

Helping Others

Preparations for People with Medical, Functional or Access Needs



FEMA News Photo

If you or someone you know have medical, functional or access needs, such as impaired vision, hearing loss, or limited mobility, make sure there is a support structure in place to help that person respond to a hurricane threat. Such individuals can often benefit from a caretaker or “hurricane helper,” someone who can look out for that individual and ensure they have the necessary resources to evacuate and/or shelter when the storm threatens.

For more information:

Identify things you need every day such as food, medicines, water and other items you may rely on such as a walker, oxygen tanks or medical equipment. Start building up a supply before the hurricane season of non-perishable food items, bottled water, medicines, etc. that can be used in the event you lose power and/or water supply. Have at least two weeks’ supply of food and water, and 1 month supply of medications. If you have vital medical equipment that you rely on that requires power, be sure to have a back-up source of power such as a battery or generator. Store important documents in a plastic bag such as prescriptions, emergency contact information for family and doctor, insurance cards, identification etc. If evacuation is necessary, identify where you will evacuate to, who you will stay with and how you will get there. If you cannot drive, make sure you have someone designated who will drive you where you need to go in advance of the hurricane. Make sure your transportation can accommodate any equipment or other supplies that need to be taken with you.

For more information:

www.ready.gov/disability

www.togetheragainsttheweather.com

State of Texas

Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) - Dial 211

If you will need help evacuating from a hurricane or any other hazard, dial 2-1-1 to register with STEAR. You will be asked a series of questions which will allow emergency managers to identify those who need extra assistance evacuating. It is necessary to do this each calendar year. There is also an option to register online.

For more information:

<https://tdem.texas.gov/stear/>

www.galvestontx.gov/561/Need-A-Ride-Program