



Flood Recovery Informational Meeting Scheduled

Mayor Sylvester Turner will hold an informational at 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 20, at Mark Twain Elementary, 7500 Braes Blvd, Houston, TX 77025.

Mayor Turner, mayor's office staff and City Department heads will provide information and instruction on how to go about documenting flood damage and answers questions about the next steps.

Below are some tips for residents who are beginning the cleanup process:

1. Take photos of the damage inside your home and of all discarded items
2. Remove all wet items such as furniture, rugs, bedding, toys, carpeting, ceiling tiles, drywall and wood by-products. If wallboard is soaked, remove to a foot (12") above the water mark and discard. Drain walls by removing baseboard and drilling holes near floor. Dry panel-type wall by pulling the bottom edge out from studs. Check the interior of the wall for hidden mold.
3. Remove all wet insulation. Discard all but rigid insulation, which can be reinstalled after disinfecting and drying.

4. Discard soaked or moldy carpeting. Clean all other items first with soap and warm clean water to remove dirt and debris. Next, sanitize surfaces with one cup household liquid bleach per every 5 gallons of water.

Debris collection contractors are on notice and will begin mobilizing over the next 3 – 5 days.

Affected residents are urged to report flood damage via Houston 311. This will help the City prepare a formal assessment of the total number of affected structures, which is required to qualify for federal recovery assistance. Residents may call Houston 311, download the Houston 311 app on their mobile phones or visit houston311.org to submit flood damage reports. Residents should also file a claim and obtain instructions from their insurance provider.

Inspectors from the City's Department of Public Works and Engineering (PWE) and the Department of Neighborhoods began assessing damage to multi-family and single-family properties this morning. Once the assessment is finished, the City will work with landlords to insure proper and timely repairs of eligible units as well as assist residents who require relocation or other services. Properties located in the flood plain may be required to meet higher standards than when they were built, depending on the level of damage.

The Houston Permitting Center is open for business to help answer questions. The Center is located at 1002 Washington Avenue, just outside of downtown. Several satellite offices are to be opened in the areas most affected by the storm. Visit www.houstonpermittingcenter.org for up to date information on permitting storm damage repairs.

A charitable fund has been set up to accept donations to help with the flood recovery. Residents may donate at www.houstonfloodrecovery.org. More information about the recovery effort is available at www.houstonrecovers.org.



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