

**POLK COUNTY, TEXAS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: August 26, 2020

Time: 2 p.m.

Contact: Polk County Office of Emergency Management
(936) 327-6826; Fax: (936) 327-6890



HURRICANE LAURA & SHELTER INFORMATION

The National Weather Service is projecting Hurricane Laura will impact the Texas coast as a category 4 hurricane, increasing the potential danger and damage to the County. Polk County Judge, Sydney Murphy, has issued a Mandatory Evacuation Order for those residents currently living in substandard housing, mobile homes, recreational vehicles, and structures that are unable to withstand intense weather conditions.

The National Weather Service reports Hurricane Laura is tracking slightly east of the original track. However, Polk County is still under a Hurricane warning (Hurricane force winds are gauged at 74 mph or greater).

Due to COVID-19, those residents that are in need of shelter are encouraged to seek assistance with family or friends. If you are unable to house in another area and require shelter assistance, please contact Emergency Management at 936-327-6826 or report directly to the Dunbar Gym, at 1103 Dunbar Avenue, Livingston, TX. Polk County residents must be checked into the shelter by 7:00 p.m. this evening.

Everyone seeking shelter assistance will be screened for COVID-19 prior to entering the facility and will be required to wear a face-mask at all times. Those persons who exhibit Coronavirus symptoms will be housed in separate areas.

Please continue to monitor the Polk County Emergency Management Facebook page (www.facebook.com/PolkCountyEmergencyManagement) and website www.PolkCountyOEM.com for updates and instructions.