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For Immediate Release

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9-1-1 Agency Shares Reminders Before, During and Following Tropical Storm Beryl: Contact 9-1-1 ONLY for Real LIFE-Threatening Emergencies Sign up for Alerts & Make a Communication Plan

Greater Harris County 9-1-1 Emergency Network (GHC 9-1-1) reminds residents before, during and following a storm to **ONLY** contact 9-1-1 for in-progress life-threatening emergencies for police, fire or medical assistance.

It's important not to overload the emergency call centers with non-emergency calls, especially during a storm. Non-emergency calls can DELAY residents with REAL life-threatening emergencies getting the response they need. Heavy call congestion on wireless, wireline phone networks and 9-1-1 centers could cause delay and/or prevent calls from being delivered. Stay informed by TV, radio, social media or local authorities for weather, flooding, power and traffic updates.

Sign up for ALERTS:

Sign up with your city or county alerts for updates. To find info for your city: <https://tinyurl.com/yd5upf9c>

To sign up for alerts in Houston: [Emergency Alerts – City of Houston Emergency Operations Center](#)

To sign up for Harris or Fort Bend Counties alerts:

<https://bit.ly/3A5QXUd> - Harris County

<https://bit.ly/3A5Kicp> - Fort Bend County

For power outages, check [CenterPointEnergy.com/StormCenter](https://www.centerpointenergy.com/stormcenter) or sign up for alerts here: [Power Alert Service®](#)

Residents who depend on electricity for life-sustaining equipment are encouraged to plan for alternate arrangements for on-site back-up capabilities or other alternatives in the event of loss of electric service.

Always make a plan for communications in case you need assistance.

- Make a list of important phone numbers for friends and relatives, city services, and utility companies.
- For local jurisdiction non-emergency phone numbers or to submit a nonemergency service report check the GHC 9-1-1 Responder Map: <https://tinyurl.com/yd5upf9c> .
- If you have VoIP/internet phone service, be aware that your phone service may not be available if you lose power.
- Keep your cellular phones fully charged as well as any extra portable chargers in case you need to use them for emergency assistance.
- Remember your battery power will decrease the more your cellular phone is used for communications, social media and internet usage.

For Emergencies requiring police, fire or medical assistance:

- Call or text 9-1-1. Voice calls are the best and fastest method. Only text if you CANNOT make a voice call.
- Answer all questions and follow instructions. Stay on the line and don't hang up.

GHC 9-1-1 is responsible for providing the 9-1-1 telecommunications services for 49 cities and the unincorporated areas of two counties: Harris and Fort Bend: www.911.org.

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