

MUD 113 Newsletter

September, 2017

Hurricane Preparedness in the Woodforest Community

Here are some basic tips if you receive a hurricane watch (conditions expected in 48 hours) or warning (conditions expected in 36 hours) from the National Weather Service for our local area. An excellent source of detailed information can be found on the website of the Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management www.mctxoem.org.

- Know where to go. Montgomery County is a pass through county, meaning that residents will not be evacuated due to a threat of a hurricane. You will need to decide if you should leave. Know the local hurricane evacuation route(s) to take and have a plan for where you can stay.
- Put together a disaster supply kit, including a flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies, and copies of your critical information if you need to evacuate.
- If you decide to stay in your home, plan for adequate supplies in case you lose power and water for several days and you are not able to leave due to flooding or blocked roads.
- Make a [family emergency communication plan](#).
- Many communities have text or email alerting systems for emergency notifications Signup for notifications by text or email at www.Smart911.com.

Specific issues within our community will be addressed by the Woodforest Owners Association and MUD 113. Their respective websites are www.Woodforesttx.com and www.mcmud113.com. Please go to these websites and register your email address and mobile phone number so that you can receive emergency alerts and updates.

Woodforest obtains both its electricity and water utility services from Mid-South Synergy. Their website, www.midsouthsynergy.com, gives pertinent information under the Storm Center tab. Contact them by phone at 936-825-5100 in the event of an outage. Many homeowners elect to purchase and have on hand a portable gas generator or an installed natural gas generator for use during power outages. Generators must be serviced during the year to make sure it will work when you need it. Accumulate gallon jugs of drinking water early in hurricane season. Don't wait until a hurricane is about to strike, since bottled water will be sold out very quickly.

Our wastewater treatment plant operator, Municipal Operations Consulting (MOC), will bring in portable diesel generators to operate the lift stations and the treatment plant in the event of an electrical outage. However, there are steps that residents can take to minimize production of waste water. Minimize water used for bathing; wash clothes in a full load; flush toilets when really needed. Also turn off your sprinkler system to reduce fresh water usage and runoff so that the drainage routes are better able to cope with the heavy rainfall associated with hurricanes.

Trash collection could be interrupted for a week or more during and after a storm, depending on obstacles and debris in the roads. Do not let trash containers sit out for days in anticipation of pickup as the container and contents could scatter in windy conditions. If possible, keep trash cans inside your garage and double-bag true food waste. Trash problems should be reported to Waste Management at 713-686-6666.

Both WOA and MUD 113 will do its best to get out timely and correct information for Woodforest in the event of any emergency event. Be careful of information spread by word of mouth from one resident to another. Try to verify its accuracy before passing it along.

Woodforest Driving Tip

Residents have brought to our attention their concern over the legal status of the southernmost section of Woodforest Parkway South east of Fish Creek Thoroughfare. The road has two paved lanes in either direction in the esplanaded section and is white striped on the right hand side. The issue is whether this section is one or two driving lanes in either direction. The Sheriff's Dept. interpretation is that this section is one operating lane in either direction and the additional width should not be used to pass another vehicle moving ahead in the active lane.