

Congressman Randy Weber

Proudly Representing Texas District 14



"Harvey impacted so many of us. Knowing the heart of Texans, and especially Texas 14, we will come back even stronger than before. Please remember, my staff and I are here as a resource for you."

Randy K. Weber



Disaster Claims

For information on the Texas Disaster Declaration and more, visit www.fema.gov/disaster/4332. Residents and business in declared counties who sustained disaster related damage due to Hurricane Harvey may apply for assistance by registering online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov.

Registering online is the quickest way to register for **FEMA** assistance. If you do not have access to the internet, you may register by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY). If you use 711 relay or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 800-621-3362 directly. The toll-free telephone numbers will operate from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week until further notice.

To file a flood insurance claim under the **NFIP**, contact your insurance agent immediately. You can also call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) – select option 2 – to learn more about your policy, and be directed to the appropriate claims resource.

The **Office of the Flood Insurance Advocate** provides general education and guidance on the National Flood Insurance Program. There are resources on NFIP flood insurance, hazard mitigation assistance, flood hazard mapping, and floodplain management at www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-flood-insurance-advocate.

The **U.S. Small Business Administration** is offering assistance. Low-interest federal disaster loans are available to Texas businesses and residents. Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure web site at www.disasterloan.sba.gov/ela or call (800) 659-2955.

The **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)** has resources for those recovering from a disaster. More information may be found on www.portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/info/disasterresources. **HUD** can assist the State of Texas and local governments in re-allocating existing federal resources toward disaster relief. HUD's Community Development Block Grant (www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-dtr/) and HOME programs give the State and communities the flexibility to redirect millions of dollars in annual formula funding to address critical needs, including housing and services for disaster victims. HUD is currently contacting State and local officials to explore streamlining the Department's **CDBG and HOME programs** in order to expedite the repair and replacement of damaged housing.

For help with insurance questions and recovery resources, visit **Texas Department of Insurance's** Help After Harvey website — www.tdi.texas.gov/consumer/storms/helpafterharvey.html

Texas HB 1774 does not change the insurance claims process. Furthermore, the new law will not apply to most claims or lawsuits arising from Harvey, because most of the policyholders' claims will be for damage caused by flooding. These claims will be made through NFIP and governed by federal law.

Disaster Relief Centers

DRC: The former Goodwill Building (Jefferson County)

3871 Stagg Drive, Unit 166
Beaumont TX 77701

Opened: 09/12/17

Hours: Daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Mobile Disaster Relief Center (Jefferson County)

Right across from St. Mary's Hospital
9th Ave. & Gates Blvd.

Port Arthur, TX 77642

Opened: 09/07/2017

Hours: Daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

DRC: Johnnie Arolfo Civic Center (Galveston County)

400 West Walker Street
League City TX 77573

Opened: 09/15/2017

Hours: Daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

DRC: Webster Civic Center (Harris County)

311 Pennsylvania Avenue
Webster, TX 77598

Opened: 09/14/2017

Hours: Daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Office Locations

League City District Office

174 Calder Rd.

League City, TX 77573

281-316-0231

Lake Jackson District Office

122 West Way, Suite 301

Lake Jackson, TX 77566

979-285-0231

Beaumont District Office

505 Orleans Street, Suite 103

Beaumont, TX 77701

409-835-0108

Washington DC Office

1708 Longworth House Office Bldg.

Washington, D.C. 20515

202-225-2831

Cleaning Up and Rebuilding

FEMA is working with Texas Workforce Commission to **hire Texas residents** for Hurricane Harvey recovery jobs. The first step, for those seeking employment, is to register at www.WorkinTexas.com, the Texas Workforce Commission's website, where application instructions are posted.

Veterans Affairs (VA) - All VA centers and clinics in the TX14 area are operating normally, with the exception of Beaumont, which sustained some flood damage. The VA is reaching out to Beaumont patients and working with them on a case-by-case basis. For up to date VA information, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs created a Hurricane Harvey Updates page — www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/hurricane-harvey

The **Center for Disease Control (CDC)** offers the following advice:

Protect Yourself: Put on personal protective equipment (gloves, mask, goggles) to protect your eyes, nose, mouth and skin.

Air It Out and Circulate: Open all doors and windows when you are working. Leave as many open as you safely can when you're not there. When electricity is safe to use, fans and dehumidifiers may help remove moisture.

Don't Mix Cleaners: If you use cleaning products, do not mix cleaning products together. DO NOT mix bleach and ammonia because it can create toxic vapors.

Don't Cover It, Remove It: Painting or caulking over mold will not prevent mold from growing. Fix the water problem completely. Clean up all the mold before you paint or caulk.

More advice is available here: www.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/after.html

The **Internal Revenue Services (IRS)** is offering tax relief for victims of Hurricane Harvey in Texas. Their press release offers useful information — www.irs.gov/newsroom/tax-relief-for-victims-of-hurricane-harvey-in-texas

The **Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)** is accepting applications for **Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)** as a result of severe weather due to Hurricane Harvey — www.twc.state.tx.us/news/hurricane-harvey-disaster-aid-available-18-texas-counties. Applications for DUA must be submitted **by September 27, 2017**.

Governor Abbott suspended the waiting period for insurance companies to pay claims to vehicle **owners impacted by Harvey**. In doing so, the claims process will hopefully be faster. An estimated 500,000 cars were damaged due to Harvey. When purchasing a new vehicle, be sure to check the car facts for indications of flooding. Parts from flooded vehicles may find their way to the open market — this is illegal, but we should all be aware this is a possibility. The Governor is temporarily waiving license and registration renewal fees for those affected by Hurricane Harvey. More information may be found on the DMV website — www.txdmv.gov/harvey

The **Texas Office of the State Chemist** (www.otscweb.tamu.edu/brochure/HurricaneHarveyImpact.pdf) is offering free testing of cereal grains and oil seeds to ensure crops are safe for production.

The **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)** is providing disaster assistance to communities, farmers, ranchers, and businesses hit by Hurricane Harvey. For more information, visit the USDA Storm Disaster Page — www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program.

For regularly updated information, please visit my **Harvey Resources** webpage — www.weber.house.gov/constituent-services/harvey-resource.htm

Sign up for my eNewsletter for the latest updates on Harvey, the recovery process, and Texas 14 news.