

Thank you for your subscription to Rep. Dan Huberty's Session Newsletter. If you wish to unsubscribe, please use the SafeUnsubscribe option at the bottom of this email.



September 29, 2017

Thank you for subscribing to my newsletter. This is the fifth edition of our disaster series compiling the resources to help you and your family recovery from this historic weather event. This week's edition includes recovery information and resources as well as some of our usual business.

Most importantly, I would like to point out that on October 4, 2017, the House Committee on Natural Resources is meeting to discuss the flooding that occurred in our area. This committee will be hearing public testimony and I encourage you to tune in online or to attend in person. You can find more about the committee hearing by clicking [here](#).

Be sure to click the button below to "like" me on Facebook. This is the best way to keep up-to-date with information related to hurricane recovery that is specific to our area.

I would like to remind you that our district office is closed ***until further notice*** and will reopen once my staff can safely work in the building. In the meantime, please contact my Capitol Office staff if you need assistance.

Sincerely,

Dan Huberty



Hurricane Harvey Recovery Resources

Texas GLO Signs Agreement Negotiated for
Disaster Assistance with FEMA

The Texas General Land Office (GLO) announced the signing of a finalized



agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) outlining the programs and funding mechanisms for the immediate disaster assistance housing needs for the state's initial Hurricane Harvey recovery efforts. The GLO, in partnership with the Councils of Government (COGs), will work with local officials from affected regions to determine which program options will best address the needs of individual communities. These programs will provide multiple options designed to allow residents to shelter in their own houses or nearby in their home communities while continuing the long-term rebuilding process.

[Read more information about the deal and the new RebuildTexas website!](#)

Guidance for Debris Management and Culvert Installation



As communities affected by Hurricane Harvey create temporary debris sites and create culverts to aid in the recovery process, it is important that all relevant state and federal guidelines are followed.

For example, for debris disposal, staging, processing and burning activities within the State of Texas, both the Texas Commission on Environmental quality (TCEQ) and Texas Historical Commission (THC) must approve the temporary storage of debris outside of a certified or properly licensed landfill. Environmental and historic preservation considerations must also be given for the installation of culverts.

[Useful handouts on both of these topics can be viewed by following this link.](#)

Commissioner Sharp Provides Video Update on Harvey Recovery



From clearing debris to mosquito control, the goal of The Governor's Commission to Rebuild Texas is to have a swift and seamless process for the recovery and relief efforts for Texas.



Register today for the upcoming Texas State Collaborative meeting in Austin on October 3. The meeting will include dynamic information regarding Hurricane Harvey engineering observations as well as the big picture outlook from FEMA regarding current activities, planning, and resource opportunities, e.g. grants and other tools to boost resilience.

Speakers will include Manny Perotin, Sr. Project Manager, CDM Smith; Edward Laatsch, P.E., Director - Safety, Planning & Building Science Division, FIMA Risk Management Directorate, FIMA, FEMA, DHS; and John L. Ingargiola, EI, CBO, CFM, Lead Physical Scientist, PTS Building Science Program Manager - Building Science Branch, Risk Management Directorate, FIMA, FEMA, DHS.

[Register here](#) for the meeting and [view](#) the full agenda:

Tuesday, October 3 (8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.)
The Texas Capitol - Legislative Conference Center
1100 Congress Ave, Austin, Texas 78701

Visit www.TexasStateCollaborative.org and register today.

For more information or questions, please contact [Mike Rimoldi](#) or call the nonprofit Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) at (877) 221 - SAFE (7233).

Property Tax Relief for Qualifying Natural Disaster Survivors



In accordance with Section 31.032 of the Property Tax Code, taxpayers who sustained property damage as a result of a declared natural disaster may be eligible to split their property tax payments into 4 equal interest free installments, to be paid in full by July 31st.

Qualifications

This only applies to taxes imposed between the date of the disaster and exactly one year after that date for tangible personal property that is owned or leased by a business entity or real property that:

1. Is either:
 - o the residence homestead of the owner or consists of property that is used for residential purposes and that has fewer than five living units; or
 - o owned or leased by a business entity that had not more than the amount calculated as provided by Subsection (h) in gross receipts in the entity's most recent federal tax year or state franchise tax annual period, according to the applicable federal income tax return or state franchise tax report of the entity;
2. is located in a declared disaster area; and
3. has been damaged as a direct result of the disaster.

Requirements

By January 31st, you must provide:

1. Payment in the amount of at least one-fourth (25%) of the total amount of taxes due
2. A completed "[Request for Installment Agreement for Taxes on Property in Disaster Area](#)" form obtained from the Tax Office.
3. Proof of the property damage in the form of insurance claims; photographs of damage, copy of repair estimate or paid invoices.

Note: You will be notified if the request is not approved.

Payments

The remaining taxes, after the first installment, may be paid without penalty or interest as follows:

1. The second installment must be paid before the first day of the second month after the due date.
2. The third installment must be paid by the first day of the fourth month after the due date.
3. The fourth installment must be paid by the first day of the sixth month after the due date.

If you pay more than the amount due for an installment, then the excess will be credited to the next installment.

If payment is not made before the deadline (delinquency date), the unpaid amount of the specific installment payment due is delinquent and incurs a penalty of 6% and interest as provided by Section 33.01(c) of the Property Tax Code.

For inquiries regarding Installment Payment Plans for Disaster Victims, call 713-274-8120.

Voluntary Home Buyout



Voluntary home buyout is used by the Flood Control District to reduce flood damages in areas hopelessly deep in the floodplain where structural projects (i.e. channel modifications or detention basins) to reduce flooding are not cost effective and/or beneficial.

[Click here to find out more information.](#)

Harris County Public Health Recovery Resources

Harris County Department of Public Health has issued its recovery resources for you and your family to explore. Please be sure to click on the links below to find out more information about how to protect your health and our community's well-being during this difficult time.

- [Flood Recovery Recommendations](#)
- [Flood Safety: Avoid illness and injury in floodwaters](#)
- [Preventing Mold: Keep mold out of your home after flooding and storms](#)
- [Is Your Tetanus Shot Up-To-Date?](#)
- [Boiled Water: Listen to local officials to know if water is safe](#)
- [Mosquitoes: Tips to "Fight the Bite" after storms and flooding](#)
- [Sewage Cleanup](#)
- [Food Safety](#)
- [Coping after Disasters](#)
- [Information on Aerial Spraying and Mosquito Control](#)
- [An Outlook on Harris County for 2017 \(broad information on Harris County Public Health\)](#)

FEMA: Immediate Disaster Case Management Available to Texas Hurricane Survivors



Survivors can receive free guidance from disaster case managers on how best to recover from Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath, along with ways to access a variety of available resources, including disaster unemployment and disaster legal assistance.

They may simply call the Disaster Case Management Hotline at 855-742-5989 (press 2 for Spanish). A case manager will respond within 24 hours. Other helpful resource telephone numbers for Texas survivors are the Disaster Distress Helpline at 800-985-5990; Disaster Legal Services Texas at 800-504-7030; and Disaster Unemployment Assistance at 800-939-6631.

Disaster case managers connect survivors to available resources, provide assistance with initial disaster

registration or appeals, and assist in developing a personalized disaster recovery plan. They assess verified unmet needs; help create goal-oriented plans outlining what steps need to be taken to recover; bring together information and services; and monitor progress to reach goals.

Disaster case managers work in remaining shelters and State of Texas/FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs). For DRC locations, see www.fema.gov/DRC or visit fema.gov/mobile-app to download the FEMA mobile app.

The Immediate Disaster Case Management program, aimed at survivors who have unmet disaster-related needs, is federally funded and administered by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services' Administration for Children and Families division.

New Checkout Date for Transitional Sheltering Assistance (October 10)

Some Hurricane Harvey survivors who need more time to find housing are getting an extension to stay temporarily in hotels while they look for an alternative place to live.

The Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) program, which pays for short-term hotel stays, has been extended by 14 days. The new checkout date is Oct. 10. Participants in the program will receive a phone call telling them whether they are eligible for the extension and what they need to do to remain at their current hotel or find a new hotel. Applicants must meet certain requirements to remain eligible.

Hurricane Harvey survivors who are not currently in the program but who may be eligible are notified automatically. TSA participants must be registered with FEMA for disaster assistance.

FEMA pays directly for the room and any applicable taxes. Applicants are responsible for all other incidental costs (meals, transportation, etc.) Hotels may require a credit card for incidental expenses.

A household of four or fewer members is authorized for one hotel room and a household of five or more is authorized additional rooms based on a limit of four people per room. One member of each household 18 or older must reside in each room.

TSA-eligible applicants must find and book their own hotel rooms. The list of participating hotels is on DisasterAssistance.gov, under the link [Transitional Sheltering Assistance Program](#) or by phoning the FEMA helpline at 800-321-3362. For TTY, call 800-462-7585. For 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 800-621-3362.

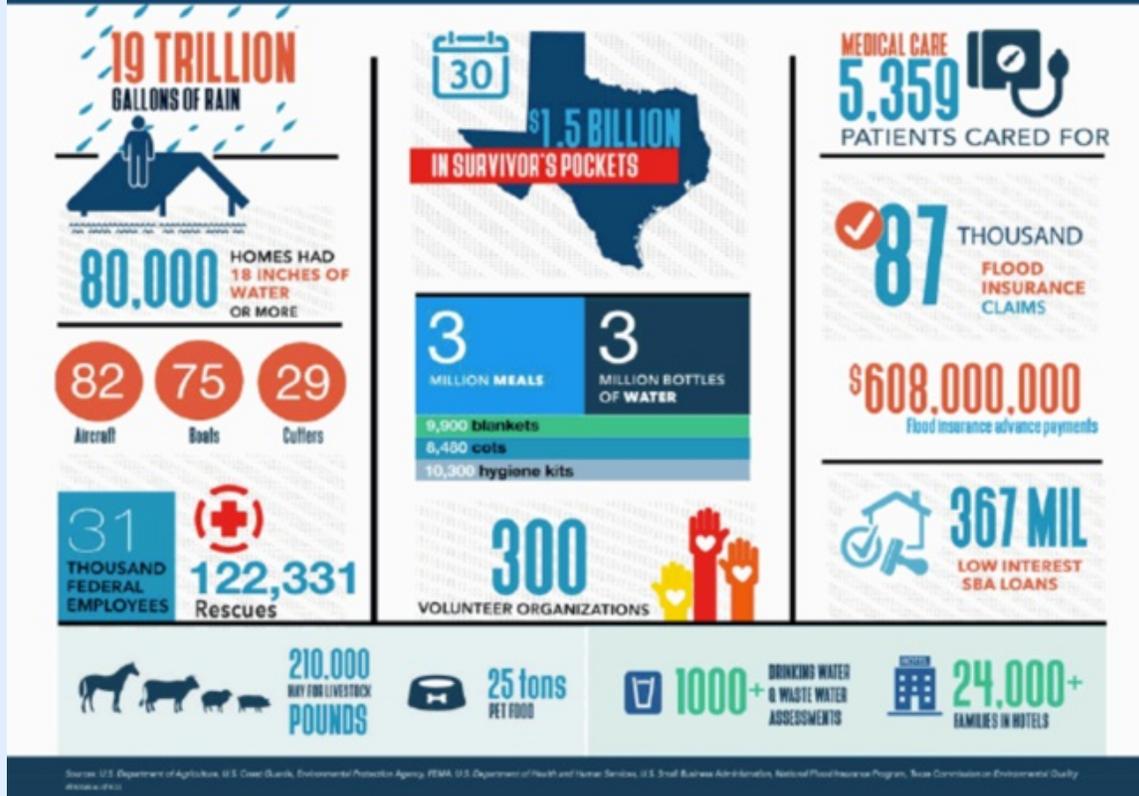
Applicants with disabilities or who have access and functional needs should check with hotels to ensure appropriate accommodations are available. Those with pets must check to see if pets are accepted. Applicants must show photo identification and adhere to any hotel check-in requirements.

Many survivors have found other housing and no longer need to participate in TSA. The average stay is 3-4 nights. More than 40,000 families were using this temporary action. That number has decreased to 24,000 families staying in TSA hotels as they work on housing solutions.

Hurricane Harvey by the Numbers

HISTORIC RESPONSE

Hurricane Harvey in Texas



Apply for a Grant: Lake Houston Area Relief Fund

Was your home or business flooded out because of Hurricane Harvey? The Lake Houston Area Chamber partnered with Insperty, HAAM and Somebody Cares Humble to create this fund to give back to the community.

[Apply for a grant here!](#)

For Your Information

House Committee on Natural Resources Hearing in Houston



COMMITTEE: Natural Resources

TIME & DATE: 10:00 AM, Wednesday, October 04, 2017

PLACE: Houston, Texas (see details below)

CHAIR: Rep. Lyle Larson

The committee will meet to hear invited and public testimony at the **George R. Brown Convention Center, 1001 Avenida De Las Americas, Houston, TX 77010 (Room 371)** for a public hearing on the following interim charge:

"Examine the following issues within the committee's jurisdiction regarding Harvey and flooding in general: the role of regional entities in developing projects to control flooding, both through new infrastructure and enhancing existing infrastructure; mitigation efforts that would reduce the impact of future flood events, and strategies to fund those efforts; and the response of public entities that own or operate dams to large-scale rain events, including how such entities make decisions regarding dam and reservoir operations during such events, coordinate with state and local emergency management officials, and communicate with the public."

Public testimony will be limited to 3 minutes.

TRS Meetings Scheduled in Houston Area



Houston area chapters of the Retired Teachers Association will begin meeting soon to discuss TRS Care and the sudden raise in premiums. To find the meeting closest to you, go to www.TRS.gov.

Constituent Resources

District Office Closure

Please be advised that, due to the flooding in HD 127, the District Office of State Representative Dan Huberty will **be closed until further notice**. Anyone needing immediate assistance should contact the Capitol Office. You can find out how to contact them at the bottom of this newsletter.

Need Assistance?

Our office is always ready to assist you. Call or email us and we will do our best to help. Many State Agencies also have hotlines or citizen assistance offices to assist you. That contact information is available at this link, in alphabetical order:

<http://www.lrl.texas.gov/genInfo/stateAgencies.cfm>

House District 127 Live Updates

All of the relevant information our office has gathered in regard to response and recovery of Hurricane Harvey is posted immediately to our Facebook page. Be sure to "like" us so that you can have the most up-to-date information.



Upcoming Events

September & October 2017

See an event you're interested in? Click the links on each date to learn more about the event's details. Under each link, you can find R.S.V.P. information, exact times, locations, and much more.

This color box indicates an event related to Hurricane Harvey.

This color box indicates a general purpose event.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Harvey Recovery Fair	I-10 Katy/East Freeway closed - until 5a	Harris County D-SNAP Enrollment S-Z	Harris County D-SNAP Enrollment A-C	Harris County D-SNAP Enrollment D-H	Yom Kippur Begins at Sunset	Yom Kippur Ends at Sunset

I-10 Katy/East Freeway closed	Harris County D-SNAP Enrollment N-R				Harris County D-SNAP Enrollment I-M	Harris County D-SNAP Enrollment N-R
Harris County D-SNAP Enrollment I-M			HoUSton Strong: A Theater District Benefitting Local Heroes		State of the County Luncheon with Judge Emmett	
October - 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Harris County D-SNAP Enrollment S-Z	Harris County D-SNAP Enrollment ANYONE	Harris County D-SNAP Enrollment ANYONE	Harris County D-SNAP Enrollment ANYONE	Harris County D-SNAP Enrollment ANYONE		
	House Committee on Appropriations Meeting to Discuss Harvey		House Committee on Natural Resources Meeting to Discuss Harvey	BizCom Humble		
	House Committee on Urban Affairs Meeting to Discuss Harvey					
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Columbus Day					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Teachers of the Year Luncheon				Legal Advice Clinic
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	November - 1	2	3	4
		Halloween				

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NOTE: The District Office is closed until further notice. Please direct all calls to the Capitol Office.

