



A Message from Mayor Wax

September 16, 2017

Although these letters come through the City, please know that it is a multi-jurisdictional effort that includes Aransas County and the Town of Fulton. Our level of cooperation is unmatched. We are truly One Voice --working together to rebuild.

New News:

1. Debris and Garbage. Republic has resumed its normal weekly scheduled. You may continue to use both the trash and recycling bins for your garbage. If your normal pickup date has passed, please move your bins away from the street. Recycling has been postponed indefinitely.

The heavy debris pickup is focusing on trees and limbs because of their high flammability. On Monday, we'll be getting additional trucks to pick up building materials. Please continue to keep the piles separated and off the streets. We have now removed more than **136,300** cubic yards of debris.

We will soon be posting maps that show where debris has been picked up, future routes and any updates and changes. When reviewing the maps, please note the red lines which denote TxDOT roads and highways, which are not the responsibility of the City or County. TxDOT began debris removal today with 30 trucks and will ramp up to 100 trucks by midweek. Their concentration is on state-owned roadways, which include the Bypass, Hwy 35, 3036 and more. Once their work is completed, they will assist with county wide cleanup.

TxDOT is building a debris management site on the Bypass median near 12th Street. Southbound traffic will be limited to one lane to accommodate the trucks going to the site. Once they've finished their routes, they will hold a controlled burn that will include TCEQ, firefighting personnel and a strike team.

The County remains in a BURN BAN. There is discussion about opening it to controlled areas. We will let you know when things change.

2. Traffic Signals and Stop Signs. Many of the lights and signs have been compromised by the hurricane making them "uncontrolled intersections". If you notice a blinking or non-working light OR remember where a sign used to be, please come to a complete stop and proceed cautiously. We have asked TxDOT to expedite the repair of these lights as the City is only responsible for one traffic light.

3. Transfer Station. The Transfer Station is still up and running for residents and the contracted debris removal companies. Today there was an overcrowding situation with too many debris trucks and the gates were closed for approximately 30 minutes.
4. Mail. The Rockport Post Office has installed a temporary facility for those who had post office boxes. Individuals who have standing mail boxes are receiving delivery. Those of us who are missing a mail box can pick up mail at the Ingleside Post Office on 361. The easiest route is to take 1069 by Lowes, go east and turn left at the first light. It's approximately three blocks down.
5. Missing Persons. We're pleased to report that there have been NO cases reported of missing individuals.
6. Daycare. We are aware of the encroaching problem associated with limited facilities and are looking at alternatives.

Worth Reminding:

1. Electricity. AEP announced that the circuits are up at all the transformers. About 96% of the county is back on the power grid. If you don't have power, it may be one of several issues: a) your main circuit breaker was turned off, b) there is a connectivity issue with the power lines or c) severe damage to the electrical systems in the structure. Call the AEP Outage line at 866-223-8508. If you have another concern, call AEP Customer Service at 877-373-4858.
2. Utilities. WE NEED YOUR HELP – if you notice a leak or seepage that we may not have been able to identify, please alert us to the problem. You may contact the City of Rockport's Water Department at 361-790-1160 during normal business hours. If there is an emergency, please call 361-729-1111 or 729-2222.

We are aware that it is impossible to pay utility bills online and/ or to pay in person. We will let you know when our billing system is up and running. Do not be concerned about penalty fees, or water being shut off. Also, remember to report any leaks

3. The list of Verified Contractors is on the City's web site is updated regularly.
4. Local Businesses. As businesses open, the Chamber will add them to a list and publish it on their web site. This is for ALL businesses, not just Chamber members.
5. Tarps for homeowners are available at no charge in the parking lots of the old HEB.
6. Aerial Views. Drones have been taking photos of the Hurricane Harvey aftermath. Residents who wish to view before and after views of the area, should visit Harvey2017.eagleview.com
7. Curfew. 10 pm – 6 am
8. Garbage. Continue to put your household refuse in your blue and green bins. **Do not block the bins with debris or vehicles as the automated trucks are unable to access many bins on their rounds.** Make separate piles for building debris, trees/limbs AND appliances. Place them close

to the curb or on your property – not the street. The **Transfer Station** will operate 7 days a week from 7 am – 6 pm for an indefinite period. **Residents should enter via Prairie Street. Commercial contractors must take their debris to a landfill.**

9. Building Inspections. Members of the Building Officials Association of Texas have visited ALL buildings (residential and commercial) in the County to assess exterior, structural damage. Their records are with the City's Director of Public Works.

If there is a RED sticker, it means the property is unsafe and **should not be entered** for any reason. A YELLOW sticker indicates **caution**. Entry is at your own risk. A GREEN sticker or NO sticker means the structure appears to be fine.

Please note that the review was only from the exterior. The inspectors were not gauging damage to the interior including electric, gas and water utilities or water/wind damage.

10. Lost Pets. Animal Control has teamed up with the Houston SPCA to post information on lost or found pets. You may access this information by going to one of two web sites: 1) www.findingrover.com or 2) www.houstonspca.org/harvey.

11. Mail. If your mailbox withstood the winds and is still standing, you should be receiving your mail. If your mailbox disappeared from your property, you may pick up your mail at the Ingleside Post Office, located on 2230 TX-361.

12. Goods Pickup. Ice, water and MRE (Meals Ready to Eat) are being distributed daily from 8 am – 6 pm at old HEB parking lot. The operating hours for the Fats location in Holiday Beach/Lamar are 9:30 am – 6 pm. There is also a special location at 99 Austin Street in downtown Rockport. Numerous churches also have necessities for residents in need and some good Samaritans are setting up throughout the city.

13. Government Assistance. TWIA (Texas Windstorm) has set up a mobile claims center at GSM Insurors at 1102 Laurel Street in Rockport and the Lindale Recreation Center, located at 3133 Swantner Street in Corpus Christi. The Small Business Administration **is now open** in the Women's Club building next to Veteran's Park, near downtown by the harbor, and **processing loans for individuals, as well as businesses**. FEMA is already set up at the park so this will make it convenient for everyone.

14. Save the Tree? Some folks are unsure if their trees can be saved. The Texas A&M Forestry Service will be available to answer questions and look at your property. There is a fact sheet available on line <http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/afterthestorm/canmytreebesaved/>. You may contact them directly by calling 956-8543.

15. Rebuilding. If you have suffered significant damage and are rebuilding, you will need to obtain a building permit. You may use this link: <https://rockport.seamlessdocs.com/f/CQcce> or go to the City's Web site and click on Building Department under the Departments tab. We will be posting more information about post flood requirements in the next few days.

It's getting better every day!!