



# NEWS RELEASE

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## HARRIS COUNTY OFFERS INFORMATION ON ZIP CODE EVACUATIONS

(Harris County, TX) - In an effort to ensure a more orderly evacuation when a major storm approaches our region, Harris, Galveston, Brazoria and Matagorda counties currently use a "Zip Code Evacuation Plan."

The four zip code zones, which generally correspond to hurricane storm surge risk areas, begin along the coast and continue inland toward the greater Houston area. The coastal zone will evacuate first, and the inland zones will evacuate in succession until all coastal residents have evacuated.

The intent of the zip code plan is to ease traffic congestion and assist residents living in the low-lying portions of Galveston, Brazoria, Matagorda and Harris counties to evacuate before those outside the risk areas enter the roadways.

The zip code zones are labeled: Zip Zone Coastal, Zip Zone A, Zip Zone B and Zip Zone C.

Zip Zone Coastal encompasses the zip codes utilized on Galveston Island, Bolivar Peninsula and portions of coastal Brazoria County including Freeport and Surfside. This is the most threatened geographic area and residents of these zip codes will evacuate first when a hurricane approaches.

Zip Zone A includes zip codes for nearly all mainland Galveston County, eastern Brazoria County, and the communities along Clear Creek in southern Harris County.

Zip Zone B includes zip codes for eastern and southern Harris County, northwestern Galveston County, and central Brazoria County.

Zip Zone C, the last region to evacuate under the plan, includes eastern Harris County, portions of Houston, and most of northern Brazoria County.

Emergency management officials urge coastal residents to know which zone they reside in and to monitor local news and information sources for important evacuation information in the event a major storm approaches the region.

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