

National Weather Service Houston/Galveston

About Our Office

NWS Mission

Providing weather, water and climate data, forecasts, warnings and **Impact-based Decision Support Services (IDSS)** for the protection of life and property and enhancement of the national economy.

NWS Vision

A Weather-Ready Nation: Society is prepared for and responds to extreme weather, water and climate events. *“Ready, Responsive, Resilient” through the provision of IDSS*

NWS runs **168** operational units, most of them **24/7**

NWS has **~4450** employees, of whom **86%** are in the field

NWS issues **~1.5 million** forecasts and **~50,000** warnings each year

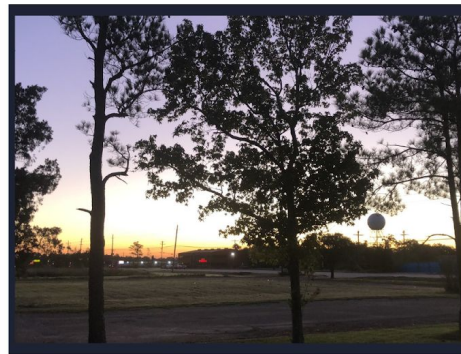
NWS costs each person in the country about **\$4.00/year**

About NWS Houston/Galveston:

The National Weather Service Forecast Office in League City, Texas is one of 122 local offices that provide forecasts, warnings and decision support services across the United States. NWS Houston/Galveston covers 23 counties in southeast TX and the adjacent coastal waters. The office operates with 23 people when fully staffed, including 13 meteorologists who work 24/7/365 to provide a constant weather watch, and serves a population of over 7.5 million with some of the busiest ports in the country.



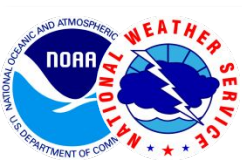
HGX - WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE



WEATHER.GOV/HOUSTON

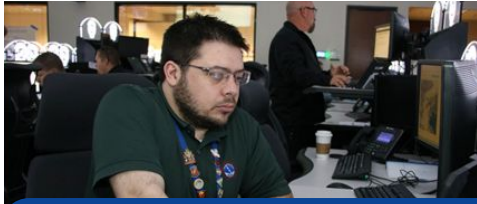


Building a Weather-Ready Nation



National Weather Service Houston/Galveston

What we do!



Decision Support Services

- **Supporting federal, tribal, state and local government partners with 24/7 weather support.**
- **Weather briefing emails** ahead of significant storms
- **Webinars/Conference Calls**
- **NWSChat (Slack)**
- **Site-specific forecasts for planned events and unplanned incidents**
- **Onsite, direct support**



Marine / Ports

- **4 major ports** (Houston, Galveston, Texas City, Freeport); **\$1+ trillion** in economic impact
- **Largest petrochemical complex in nation and 2nd largest in world**
- **7 cruise ships** out of Galveston (**1-2M passengers per year**)
- **Top 6 in the U.S.** for registered recreational boats annually
- **7 million visitors** to area beaches each year



Aviation

- **8 frequent forecasts** for area airports (**TAFs**), including 2 international airports
- **IAH and HOU** airports handled **~54 million passengers** in 2022.
- **Ellington Airport** - supports the operations of the U.S. military, NASA, and other aviation tenants
- **CWSU Houston (ZHU)** located at FAA ARTCC at IAH; Small **team of 4 meteorologists imbedded with FAA**



Forecasts / Warnings

- **Accurate and timely watches and warnings**
- Supporting communities and partners **before, during and after severe storms and tropical cyclones**
- **Probabilistic forecast information and decision support services** for high-impact weather and water events.
- **Storm/flood damage surveys** to document and assess impacts from weather and water



HAZMAT / Wildfire

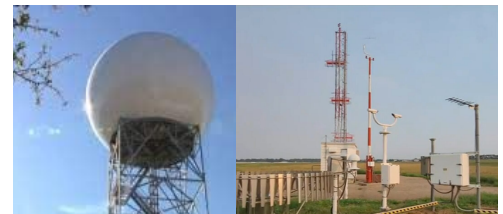
- **On-demand Site-specific SPOT weather forecasts** for industrial hazmat incidents, prescribed burns and wildfires
- **Detailed plume forecasts** for hazmat releases and smoke
- **Onsite, direct support**
- **Daily Fire Weather Forecasts** for planning prescribed burns
- **Provide weather training/education** to firefighters and fire managers for TX
- **Support exercises**



Hydrology

- **200+ flood warning sensors**
- **70 river forecast points**
- **13 coastal flood gauges**
- **9 reservoirs**
- One of first NWS offices with **flood inundation mapping services**

NWS Houston/Galveston
1353 FM 646 Suite 202
Dickinson, TX 77539
281-337-5074



Electronics Tech

- Electronics Techs maintain:
1 NEXRAD WSR-88D Radar,
11 ASOS Surface Weather Observing Stations and
6 NOAA Weather Radio broadcast stations



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