



## Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

### New Information is in Blue Text

Event Name	20-0013 August Tropical Weather
Date	September 6, 2020
Time	0800
Operational Period	September 5 to September 6, 2020
Report Number	14

Regions Affected	
DPS Regions Affected	2
DDCs Active	DDC's 14 & 15

**STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:** Jurisdictions affected by Hurricane Laura continue with; repopulation of their residents, disaster damage assessments, Points of Distribution operations and recovery activities.

On September 2, The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) announced the opening of a virtual shelter reception center to aid Hurricane Laura evacuees. Prior to landfall of Hurricane Laura, the State of Texas, in partnership with local officials in San Antonio, Austin, and Mesquite operated evacuee reception centers to ensure residents of Texas and Louisiana have a safe place to stay. With the closure of in-person reception centers, assistance to evacuees will continue with the virtual shelter reception center.

Evacuees seeking assistance should call 1-888-991-5229, and be prepared to provide documentation, over the phone and upon arrival, demonstrating residency in one of the affected Texas counties or Louisiana parishes listed below.

Eligible Texas Counties: Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange and Sabine.

Eligible Louisiana Parishes: Acadia, Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Grant, Jackson, Jefferson Davis, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Ouachita, Rapides, Sabine, Vermilion, Vernon and Winn.

Individuals from outside the impacted areas will not be eligible for sheltering assistance but will be provided additional information on alternative resources. Those individuals should call 2-1-1 for assistance.

As of September 5, the State of Texas continues to provide non-congregate sheltering for over 9,531 evacuees. The Texas Division of Emergency Management will continue to work in coordination with our partners in Louisiana as both states recover from Hurricane Laura.

FEMA has approved the emergency declaration for the State of Texas (FEMA-3540-EM) for the counties of Anderson, Angelina, Aransas, Bexar, Bowie, Brazoria, Calhoun, Cameron, Camp, Cass, Chambers, Cherokee, Dallas, Ellis, Fort Bend, Franklin, Galveston, Gregg, Grimes, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Houston, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Kenedy, Kleberg, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Marion, Matagorda, Montgomery, Morris, Nacogdoches, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Panola, Polk, Red River, Refugio, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, Shelby, Smith, Tarrant, Titus, Travis, Trinity, Tyler, Upshur, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Wharton, Willacy and Wood for reimbursement for eligible emergency protective measures (Category B), limited to direct Federal assistance and reimbursement for mass care including evacuation and shelter support.

#### **OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:**

1. Transition to Recovery
2. Power restoration
3. Sheltering and Mass Care
4. Points of distribution operations.
5. Damage assessments
6. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
7. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

To view the summaries of disaster declarations, letters to the Governor or Disaster Summary Outlines go to: <https://tdem.texas.gov/disaster-summary-outline-2/>

#### **Region 2 (Includes DDCs 13, 14, 15, 16 Houston, 16 Texas City, 16 Conroe, and 16 Rosenberg)**

**DDC 14 – Lufkin** (Includes: Angelina, Houston, Jasper, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity and Tyler Counties)

**Newton County** – Curfew began for all of Newton County Thursday, August 27, between the hours of 10:00PM and 6:00AM each day, until terminated.

**DDC 15 – Beaumont** (Includes: Hardin, Jefferson and Orange Counties)

**Orange County:** Cities of Vidor and Orange are potentially planning for re-entry operations on Tuesday, September 8.

The Long Term Recovery Group “Orange County Disaster Rebuild” A mechanism for volunteer and donation management will be determined following the damage assessments and the scope of need is identified.

#### **Region 6 – (Includes DDCs 11, 12, 17, 18 San Antonio, 18 ARCC/Bexar and 23)**

**Region 6 Repopulation Report:** On September 5, there were a total of 748 evacuees staying in one hotel in San Antonio.

The City of Austin has one hotel open and housing 259 evacuees.

## RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

### **Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM):**

The State of Texas State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Readiness Level II Escalated Response Conditions. The Daily Operations staff continues to process disaster declarations, letters to the Governor, Disaster Summary Outlines, State of Texas Assistance Requests (STARs), as well as disseminating severe weather messages, preparing Snapshots and the State SITREP. The State Management Team (SMT) continues conducting operations in the alternate State Operations Center, working together with activated members of the State's Emergency Management Council. TDEM District Coordinators are working closely with their local emergency management partners to assist with any unmet needs and resources.

**TDEM Disaster Recovery Task Force (DRTF):** The DRTF continues engaging with local jurisdictions, providing financial guidance and discussing sheltering and post landfall operations. Conducting local outreach:

**TDEM Mass Care:** With the use of Non-Congregate sheltering, most jurisdictions are locating single sites to send evacuees that need COVID-19 isolation and quarantine with the proper support personnel. They are not being tested. All congregate shelters have been closed and shelter guests transitioned to non-congregate shelters.

**Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service** Six AgriLife Agents have been assisting with Damage Assessments since September 1 in Orange, Newton, Sabine and Jasper Counties.

**Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS):** TFS currently has 57 personnel assigned and numerous resources rostered to assist with needs relating to August Tropical Weather response. TFS is currently providing planning and logistical support, and other functional areas as needed, to TDEM and local entities. Response activities include Situation Reports, STAR processing, logistical support for shipping and receiving medical and sheltering supplies, and incident management support.

Five Saw Squads remain assigned to Jasper and Newton Counties to perform saw work. Saw Squads have been extended until September 7.

**Public Utilities Commission of Texas (PUC):** Continues to monitor the restoration of infrastructure and the power outages caused by Hurricane Laura.

**Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC):** The TAHC is virtually activated to the SOC and continues to monitor the evolving sheltering situation and participate in recovery calls. The TAHC continues to field calls related to animal volunteer management, donation management and shelter needs, but has not needed to deploy resources to respond at this time.

### **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):**

Drinking Water Systems: Drinking Water System Assessment data pulled from the Natural Disaster Operations Workgroup (NDOW) Response Manager Database [as of 2:00 PM Saturday, September 5, 2020.](#)

Phone assessments are being conducted for 171 drinking water systems in seven counties including: Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine and San Augustine.

- Assessments have been completed for 171 systems.
- Of the 171 systems assessed, 141 are operational (45 are operational on generators) and 23 are non-operational.
- 33 systems are under a Boil Water Notice and 10 have been rescinded.

Wastewater Facilities: Wastewater Facility Assessment data pulled from the NDOW Response Manager Database [as of 2:00 PM Saturday, September 5, 2020.](#)

Phone assessments are being conducted for 58 wastewater systems in seven counties including: Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine and San Augustine.

- Assessments have been completed for 58 systems.
- Of the 58 systems assessed, 55 are operational (42 with no issues, 13 are operational on generators), one is partially operating, and two are non-operational.

[TCEQ contractor \(CTEH\) continued 24-hour air monitoring surveys overnight and today in the industrial areas around Beaumont, Port Arthur, and Orange with no concentrations of concern measured. TCEQ Regional Team is conducting daytime visible emissions and odor surveys in the Beaumont, Port Arthur, and Orange areas today through Monday.](#)

At TCEQ's request, the EPA TAGA bus was conducting air monitoring in the Beaumont and Port Arthur areas. More information can be found on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) – Hurricane Laura webpage: ([https://response.epa.gov/site/site\\_profile.aspx?site\\_id=14896](https://response.epa.gov/site/site_profile.aspx?site_id=14896))

Ambient Monitoring Stations in the Beaumont-Port Arthur-Orange area have been assessed for damage and those with power were brought back online. [Two stations \(one in Beaumont-Port Arthur and one in Orange\)](#) are without power. All TCEQ monitoring stations in Houston are now back online.

Six Temporary Debris Management Site (TDMS) in Newton, Orange, and Jasper Counties have been authorized. Staff continue to provide guidance on debris management and are available to review and authorize temporary debris management sites, as needed.

### **Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS):**

ESF-8 Activities:

#### Medical Shelter Operations

- Total Medical Shelter Census: **7** (Includes both patients and guests)
  - Number of medical shelters opened: 1
  - Number of medical staff working in medical shelters: 48
  - Total possible capacity of Medical Shelters: **73**
  - DSHS and BCFS worked to repopulate **202** medical shelter patients to date

- 676 oxygen cylinders have been deployed to support staging and shelters

#### Hurricane Response and Recovery Efforts

- Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) Assets were deployed to support evacuations
  - Number of EMTF personnel deployed: 3
  - Number of medical patients transported: 1,148
  - Number of hurricane evacuation missions: 431
- DSHS coordinated interstate medical patient repopulation with Louisiana officials.
- The Regional Medical Operations Center (RMOC) in San Antonio and Catastrophic Medical Operations Center (CMOC) in Houston are activated and coordinating medical response efforts
- DSHS has activated medical sheltering, pharmacy and oxygen contracts.
- DSHS is providing 200 doses of Tdap to Port Arthur Health department

**Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC):** Currently, HHSC has one liaison present at the SOC. They are collecting, documenting, and sharing situational awareness information, responding to inquiries, and monitoring state requests for HHSC-provided assets. On August 24, 4:00 PM, HHSC received STAR for activation of emergency ice, water and freight contracts.

**Texas Military Department (TMD):** TMD currently has 400 activated personnel, 16 HPVs, and 6 HMMWV's in support of the August Tropical Weather Response. The Texas Military Department deploys contingency forces to protect life and property. TMD is supporting multiple ETN sites and conducting shelter operations in the DFW Metroplex Area. TMD is currently operating one POD site and have distributed 360 pallets of ice, 713 pallets of MREs, and 602 pallets of water to date.

#### Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOADs):

**Adventist Community Services:** Adventist Community Services has provided 400 hygiene kits in Beaumont.

**All Hands and Hearts:** Engaging in Newton County for cleanup efforts. Working closely with Jasper-Newton Long Term Recovery. Additionally, planning a forward operating base in LA and moving crews there. Current plan is to bring in a chainsaw crew into Newton and move them into a LA FOB. Will bring in another chainsaw crew to backfill behind them to continue in Newton. Receiving referrals from the Jasper/Newton LTRG on priority chainsaw sites to complete them during deployment. They anticipate ADRT and have them continue longer-term here in Newton while All Hands and Hearts coordinate for them.

**Americares:** Remote mobilization, providing water, medicines and medical supplies for charitable clinics, also possible grants to help to re-open. Mental Health and IPC training available.

**American Red Cross (ARC):** The American Red Cross has established a disaster relief operation (DR 538-21) in support of Hurricane Laura across Texas. They have established districts in North Texas, Central Texas, and Southeast Texas. They are in close coordination with the Louisiana operation to support requests.

- There is 1 congregate shelter with 62 clients open in NSS.
- The American Red Cross is operating and providing dormitory management to multiple non-congregate hotel shelters across the state.

**Crisis Cleanup:** Requests for assistance are currently low in Texas. Anticipate an uptick once survivors go home. Crisis Cleanup number: 844-956-1386.

**Crisis Response Ministries:** CRM is continuing to supply clothing needs in Collin County as requested by Emergency Management in McKinney and continuing to offer stress management, emotional and spiritual care as requested. They are also reaching out to partnering agencies. Can also provide materials on Adult and Children's Mental Health during a Crisis. 154 volunteer hours for the incident.

**Feeding Texas:** Feeding Texas is a statewide network of food banks leading a unified effort to end hunger in Texas. Preparing food banks and food pantries to be able to respond after landfall.

Southeast Texas Food Bank

- 1) Services Orange, Jefferson, Hardin, Polk, Tyler, Jasper, Newton, and Sabine counties.
- 2) The food bank did not receive any damage and for the most part roads in Beaumont are passable.

Montgomery County Food Bank:

- 1) Are coordinating possible water distribution for shelters in the area if needed
- 2) Has returned to normal operations
- 3) Is assisting Southeast Texas Food Bank with response efforts in their service territory

Houston Food Bank:

- 1) Has returned to normal operations
- 2) Is assisting Southeast Texas Food Bank with response efforts in their service territory

Galveston County Food Bank

- 1) Has returned to normal operations
- 2) Is assisting Southeast Texas Food Bank with response efforts in their service territory

Feeding Texas Network support

- Working with Feeding America, HEB and state food banks to get more ready to eat type food boxes ready to send into the area if needed.
- Coordinating with TDEM ESF 6, Texas Feeding Taskforce, and Texas VOAD
- In communication with TDA, HHSC, DSHS regarding D-SNAP, Household commodities and various information and waivers needed once a presidential declaration is issued.

**Heart to Heart International:** HHI has virtual Infection Prevention Control training for organizations responding and/or congregate shelters, clean-up teams, etc. 105 hygiene kits currently positioned in Houston, TX but additional kits can be shipped in overnight.

**Houston Responds:** Collecting relief supplies for Hurricane Laura survivors in Texas and Louisiana. Will be made available to affected communities as requested. Continues to meet with Orange, Jasper and Newton groups to assess needs and fill requests with available resources.

**Islamic USA:** Assisting Red Cross with damage assessments. Has the ability to tarp roofs. Has safety kits and funding for unmet needs.

**ITDRC:** Assisting with connectivity in Beaumont and Orange area. Can provide communications and technology when needed.

**Lutheran Church Missouri Sinead, Texas District:** Three chainsaw teams continuing to work in Beaumont, Orange and Port Arthur.

**Mission Presbytery:** Have 2,500 box fans available.

**OneStar Foundation:** Staff are prepared to provide technical assistance support to local jurisdictions in the administration and distribution of monetary donations for relief and recovery activities. Staff are also prepared to facilitate engagement of available national service assets as needed to support state and local response and recovery efforts.

**Orange County Meals on Wheels:** Discussed the need for volunteers to deliver meals on Southeast Texas VOAD call. On average, they serve 170 hot meals daily. DRTF suggested contacting Crowd Source to fill this need.

**Samaritan's Purse:** Samaritan's Purse has four responses in Louisiana. One of those sites is in Dequincy, LA. That site will be able to help in the Deweyville/Newton County area and have been in contact with a local Pastor.

**Southern Baptists of Texas Convention (SBTC):** SBTC IMT is working out of the First Baptist Church in Kountze, Hardin County. [SBTC to date, has provided: 705 showers, 410 loads of laundry, 78 homes completed, 236 total requests received, 96 generator hours, 48 heavy equipment hours, 8,210 total meals prepared and 6,090 volunteer hours.](#)

**The Salvation Army (TSA):** Coordination calls with local, state, and federal partners to include VOAD partner agencies have commenced. TSA SOC Liaison will be supporting virtually.

- Ten mobile feeding units (capacity: 1,500 meals per day per feeding unit) in Texas and an IMT have been placed on standby for staging
- Meals are being delivered to the Ford Park RSA for first responders
- IMT has been mobilized and is coordinating operations from the Salvation Army of Beaumont
- Mass feeding operations commenced August 28 and are focused within Bridge City, Orange, Vidor, and Port Arthur.
- Mass feedings continue in Bridge City, Deweyville, Port Arthur, the Salvation Army Corps of Orange, Newton, and Huntsville
- Tarps, cleanup kits and other resources continue to be distributed in Newton, Jasper, and other affected areas.
- Feeding operations are increasing. The Field Kitchen is fully functional and is capable of 10,000 meals per day.
- A partnership was planned with Pilgrim's Pride for the distribution of meals in Orange to be allocated to survivors through September 7.

- IMT is planning and coordinating the establishment of multiple event sites to disseminate food boxes, meals, and other vital resources to survivors in all of our current feeding operations
- On September 2, TSA supplied 10,661 meals, 6,240 drinks and 4,672 snacks. Cumulatively they have supplied 69,862 meals, 50,101 drinks and 25,731 snacks.

**Tarrant County VOAD:** Adventists are supplying hygiene kits to shelters. The United Way is providing laundry coins to disaster survivors in shelters.

**Team Rubicon:** Operations have kicked off in Lake Charles. Rubicon arrival of 30 gray shirts 9-4 to Orange County housing at the Orange Port. Rubicon take spontaneous volunteers to assist.

**Texas Baptist Men (TBM):** TBM has two bases of operation:

- North Orange Baptist Church in Orange County: 22 teams and units including an Incident Management Team, Shower/Laundry Unit, Feeding Team, Heavy Equipment Skid Steer Units, Heavy Equipment Man Lift Units, Chainsaw Units, Box Unit, Assessor Teams, and Chaplains. There are approximately 102 volunteers on site. The teams have processed 361 work requests and have 282 remaining.
- East Texas Baptist Camp in Newton County: 14 teams and units including Incident Management Team, Laundry Unit, Feeding Team, Heavy Equipment Skid Steer Units, Heavy Equipment Man Lift Units, Chainsaw Units, Assessor Teams, and Chaplains. There are approximately 37 volunteers on site. The teams have processed 32 work requests and have 29 remaining.
- As of August 31, TBM have prepared 1,420 meals, working 4,429 volunteer hours, provided 375 showers, completed 232 loads of laundry, processed 393 work requests, completed 82 chainsaw jobs.

**United Way:** Publicizing locations of local resources on their Facebook page.

**Points of Distribution (PODs):** There is a County POD in Bon Wier, Newton County, where TFS is furnishing a small amount of commodities.

Name	County	Address	Status	Hours of Operation
Deweyville High School	Newton	171 Hwy 87 South Orange, TX 77612	Open	7:00AM – 7:00PM

#### STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

AMBULANCES	BUSES	HIGH-PROFILE
		
48	65	16

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TDEM	DRTF Staff	23		Assigned	SE Texas
TDEM	PWERT	10		Assigned	SE Texas
TDEM	EM Support	4		Assigned	SE Texas
AgriLife A&M	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	SOC/Austin
AgriLife A&M	Administration	2		Assigned	College Station
AgriLife A&M	DAR Agent Strike Team	6	6	Assigned	Orange
TFS A&M TIFMAS	TFS/ESF 4 Representatives	1		Assigned	SOC/Austin
TFS A&M	TFS EOC Support	3		Assigned	College Station
TFS A&M	Logistical Support (RSA/PODs)	2		Assigned	Austin/SOC
TFS A&M	All-Hazards Planning Modules	4		Assigned	Jasper County
TFS A&M	RSA/POD IMT & Logistical Support	22		Assigned	Ford Park RSA
TFS A&M	TFS TIFMAS Saw Squads	25		Assigned	Jasper and Newton Counties
TAHC	SOC Representative	1		Assigned, On-Call	Austin/SOC (Virtual)
DSHS	Medical Incident Support Team (MIST)	3		Activated	Statewide
HHSC	SOC Liason	1		Assigned	Austin/Alt SOC
HHSC	Regional Disaster Assistance Coordinator	2		Assigned	DDC 14
TMD	GTCHQ	11	5	Assigned	Beaumont
TMD	BDEMC	10		Assigned	Fort Worth
TMD	BNMC	25		Assigned	Beaumont
TMD	GSUHQ	3		Assigned	Jasper
TMD	GSUHQ	4		Assigned	Mesquite
TMD	GSU	16		Assigned	Hemphill
TMD	GSU	41		Assigned	Jasper
TMD	GSU	184		Assigned	Mesquite
TMD	GTP	20	9	Assigned	Beaumont
TMD	GTP	20	10	Assigned	Hemphill
TMD	MDC DDC 4A	1		Assigned	Fort Worth

TMD	MDC DDC 4B	1		Assigned	Dallas
TMD	MDC DDC 15	1		Assigned	Beaumont
TMD	MDC DDC 14	1		Assigned	Lufkin
TMD	TICPs	8		Assigned	Beaumont
TMD	ETN Teams	19		Assigned	Farmers Branch
TMD	NOC	4		Assigned	Camp Mabry
TMD	Adaptive Battle Staff	25		Assigned	Various
TMD	JTFLNO	6		Assigned	Fort Worth
TMD	PODS	GSUs		Assigned	Deweyville HS
TPWD	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	Austin/SOC
TxDOT	SOC Liaisons	2		Assigned	SOC/Virtual

**FINAL COMMENTS:** The State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

**The four levels of SOC activation are:**

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

*This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at:*  
<https://tdem.texas.gov/situation-reports/>

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