



## A Message from Mayor Wax

September 25, 2017

Although these letters come through the City, please know that it is a multi-jurisdictional effort that includes Aransas County and the Town of Fulton. Our level of cooperation is unmatched. We are truly One Voice --working together to rebuild.

I had the honor of meeting with a surprise visitor today – songwriter Paul Simon. A member of his staff called at 11:30 this morning and asked if I could meet with him at 6:30 tonight and show him the devastation that hit our community. I have no idea what Mr. Simon has in mind. He's very concerned that smaller cities would be forgotten and wanted to concentrate his focus on Rockport, which took a direct hit, and Port Arthur, Janis Joplin's home town.

### New News:

1. We remain in a BURN BAN and Curfew – 11 pm – 6 am. These are safety measures as there are few working streetlights, not to mention stoplights, AND we want to prevent the risk of fires in our tinder house of a community.
2. Debris Removal. **Please, please, please be patient.** The most recent debris removal report may be found at: <http://www.cityofrockport.com/Archive.aspx?ADID=2570>
3. Limited Day Care. The Aransas Children's Coalition is putting together a short-term, limited day care program until they can find a permanent facility. Registration takes place on Tuesday, September 26 from 1:30 – 4:30 at the Aransas County Library. The program is broken into two groups: a) infant to two-year-old and b) 3 – 5 years of age. The day care is intended to assist parents who might need a respite or the time to meet with government agencies, contractors or insurance adjusters. The Coalition is being funded by grants and private donations.
4. Mail. Rockport Post Office is back in business.
5. Donations. The Aransas County Donation Center, located in the old HEB parking lot, has published a list of needed donations. <http://www.cityofrockport.com/Archive.aspx?ADID=2571>. Hours of Operation: 10AM – 4PM until further notice [aransasrelief@gmail.com](mailto:aransasrelief@gmail.com)

Volunteers. A Volunteer Reception Center has opened at 1515 N. Live Oak, Rockport  
Hours of Operation: 8-5PM M-SAT 1-5PM SUN [aransasvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:aransasvolunteers@gmail.com). Donation Tent  
Volunteer Sign Up  
<http://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=s.signup&urlid=5080a44aca2aabff2-donation&view=standard>

6. Rockport Fulton Chamber Foundation. A report on the fundraising efforts and progress may be accessed at: <https://cocpresidentsblog.blogspot.com/?m=1> or visiting the "Hurricane Harvey" section on the Chamber's web site.
7. ACISD. The School District will be holding Parents' Meetings on Wednesday, September 27 and Thursday, September 28 from 6:30 – 7:30 at First Baptist Church, located at 1515 N. Live Oak. You may attend either day. The purpose is to discuss bringing the children back to school in Rockport.
8. Rockport-Fulton Good Samaritans. Now open and assisting with groceries, utilities, rent, medical, transportation, diapers and other expenses. 507 S. Ann St. 361-790-9828
9. Municipal Court. The municipal court office is temporarily located at 410 E. Bay St. Accepting payments via money order in the office. Online payments can be made by calling 1-800-272-9826 or at [www.officialpayments.com](http://www.officialpayments.com). Case number is required when making online or phone payments. Communication can be sent to us at [Court@cityofrockport.com](mailto:Court@cityofrockport.com). Court business communication is monitored regularly through cell phone due to down phone service and internet service at the office. Mail should be sent to 2751 SH 35 Bypass, Rockport, TX 78382
10. Boat Damage. There are 28 sunken vessels in Rockport and Fulton harbors.
11. Recycling. **Regular recycling will resume the first week in October.** Please check your calendars for the appropriate pickup day for your household. You may use the green bins for normal trash bin service through the end of this month.
12. Disaster Recovery Center. We have put together a multi-agency resource center in the old HEB parking lot. It will be a consolidation of state, federal and relief organizations under a huge tent. FEMA is operating on the premises. SBA and TWIA should be there shortly.

Worth Reminding:

1. Utilities. WE NEED YOUR HELP – if you notice a leak or seepage that we may not have been able to identify, please alert us to the problem. You may contact the City of Rockport's Water Department at 361-790-1160 during normal business hours. If there is an emergency, please call 361-729-1111 or 729-2222. City workers are on call 24/7.

We are aware that it is impossible to pay your July utility bills in person. Our Municipal Online Payments program is now up and working for those who were unable to make a payment prior to the storm. Do not be concerned about penalty fees, or water being shut off.

2. The list of Verified Contractors is on the City's web site is updated regularly.
3. Local Businesses. As businesses open, the Chamber will add them to a list and publish it on their web site. This is for ALL businesses, not just Chamber members.

4. Tarps for homeowners are available at no charge in the parking lots of the old HEB.
5. Aerial Views. Drones have been taking photos of the Hurricane Harvey aftermath. Residents who wish to view before and after views of the area, should visit [Harvey2017.eagleview.com](http://Harvey2017.eagleview.com)
6. Garbage. Continue to put your household refuse in your blue and green bins. **Do not block the bins with debris or vehicles as the automated trucks are unable to access many bins on their rounds.** Make separate piles for building debris, trees/limbs AND appliances. Place them close to the curb or on your property – not the street. The **Transfer Station** will operate 7 days a week from 7 am – 6 pm for an indefinite period. **Residents should enter via Prairie Street. Commercial contractors must take their debris to a landfill. Here is a link for landfills in Texas – <https://wastebits.com/region/Texas>**
7. Goods Pickup. Ice, water and MRE (Meals Ready to Eat) and other necessities are being distributed daily from 8 am – 6 pm at old HEB parking lot. **This is also the central site for donation drop offs and pickups. Goods are now being managed and stored in an appropriate fashion.**
13. If you or anyone you know has provided FREE assistance to our area, such as volunteer clean-up, food, equipment or materials, in-kind donations, etc., please deliver or mail this information to the Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce, 319 Broadway, Rockport, TX 78382. You may also fill out a form online that will go directly to a state run database <https://olympus.soc.texas.gov/services/volunteerhours/>

Additional information, as provided by the Texas Emergency Management Team, can be found at <http://www.drc-group.com/.../EDS-Guidelines-Donations...> and also at <https://www.dps.texas.gov/.../05...>

**There are now centralized contacts for individuals wishing to donate goods and/or services.**

aransasrelief@gmail.com for all physical donation inquiries

aransasvolunteers@gmail.com for groups of individuals wishing to volunteer

donate@onestarfoundation.org

**There is also a centralized contact for residents needing assistance with cleanup. Call 844-965-1386. This is the primary source for work orders coming in from Operation Blessing, Samaritan's Purse, Team Rubicon and others.**

8. Rebuilding. If you have suffered significant damage and are rebuilding, you will need to obtain a building permit in person at the Service Center. **Due to the high volume of inspection requests, the Building Department can no longer provide same-day inspections at this time. You may schedule an inspection for the next business day by calling the Building Inspection Department's 24-hour Inspection Request Line no later than 3:00 P.M. of the day prior of when you need the inspection.**

It's getting better every day!!