamber of Commerce
- Memorial Super Neighborhood #16
- HPD Midwest Division Police Station Grand Opening
- Tour of TranStar
- Arne Duncan Community Education Forum

New Neighborhood Traffic Management Program



On May 19, City Council voted to amend Article XV of Chapter 45 of the Houston Code of Ordinances, Sec. 45-361 *et. seq.* which establishes the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program.

Information is now posted on Public Works' website regarding this new program (which includes speed humps and other traffic calming measures such as speed limit signs, stop lines, one-way streets and partial or half closure, improved shoulders and parking lanes, modified striping, bicycle lanes, turn restrictions, rumble strips, textured pavement, flashing beacons, speed limit radar unit signs, speed tables, intersection curb extensions, chokers, chicanes, forced turn islands, raised pedestrian refuge island, traffic circle islands, median barriers, diagonal diverters, roundabouts, and realigned intersection): <http://www.publicworks.houstontx.gov/traffic/ntmp.htm>

If you have an application in for a Neighborhood Traffic Project, please email ntmp@cityofhouston.net to confirm it is still an ongoing project. If you had an application

simply requesting Speed Humps (or cushions), you will need to resubmit a new application—the sooner the better, as your priority will be determined from the new filing date.

New Application: http://documents.publicworks.houstontx.gov/documents/divisions/traffic/ntmp_application_form.pdf

NTMP Process Traffic Flow Chart: <http://www.publicworks.houstontx.gov/traffic/ntmp.htm>

Description of the Entire Process from Application to Three Public Hearings to City Council Approval: <http://www.publicworks.houstontx.gov/neighborhood-traffic-management-program/first-public-meeting.htm>

Description of 25 Different Traffic Calming Measures: http://documents.publicworks.houstontx.gov/documents/divisions/traffic/traffic_calming_measures.pdf

Special Benefits for Disabled Veterans

Many disabled veterans apparently are unaware of two valuable benefits: The relatively new, larger tax exemptions on their homestead and driving the local toll roads for free if they meet certain conditions.

The change in the homestead exemption became state law last year. The legislation provides for a total property tax exemption on the residence homestead of veterans who are receiving 100 percent disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for a service-connected disability and who have a disability rating of 100 percent or have a Department of Veterans Affairs rating of individual unemployability. The legislation also increases the amount of exemptions for veterans with disability ratings of 30, 50 or 70 percent.

“Even if you are in a hospital or nursing home, you can apply for the new exemption if you intend to return to your home when you are able,” Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector Leo Vasquez points out. “And, a disabled veteran qualifying for the new exemption on his or her homestead is still able to use the regular disabled veteran exemption on other property they own, including business property.”

If you are a disabled veteran, help care for one, or advise a disabled veteran, please see the questions and answers on the Harris County Appraisal District’s Web site at www.hcad.org/Resources/Veterans100percent.asp.

To drive toll-free on the EZ Tag Only lanes of the Harris County and Fort Bend County toll road system, a disabled veteran must be in a vehicle registered in Texas and displaying a qualifying specialty license plate for disabled veterans, Purple Heart Medal recipients or Medal of Honor recipients (to be eligible for the Disabled Veteran plates, the veteran must be certified by the Veterans Administration to have a 50 percent service-related disability, or 40 percent due to amputation of a lower extremity). Much more information is available at https://www.hctrtra.org/about_faq/veteran-discount-tolling/.

The cost of the plates for one vehicle is greatly reduced. Eligible veterans can get a second set of specialty plates but must pay the regular registration fee and other applicable fees. To apply for the plates, a veteran should go to http://www.txdmv.gov/vehicles/license_plates/qualifying/military.htm and follow the instructions for the particular type of plate the veteran is eligible for.

Active duty military, reservists, Texas National Guard members and many military veterans are eligible for free specialty plates but must pay the full vehicle registration fee and other applicable fees. See http://www.txdmv.gov/vehicles/license_plates/qualifying/military.htm for instructions.



A Few District G Stimulus Projects



Below are several road project overlays of interest that have been approved by the Texas Department of Transportation using federal stimulus funds:

Shepherd/Durham – from Memorial Drive to IH-10. Construction is scheduled to begin during August 2010.

Weslayan – from San Felipe to US 59. Construction is scheduled to begin during August 2010.

Washington – from Westcott to IH 45. Construction is scheduled to begin during October 2010.

These projects are scheduled to be completed within 6-9 months after their begin date.



SUMMER SAFETY FOR KIDS



Summer



Safety Tips



Child Safety starts with the Parents or Guardians. We all must teach our children to be safe and to follow our lead in personal safety. Take the time to talk with your children about personal safety. Don't assume your child knows what to do. Read each Safety Tip to them. Review each safety tip and get feedback about their concerns and questions. Do not overestimate your child's ability to swim or manage the water.

Swimming

- When choosing a swimming instructor for your child, choose only experienced qualified instructors.
- There should be continuous adult supervision any time your child is near water.
- Make sure there is a person trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on site at all times.
- Do not allow your child to engage in horseplay around the swimming pool.
- Diving should not be allowed unless the depth of the water has been determined and there are no underwater hazards.
- Use only approved life preservers. Air mattresses, inner tubes or inflatable toys are not dependable life preservers. If these devices deflate, or your child slips off, he/she could be in serious trouble.
- Be extremely cautious while using spas and hot tubs. They can be dangerous for young children who can easily drown or become overheated during their use.
- Do not allow swimming during a lightning storm.
- If you have a backyard swimming pool, it should be enclosed with high and locked fences on all sides.
- If your pool has a cover, make sure it is completely removed before swimming. Your child may fall through the cover and become trapped underneath.

Finding a Babysitter

- Find a trusted family member/friend.
- Get recommendations from friends.
- Trade childcare with friends who have kids.
- Check the references given by the babysitter.
- Listen to your child's input about the babysitter.
- Try to choose only babysitters who are

trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid.

- Observe how the babysitter interacts with your children.
- Check prospects on the Texas Department of Public Safety's website for the registered sex offender's database, visit https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/DPS_WEB/SorNew/index.aspx
- Put together a detailed notebook and include the following items:
 - Parents' / Guardians' names
 - Your home address
 - Parents' home and cellular phone numbers
 - **EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER (9-1-1)**
 - **POISON CONTROL (1-800-222-1222)**
 - Name and phone number of family doctor
 - Name and phone numbers for neighbors and close relatives
 - Location of exits
 - Location of door keys
 - Location of first aid supplies
 - Food and drug allergies
 - Special medical information
 - Children's bedtimes
 - Any food or drink to be given or not to be given to the children
- Meet with the sitter at least fifteen minutes prior to leaving home. Make sure you cover the following:
 - Your childcare expectations
 - Items listed in the recommended notebook from above
 - Your child's usual routine
 - Your location and how to reach you
 - How to calm your child if crying
 - How to handle misbehaviors
 - Any other special instructions unique to your situation

Guide for Teenagers Babysitting

- Only baby-sit for parents/guardians you and your parents know and trust.
- Make sure you have important phone numbers and instructions on how to care for the children written down.

- Keep all doors and windows locked at all times.
- DO NOT open the door for anyone unless you personally know the person.
- If at nighttime, turn on the porch and outside lights.
- If you must leave the house for any reason, take the children with you.
- Have a mental fire drill plan. Develop more than one way out of the house in case of a fire.
- In case of a fire:
 - Sound the alarm, yell FIRE as loud as possible.
 - If safe, close the door to the area where the fire is.
 - Get everyone out of the house as quickly as possible.
 - Keep all the children together and go to a meeting point outside.
 - Call 9-1-1.
- Put together the same detailed notebook described above

Be SAFE! Personal Safety for Kids

- Be alert and aware of people and their surroundings.
- Familiarize your child with your neighborhood.
- If your child is out, these are the places, or *safe havens*, your child can go for safety: houses of neighbors you trust, stores, shops, police and fire stations, business offices.
- Walk/play with other children and try not to be alone. There is always safety in numbers.
- Stay in well-lighted areas.
- Teach your child to report suspicious persons to you, teachers, or police officers.
- If your child is approached or followed by a suspicious vehicle or person:
 - Scream & Run away
 - Run to a safe haven
 - Call the police (9-1-1)
- Teach your child what to take notice of when they encounter a suspicious vehicle or person: Type and color of vehicle, license plate number, male/female, clothing description, and distinguishing marks.

- Let your child know that they can dial 9-1-1 from a public phone for free.
- Speak with your child/children about gun safety. If you have a gun in the home, make sure it has a gunlock on it or is locked in a safe. Teach your child that if they see a gun, they should never touch it. They should walk away and tell an adult.



Home Alone

- Keep doors and windows locked at all times.
- Acknowledge all callers through a locked door.
- Never let anyone know you are alone.
- Answer all telephone calls and remember to not tell anyone you are home alone. Do tell the caller your parent is busy and will call back later.
- Post important telephone numbers near all phones in case of emergencies:
 - 9-1-1 for Police, Fire, Ambulance, and Poison Control
 - Parents'/Guardians' work and cell phone numbers.
 - Neighbor's phone numbers.
- If a latch key child:
 - Check with parent/guardian or neighbor upon arrival at home.
 - Explain to the child the consequences of not making the call.
- Never display the house key around the home (keep the key concealed).
- No visitors are allowed while the parents/guardians are not at home.
- Never enter the house if you find the door ajar or a window open.



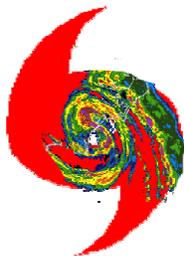
For More Information on Summer Safety for Kids:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prere/phtml02/02182.html>

<http://www.aap.org/advocacy/releases/summertips.cfm>



Hurricane Seasons Begins June 1—Ready or Not!!



While a hurricane can and has hit the U.S. in every month of the year, hurricane season on the Gulf Coast officially extends from June 1 through November 30. Please take a few minutes to review your level of preparedness for a hurricane.

1. Hurricane Evacuation Checklist:

- Fill your gas tank
- Charge your mobile phone
- Take cash, checkbook and credit cards
- Take a back-up of your hard drive/computer files
- Get a map of your route
- Identify gas stations and restaurants on your route
- Call your family emergency contact
- Take your Grab-and-Go Kit

Inside the Car:

- Emergency phone numbers
- Driver's license or ID card
- Passport
- Proof of residence (utility bill)
- Prescriptions and medical papers
- Prescription Eyewear
- Hearing Aids; Extra Batteries
- Flashlights; Extra Batteries
- Raincoat
- Mobile phone charger (car plug adapter)
- Food and drinks
- Water
- First Aid Kit; Essential Medicines
- Games for Kids
- Maps
- Checkbook

In the Trunk:

- Batteries
- Clothes
- Toiletries
- Bedding
- Paper products
- Tool kit
- Fix-A-Flat
- Disaster food supply
- More water (at least a 5-7 day supply; 1 gallon per person per day)
- Medicine

- Mobile phone charger (for standard electrical outlets)
- Battery-operated radio, TV and lights
- Canned Food; Manual Can Opener

Grab-and-Go Kit:

- Home or other property deeds (mortgages, etc.)
- Estate documents
- Homeowner's Insurance documents
- Wills
- Life insurance policies
- Inventory of possessions and their value
- List of important phone numbers (family, friends, etc.)
- Flood insurance documents
- Vehicle titles, leases, loan documents, etc.
- Financial statements (accounts, checks, tax returns, etc.)
- Stocks and bonds
- Copies of recent bills (power, water, etc.)
- Birth certificates or proof of citizenship
- Social Security cards
- Medical records, x-rays, benefits documents, etc.
- Education reports (report cards, acceptance letters)
- Passports
- Duplicate prescriptions from doctor
- Backup computer files (on a hard drive, CD, DVD, etc.)
- Paperwork for your pets (medical records, registration, etc.)
- Copies of important keys

2. Disaster Preparedness for People with Disabilities:

People who need assistance in the event of an evacuation may register in advance by calling 211, or visit: <https://www.211texas.org/211/> to register.

Red Cross: <http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared/disability.pdf>

<http://disability911.com/>



FEMA:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=24487>

Governor's Division of Emergency Management:

http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/documents/emergency_supplies_kit.pdf

Hurricane Preparedness for Texans with Disabilities, Texas Department of Assistive & Rehabilitative Services:

<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/announcements/20060601.shtml>

3. Hurricane Tracking:

Download the Free Hurricane Tracker 2010 from Harris County Flood Control to monitor current storms or watch historical storms (Allison 2001, Rita 2005, Katrina 2005, Alicia 1983): <http://www.hcfd.org/hurricanetracker/download.html>

National Hurricane Center:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

CBS-11 KHOU Houston:

<http://www.khou.com/weather/hurricanecentral/>

NBC-12 KPRC Houston:

<HTTP://WWW.CLICK2HOUSTON.COM/HURRICANES/INDEX.HTML>

ABC-13 KTRK Houston:

<http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/feature?section=weather/hurricane;id=6139670>

FOX-09 KRIV Houston:

<http://media.myfoxhouston.com/weather/htb/>

CW-39 KHCW Houston:

<http://khcw.trb.com/news/weather/>

The Weather Channel:

http://www.weather.com/services/desktopemg.html?cm_ven=PPCdesktop;cm_cat=overlap_brand;cm_pla=branded;cm_ite=the_weather_channel

4. Pets. If you evacuate, take your pets.

Disaster Preparedness Checklist (in order to

care for your pet, take the following with you):

- Molded Plastic Pet Carrier
- Copy of rabies; vaccinations records
- Two-week supply of pet food
- Three-day supply of bottled water
- One-month supply of your pet's regular medications
- Non-spill food; water bowls
- Cat litter pan/cat litter
- Leash
- Plastic bags (pet waste disposal)
- Sheets (one for each Carrier)
- Blankets
- Non-electric can opener
- Newspaper
- Disinfectants
- Paper Towels
- Comb/Brush
- Play toys
- Pet's favorite snacks

5. Additional Sources of Information:

Harris County Homeland Security & Emergency Management: <http://www.hcoem.org>

City of Houston Emergency Management: <http://www.houstontx.gov/oem>

Governor's Division of Emergency Management: <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/pages/index.htm>

Think. Act. Survive: <http://www.survivedisaster.org>

Prepare a Personal Disaster Plan: <http://www.ready.gov>

Harris County Citizen Corps: <http://www.harriscountycitizenccorps.com>

American Red Cross (Houston Chapter): <http://www.houstonredcross.org>

Hide From the Wind (shows by zip code how much wind we can expect): <http://www.houstonhidefromthewind.org>



If you would like to receive periodic emails from Mayor Annise D. Parker and the City of Houston on topics of interest to you and your neighborhood, please go to <http://www.houstontx.gov> and register with CitizensNet



3-1-1

Cell phone or VoIP:
713-837-0311

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The City of Houston has 38 outdoor swimming pools that are managed by the Parks & Recreation Department. Twenty (20) of those pools opened on May 29 for the Memorial Day Holiday; 37 swimming pools will be opening for the summer on June 5, with the last pool (T.C. Jester Park) being under renovation and scheduled to open July 15.

Pool Hours: all city swimming pools are open to the public Tuesday through Sunday, from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and are closed on Mondays for cleaning and maintenance (other than Memorial Day and Labor Day). Memorial Park Pool is also open for lap swimming Tuesday to Friday 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. May 4 to October 29 (or until the water temperature drops below 72 degrees). For more information about city of Houston swimming pools, please visit:

<http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/aquatics.html>

In our hot Houston summers, swimming is one of the most enjoyable activities for our children, but it is also one of the most dangerous. Learn to swim. Learn CPR. Learn water safety. Be Water Wise.

