

## **Tips on Preparing Your Home Should a Storm Threaten**

Should a tropical weather system threaten Galveston, there are several actions a homeowner should consider in preparation for such an event.

Generally these possible actions on your part are common sense actions for you to consider in the context of the expected severity of any approaching storm and how much time remains before a storm begins to affect our community.

As the full impact, if any, of any tropical system on our community is extremely difficult to predict, each homeowner will have to consider the pros and cons of undertaking various actions such as those suggested here.

### **Some Actions to Consider**

- Secure outside items and belongings from your deck and dock areas or move them indoors if possible.
- Rising water from storm surge could flood ground level structures. As such you should consider whether any items stored at ground level need to be moved above floor level or to some other higher point.
  - Potentially toxic items such as oil, gas, paint and paint supplies, fertilizer and other such items are good candidates for placement in a more secure area.
- Should you have electric shutters securing access to your home, consider how you would gain entry should the power be lost for an extended period. Some electric shutters have removable hand cranks and those can be taken away with you when you are departing your home.
- Removing items from your refrigerator and freezer is another item to consider. Should the power be lost for an extended period of time, the resultant spoilage of such items can be a most unpleasant surprise when you return.
- You should consider whether or not to move your boat to a potentially more secure location. The tradeoff between possible storm damage to your boat versus any difficulty in towing you boat elsewhere is a judgement only you can make.
- You should consider whether or not to move your golf cart to a potentially more secure location. Most homeowners do not have the equipment to move their golf cart over long distances. Should there be higher ground generally nearby, moving your golf cart to such higher elevation is one alternative you might consider.

**ABOVE ALL**

**SHOULD YOU PLAN TO VISIT YOUR HOME TO UNDERTAKE ANY STORM PREPARATION ACTIONS PLEASE DO SO WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE PREDICTED ARRIVAL OF THE STORM.**

**OUR WEST GALVESTON COMMUNITY HAS VERY LOW ELEVATIONS AND ROADS CAN EASILY FLOOD FROM STORM SURGE, POSSIBLY RESTRICTING YOUR ABILITY TO EVACUATE THE AREA.**

**AND REMEMBER, STORM SURGE FLOODING CAN EASILY OCCUR WELL IN ADVANCE OF ANY PREDICTED LANDFALL OF THE STORMS CENTER.**

**BE SMART AND STAY SAFE!**