

**POLK COUNTY, TEXAS  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: August 26, 2017

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Contact: Polk County Office of Emergency Management  
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**HURRICANE HARVEY**

According to the National Weather Service, Hurricane Harvey is centered near Victoria and weakening.

At this time, Polk County is not under a Tropical Storm or Hurricane Warning; however, Polk County is under a Flash Flood Watch. This means that conditions may develop that lead to flash flooding. The National Weather Service estimates Polk County could receive 6-15 inches of rainfall through Thursday morning. The heaviest rainfall is forecasted for the southern portion of the County. Wind gusts up to 20 mph are possible. 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.

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

To check TxDOT highway conditions, log onto [www.DriveTexas.org](http://www.DriveTexas.org).

**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.