



GOVERNOR'S DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Learn the difference between a hurricane watch and a hurricane warning

A hurricane watch is issued when a hurricane is about 36 hours away from landfall. A hurricane watch means your family should begin following the disaster plan.

A hurricane warning is issued when the storm is 24 hours away from land and when winds reach 74 mph or greater. It's too late to leave after tropical storm force winds reach your area. That's because it is not safe to be outside.

Do not expect a hurricane to follow the black line in the center of the hurricane tracking chart on the television map. Hurricanes can change directions unexpectedly. They can get a lot stronger as they move on shore. Plan for the storm to be worse than predicted.

Remember, when a hurricane or tropical storm is in the Gulf of Mexico, check on your emergency supplies and go over your evacuation plans with your family. Fill up your gas tank and monitor TV and radio broadcasts for instructions from local officials.



For more information, contact Mary Lenz at (512) 424-2138 or visit GDEM's Web site: www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem.