

## DAVID R. KREBS

County Judge
Room 109
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## VOLUNTARY EVACUATION ORDER TROPICAL STORM HANNA

This morning San Patricio County staff and I monitored a conference call with the National Weather Service at 10:30 a.m. After this conference call and visiting with Emergency Operation Center staff, I have made the decision to issue a Voluntary Evacuation Order for those San Patricio County residents in low lying areas prone to flooding and those in motor homes, travel trailers, or other dwells that might not withstand the projected Tropical Storm Force Winds of 60 to 65 mph.

Tropical Storm Hanna is forecasted to strengthen and it is expected to bring Tropical Storm Force Winds to portions of the Texas coast, where Tropical Storm Warnings are in effect from the Mouth of the Rio Grande to San Louis Pass. Because Hanna is forecast to become a strong tropical storm before making landfall on the South Texas Coast on Saturday, wind impacts could include some structural damage to homes and unanchored mobile homes, downed trees and power lines.

Hanna is likewise expected to produce heavy rains across portions of San Patricio County. These rains could result in flash flooding and isolated minor to moderate creek and river flooding. Tropical Storm Force Winds and surge impacts are also expected to begin as early as late Friday.

The forecast for Hanna includes the possibility of a Category I Hurricane at landfall. Peak Storm Surge Flooding is expected to be 1 to 3 feet above ground level. Impacts could include several evacuations or water rescues and the flooding of some structures.

Strong winds, heavy rainfall and flooding will be the primary concerns. Therefore, voluntary evacuation should be considered by those in low lying areas prone to flooding and those in motorhomes, travel trailers, or other dwells that might not withstand the projected Tropical Storm Force Winds of 60 to 65 mph. San Patricio County residents in low lying areas subject to flooding must take immediate precautions to plan for such rainfall and flooding to include voluntary evacuation beginning Friday afternoon. Rainfall totals of 4 to 8 inches with locally higher amounts possible up to 12 inches.

I am requesting that all area residents take necessary precautions to protect lives and secure property. I further recommend voluntary evacuation for those in low lying areas subject to flooding and those in motorhomes, travel trailers, or other dwells that might not withstand the projected Tropical Storm Force Winds of 60 to 65 mphat this time. Additionally, all vehicle travel should be limited beginning 6 a.m. Saturday morning until noon on Sunday due to Tropical Storm Force Winds.

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I have instructed my staff to continue to monitor weather conditions and we will report as necessary. To stay informed, please go to <u>sanpatem.com</u> or visit us on Facebook at San Patricio County Emergency Management. San Patricio County's Emergency Operations Center will open Saturday at 6 a.m. and can be reached at 361-364-9645 or at EOC@co.san-patricio.tx.us.

Issued and signed this the 24th day of July, 2020 at 11:45 a.m.

David R. Krebs County Judge