



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Brian Daskam • (940) 349-7567 • [Brian.Daskam@cityofdenton.com](mailto:Brian.Daskam@cityofdenton.com)

### **City of Denton Aids in Hurricane Harvey Disaster Recovery**

**DENTON, TX, August 29, 2017** – The City of Denton has received many inquiries on how the community and residents can support those in need following Hurricane Harvey. The information below provides information on how individuals can help and the City's response efforts and assistance to the region.

#### **How can I help?**

##### **Provide Aid to First Responders**

The City of Denton Fire Department will be collecting donations to be sent to first responders that have deployed to aid in disaster recovery from Hurricane Harvey.

Beginning on Tuesday, August 29, donations will be accepted at Central Fire Station, 332 East Hickory St, Denton, TX. All donations will be transported to the first responders from Denton County who are currently assigned to recovery efforts.

Due to limited access, and the possibility of no basic services available, only the following items are requested and will be accepted at the donation drop off site:

- Bottled water
- Powdered drink mix packets
- Dry, packaged snacks (beef jerky, trail mix, energy/granola bars)
- Wet wipes
- Hand sanitizer
- Insect repellent
- General hygiene products (toilet paper, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.)
- Batteries (all sizes)

Central Fire Station will be open for donation drop-offs Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. till 6 p.m. If you would like to drop off a donation outside of those hours, please contact Fire Administration at (940) 349-8840.

##### **Provide a Financial Donation**

The fastest and easiest way to help right now is through a financial donation to the disaster relief charity of your choice (American Red Cross, Salvation Army, North Texas Food Bank, Trusted World), and other reputable charities. This list is not exhaustive.

Please do not take items directly to the shelters, unless a shelter is specifically requesting certain items and goods. There is simply not enough staff or volunteers in the effected and support areas to sort, manage, and distribute the voluminous amount of items that are donated.

#### **How is the City helping?**

Last week, in response to the pending weather event, the Denton Fire Department received a request for support from the Texas Division of Emergency Management. The following resources have since been deployed:

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Brian Daskam • (940) 349-7567 • [Brian.Daskam@cityofdenton.com](mailto:Brian.Daskam@cityofdenton.com)

---

- On Friday, Denton Fire deployed a Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1) six person swift water team with a rescue boat, which is a state owned asset housed at Denton Fire Station 2. To date, the Denton boat team performed over 450 boat rescues in the southeast portion of Houston and Richmond.
- Three members of a TX-TF1 Type I structural team were requested and reported for deployment to College Station on Friday before forming a larger task force and traveling to a designated staging point. The structural team rode out the hurricane in a Texas National Guard maintenance facility in Robstown. Yesterday, the team reported that all structures in Aransas County have been searched and the team was being transported to the Houston area to begin search and water rescues.
- On Sunday, Denton Fire deployed an additional four members on a structural strike team along with a Battalion Chief as a strike team leader through a TIFMAS (Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System) request. These personnel have traveled to Rockport and the primary assignment is to provide relief for the local volunteer fire departments as they assess and begin recovery. A significant increase in call volume for the impacted areas are expected in the coming weeks as power is restored.
- One other member of the Denton Fire Department and one member of the Denton Police Department were deployed to the impacted area as reserves in the Army National Guard. The Denton Fire Department member is a specialist on a CH-47 Chinook aircraft and expects a minimum two week deployment.

Other City departments including Denton Municipal Electric and the Street, Water, Wastewater, and Drainage Departments have been in regular contact with the North Texas Council of Governments and other appropriate organizations to offer resources and receive request for aid.

The City of Denton will receive federal reimbursement for costs related to providing requested aid. Additional requests are anticipated in the coming days, and the City will continue to provide updates through press releases.

**Contact: Brian Daskam, (940) 349-7567, [brian.daskam@cityofdenton.com](mailto:brian.daskam@cityofdenton.com)**

###

Visit [www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com) for more news and get connected at [www.dentononline.com](http://www.dentononline.com).