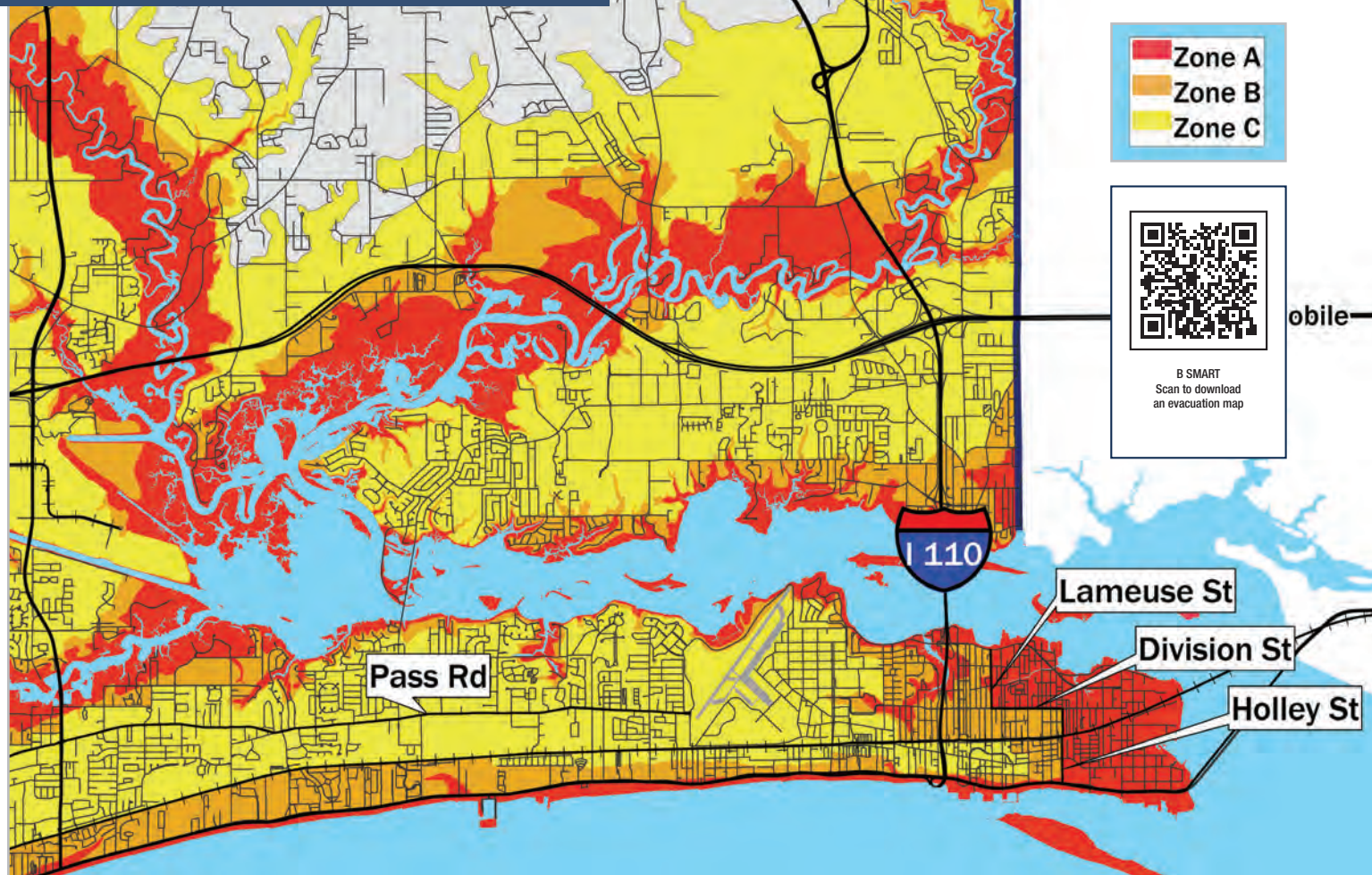


City of Biloxi Hurricane Evacuation Zones



What to do and when to do it

Before a hurricane approaches or NOW

Plan an evacuation route.

- Review the evacuation route by clicking on the Evacuation Map link in the Storm and Flood Preparedness section of the city website. Determine the safest evacuation route for you. Be ready to drive 20 to 50 miles inland to locate a safe place.

Prepare a storm kit that includes the following items:

- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Portable, battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- First-aid kit and manual
- Duct tape
- Emergency food and water (at least one gallon of water per person per day for three to seven days; non-perishable packaged or canned food and juices; paper plates and plastic utensils; cooking tools)
- Non-electric can opener
- Essential medicines
- Cash and credit cards
- Sturdy shoes

- Fully charged cell phone
- Store important papers in a waterproof container or resealable plastic bag. Among the important documents: insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.

Make arrangements for pets.

- Pets are not allowed in typical emergency shelters for health and space reasons. Contact your local humane society for information on local animal shelters.

Make sure that all family members know how to respond after a hurricane.

- Teach family members how and when to turn off gas, electricity, and water.
- Teach children how and when to call 9-1-1, police, or fire department and which radio station to tune to for emergency information.
- Protect your windows.
- Permanent shutters are the best protection. A lower cost approach is to put up plywood panels. Use 1/2 inch plywood – marine plywood is best – cut to fit

each window. Remember to mark which board fits which window. Pre-drill holes every 18 inches for screws. Do this long before the storm.

Trim back dead or weak branches from trees.

Check into flood insurance.

- You can find out about the National Flood Insurance Program through your local insurance agent or emergency management office. There is normally a 30-day waiting period before a new policy becomes effective. Homeowners policies do not cover damage from the flooding that accompanies a hurricane.

Develop an emergency communication plan.

- In case family members are separated from one another during a disaster (a real possibility during the day when adults are at work and children are at school), have a plan for getting back together.
- Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the “family contact.” After a disaster, it’s often easier to call long distance. Make sure everyone in the family knows the name, address, and phone number of the contact person.