

Houston FEB Employee Information – Update #2:

- CDC source: Hurricane-related and emergency response materials regarding mold.
 - [Mold Prevention Strategies and Possible Health Effects in the Aftermath of Hurricanes and Major Floods](#). MMWR June 9, 2006; 55(RR08):1-27. How to limit exposure to mold and identify and prevent mold-related health effects after major hurricanes and floods.
 - [Mold After a Disaster](#) FAQs and Emergency Preparedness and Response resources for flood-damaged homes.
 - [Health Concerns Associated with Mold in Water-Damaged Homes After Hurricanes Katrina and Rita — New Orleans Area, Louisiana, October 2005](#). MMWR January 20, 2006;55(02):41-44. Report: Hurricanes Katrina and Rita caused extensive mold damage in buildings. [PDF\[541 – KB\]](#)
 - [Population-Specific Recommendations for Protection From Exposure to Mold in Buildings Flooded After Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, by Specific Activity and Risk Factor](#)[PDF – 156 KB] Guidelines and chart showing how people particularly sensitive to mold can protect themselves.

- State of Texas source: In addition to the Federal Agencies' Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Coordinators (who can be accessed at <https://www.opm.gov/cclcontact/>), the Texas Dept of State Health offers the following: It is normal to experience different and strong emotions during and after a disaster:
 - Stress, anxiety, and other depression-like symptoms are common reactions.
 - Get help by calling 2-1-1 and selecting option 8, or visiting www.211texas.org.
 - [Text with a counselor](#) by texting HOME to 741741.
 - [Find more mental health resources and information](#).

- FLOOD SAFETY Avoid illness and injury in floodwaters ▪ Floodwaters may contain Snakes and insects ▪ Sharp objects and debris ▪ Oil, gasoline, industrial waste or raw sewage ▪ Downed power lines. Keep children and pets from playing in flood water. ▪ Clean and kill germs* from all items touched by floodwaters, including children's toys. ▪ Throw away ▪ items that cannot be easily washed and disinfected (such as mattresses, stuffed animals, baby toys, and wood cutting boards) ▪ food that may have come in contact with flood waters ▪ Wash hands often with soap and clean water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizers. * use 1 cup of unscented household bleach in 5 gallons of water

- People affected by Hurricane Harvey can apply for assistance at: www.DisasterAssistance.gov

- FAA is asking everyone to keep their drones on the ground! They are interfering with the work of First responders in their life-saving rescues.

- Price gouging is illegal, and the Office of the Attorney General has authority to prosecute any business that engages in price gouging after a disaster has been declared by the governor. The attorney general has issued stern warnings about price gouging to businesses in times of disaster, but you should still be on your guard.

- ALL METRO service will remain suspended through Wednesday, August 30, 2017 due to severe weather conditions.

- More water is flowing into Lake Houston than can be emptied. This caused submersion of the NE Water Plant. They are working to drain the plant as fast as possible; while water, thus far has been safe, this may impact the system.

- Airports are still closed. They are doing everything possible to resume operations once it is safe to do so.

- Abandoned vehicles were towed (if they were scooped up before covered with water. Any employees who had vehicles towed can visit <http://findmytowedcar.com> or call [713.308.8580](tel:713.308.8580)

- Please report storm damage to 3-1-1 (through their app, website: Houston311.org, or call 311)
- Transtar wants to remind everyone to NOT rely on your traffic app to tell you which roads are clear. Harris County has found numerous motorists led astray by this means.
- FEEA offers disaster relief grants to eligible federal employees when these disasters strike. Grant application package is at:
https://feea.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/grant_app_package_8-17.pdf