

The Rural Water Emergency Assistance Cooperative is here to help during Hurricane Harvey

You are receiving this email because your system is located in a county that will potentially be affected by Hurricane Harvey. This storm is forecasted to be the nation's first Category 3 landfall in almost 12 years. It is expected to make landfall Friday night or early Saturday morning along the Texas Gulf Coast.

We are here to help! TRWA's Rural Water Emergency Assistance Cooperative (RWEAC) is a voluntary network of rural water utilities that give and receive help in the event of a natural or manmade disaster. By pooling resources such as equipment, manpower, supplies and other basic necessities, RWEAC can assist utilities needing help during a disaster. Any water/wastewater utility in Texas can request emergency assistance from RWEAC by calling **1-866-586-6480**, a toll free hotline that is staffed 24/7. You may also email us at rweac@trwa.org.

In preparing for Hurricane Harvey, ask yourself the following questions:

- Are you part of the RWEAC collective? If not, [sign up now!](#) In order to be eligible to receive assistance, a utility is required to execute a Mutual Aid Agreement with RWEAC. There is no cost to join and our online application is easy to use.
- Do you have a generator in place, or will you have one available to you if needed? If not, identify what size you will need and [let us know](#).
- Have you located and secured important system documents, such as critical infrastructure documents, operations and maintenance manuals and guides, etc.?
- What are your other anticipated system needs?
- Do you have an electrician on-call? Do they know what components are on-site, or could they easily find out? You will need an electrician on-site to help configure your emergency generator.
- Are you tracking all equipment and labor expenses related to storm preparation and emergency response that are outside of the scope of normal system operations? You will need to do so for reimbursement by FEMA.

TCEQ also has some useful information [on their website](#) with more information on storm/emergency preparation.

We will be setting up our response staging areas at Quail Creek MUD in Victoria and Nueces County WCID #3 in Robstown. We will be there organizing equipment and supplies to be able to quickly mobilize and provide assistance to affected systems. Please reach out to us at 1-866-586-6480 or rweac@trwa.org if you require assistance. Our first responders are standing by.