

# POLK COUNTY, TEXAS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 24, 2017

Time: 12:00 p.m.

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



## TROPICAL STORM HARVEY

The Polk County Office of Emergency Management is monitoring and making preparations for the arrival of Tropical Storm Harvey on Friday along the southern Texas coastline. According to the National Weather Service, Tropical Storm Warnings and Hurricane Warnings are in effect for most of the Texas coast.

At this time, Polk County is not under a Tropical Storm Warning; however, we may receive a substantial amount of rainfall. The National Weather Service estimates our area could receive 6-8 inches of rainfall in the northern part of the County and 8-10 inches in the southern part of the County. Winds could reach 40 mph. There is potential for Tropical Storm Harvey to strengthen into a hurricane. Our office will continue to monitor the storm's development and release information to the public as this incident progresses.

Our primary concern is flooding within the low-lying areas of the County. Please take time to clean out storm drains and culverts. This will help reduce flooding near your home.

**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.