



Beaumont Public Health Department

## **Disaster can strike at any time!** **Disasters can be either natural (hurricane) or man-made (an explosion)**

**Three steps can make a big difference in ensuring your safety and well-being and that of your loved ones.**

### **1. PREPARE:**

- Register your cell phones for emergency notification by going to the City of Beaumont web site listed below or you can call **3-1-1** if you don't have computer access.
- if you have special medical needs or just help with a ride out of town in case of a mandatory evacuation, register with **2-1-1** (option 4), this year and every year;
- you should also have two disaster kits;
  - one for sheltering in place, (food and water for three days, flashlights with extra batteries, etc.), and,
  - a "grab and go" kit (extra clothing, important papers, bottled water and snacks for the trip, etc.).

### **2. PLAN:**

- You should also have plans for both;
  - sheltering in place, and,
  - a mandatory evacuation.
- An important component of both plans is family communication:  
How you will contact one another? How will you get back together; and what will you do in different situations? You should also have a designated person who lives out-of-state that will serve as your contact person in the event of a disaster or mandatory evacuation. Notify that person when you leave, get where you're going, and when you return. Make sure your family, friends, place of worship if appropriate, and your residential manager all know who that person is and their contact information.

**3. BE INFORMED:** Learn about the potential emergencies that could happen here in Southeast Texas. Emergencies can be either natural (a hurricane) or man-made (an explosion).

**Some Important websites:** [beaumonttexas.gov](http://beaumonttexas.gov), (Emergency Management), Southeast Texas Alerting Network, ([thestan.com](http://thestan.com)), [ready.gov](http://ready.gov), [texasprepares.org](http://texasprepares.org), [beaumontweather.com](http://beaumontweather.com),

**Phone Numbers:** Beaumont Public Health Department 409-654-3668, City of Beaumont Emergency Management 409-980-7280, Jefferson County Emergency Management, 409-835-8757

### **Please Don't Forget:**

- Make sure you're insured. If you rent, consider "contents insurance". Good policies can be purchased for less than \$20/month. If you own your home, you need separate, wind, water, and general home owner insurance policies,
- Supplies for your emergency kit need to be rotated out to keep them up to date. One good method is to stock your emergency food supplies at the back of the pantry, then move them up front and use them from time to time. Don't forget to restock what you use,
- If an evacuation is ordered:
  - DO NOT SHELTER IN PLACE (it's the law),
  - make sure that your utilities are turned off,
  - empty your refrigerator (renters insurance will reimburse you),
  - have essential papers such as; birth certificates, insurance policies, Social Security cards, copies of your prescriptions, etc., stored together in a water-proof bag,
  - DO NOT leave pets behind. If evacuating to a designated shelter, you should have a kennel, a leash, a small bag of dry pet food, a muzzle for dogs, and their vaccination records. Shelters will not accept pets without vaccination papers.