# HOMEOWNER TIPS FOR HURRICANE RECOVERY



#### DOCUMENT PROBLEMS BEFORE CLEANING UP

STEP 1

☐ Know what your insurance policy covers.

☐ Keep photographic records of your damages.

☐ Familiarize yourself with your local building codes.

Report damage and downed services to your local officials and service providers ASAP.

## **PRIORITIZE SAFETY**

Inspect your property.

**STEP 2** 

Be careful when cleaning up and returning to your home.
Wear protective clothing.

Avoid standing water and downed power lines.

☐ Throw out old or rotting food, clothing, and other perishables.

Check for mold.

## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITIES

**STEP 3** 

FEMA Individual Assistance

- Check ISD's <u>Online Directory</u> of Assistance Resources periodically.
- Check Federal, State, and Local agencies.
- Review <u>Homeowners and Renter Assistance services</u> for mortgage loan forbearance, loss mitigation, and foreclosure prevention assistance.

## **STABILIZE THE SITUATION**

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Take steps to preserve your mental health.

- Be patient with your service providers as they make repairs.
- Sign up for trustworthy alert sources and stay informed.
- □ Work with a reputable dealer for services like generators,
  - plumbing, HVAC, etc.

### **STABILIZE THE SITUATION**

**STEP 5** 

- Identify the weak points where damage occurred.
- Don't just repair strengthen.
- Secure ongoing rain- and wind-prone risks, like cracks, dead trees, and outdoor furniture.
- Update your insurance policies.
- Participate in community planning discussions.

#### **ALWAYS REMEMBER**

Avoid dangerous conditions. Follow instructions from local officials. Check the ISD Help Desk for more tips and resources at <u>www.isdus.org</u>.



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