



When Quality & Integrity Count...

Home Hurricane Preparedness Sheet

Hurricane-proof your home, before there is a hurricane in the Gulf

- **Protect your garage door**- add steel or plywood panels or other approved supporting devices.
- **Get storm shutters** - install storm panels or plywood in place on windows. If you haven't installed sockets, attach with wood screws or "[Plylox](#)"; they're better than nails and do less damage.
- **Don't tape windows** - tape can create daggers of glass and bakes onto panes.
- **Clean gutters** - check for loose gutters and downspouts.
- **Clean yard drain(s)** and drainage ditches along the fences.
- **Remove and store indoors things that can fly** such as: swings and tarps from swing sets, patio furniture, grills, trash cans, potted plants. If you do any last-minute pruning, take clippings inside so they don't become missiles.
- **Disconnect and remove satellite** dish or antenna from your roof.
- **Check your mailbox**. If it's loose, secure or remove it.
- **Remove roof turbines** and cap holes with screw-on caps. Unsecured turbines can fly off and create a large hole for rain to pour through. Check to make sure there is a fireplace chimney rain cap in place.
- **Prepare patio screening**. Officials recommend you remove a 6-foot panel on each side to let wind pass through. Secure and brace external doors, especially the garage door and double doors.
- **Move vehicles out of flood-prone areas** and into garages if possible. If not, park cars away from trees and close to homes or buildings.
- **Know where all of your main utility shut-off's are**. There are probably two places to shut-off all the water into the house, one is at the main water meter located in the yard near the curb and at the house either on the exterior wall or at an interior location. The main gas shut-off can be found at the gas meter. The main electrical shut-off is normally at the main breaker box. It is not normally necessary to shut off any of your utilities prior to a hurricane, although you may want to turn off all of the utilities if you are evacuating. If you do turn off utilities don't forget to turn off gas/electric to the water heater.
- **Pool**: fill your pool and super chlorinate. Turn off electric breakers to the pool pumps, heaters, and blowers. Remove or wrap your electric motors.
- **One last thing to remember**. After the storm has passed, if you lost power it is recommended that you turn off the main electrical breaker to prevent "Brown out" conditions that can destroy electrical components and A/C systems. Wait to turn on the main electrical breaker unit power has been stabilized in your area.
- **If you have any questions on how to prepare, please feel free to call our office at 281-403-1010.**

Information brought to you by: Goodspeed Inspection Services, Inc.

Serving the Houston Metro area since 1996

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Mr. Goodspeed has been in the construction inspection industry since 1987. He has conducted thousands of quality fee paid residential & commercial real estate structural/mechanical inspections & light industrial and Wood Destroying Insect inspections in the Houston metropolitan area since 1996. Texas Real Estate Commission Professional Inspector #4100

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