

**POLK COUNTY, TEXAS  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: August 25, 2017

Time: 1:00 p.m.

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



**HURRICANE HARVEY**

According to the National Weather Service, Hurricane Harvey is currently a category 2 hurricane and is forecast to be a category 3 hurricane at landfall. Landfall is expected tonight along the middle Texas coast (Corpus Christi, Rockport).

At this time, Polk County is not under a Tropical Storm or Hurricane Warning; however, we may receive a substantial amount of rainfall. The National Weather Service estimates our area could receive 8-10 inches of rainfall in the northern part of the County and 10-15 inches in the southern part of the County over the next five days. Winds could reach 40-50 mph. Our office will continue to release information to the public as this incident progresses.

Our primary concern is flooding within the low-lying areas of the County. Residents that reside in flood-prone areas, please take necessary precautions. Please take time to clean out storm drains and culverts. This will help reduce flooding near your home.

As a precautionary measure, the County Judge of Polk County has declared a local state of disaster in anticipation of the need to request the assistance of state resources and assets.

**Flood Safety Tips:** In the event of severe flooding, please remember:

Turn Around, Don't Drown! Do not drive through high water and DO NOT DRIVE AROUND BARRICADES! Just 2 feet of water can sweep your vehicle away.

DO NOT WALK through flood waters. Just 6 inches of moving water can knock you down.

STAY AWAY from streams, rivers, and creeks during heavy rainfall. These areas can flood quickly with little warning.

MOVE important items – especially important documents like insurance policies to the highest possible floor. This will help protect them from flood damage.

DISCONNECT electrical appliances and do not touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water. You could be electrocuted.

Please look for further updates on the Polk County, Texas website ([www.co.polk.tx.us](http://www.co.polk.tx.us)) and the Polk County Emergency Management Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/PolkCountyEmergencyManagement](http://www.facebook.com/PolkCountyEmergencyManagement)).

Please register to receive alerts from the County's emergency alert system *AlertMePolkCounty* via the following options: phone call, text message, and email. Search *AlertMePolkCounty* in any online search engine or click on the *AlertMePolkCounty* logo on the Polk County, Texas website to access the registration and account sign-in portal. Please follow the instructions in the account activation email sent to you by our service provider (Blackboard Connect) to complete the registration process. If you need assistance registering for *AlertMePolkCounty*, please contact our office.