



Contact: Karina Cardoza
Phone: 956.343.0011
Email: public.info@co.hidalgo.tx.us

HIDALGO COUNTY CONTINUES MONITORING TROPICAL STORM DON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 29, 2011

5:00 pm

Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court

Ramon Garcia

County Judge

Joel Quintanilla

Commissioner, Precinct 1

Hector "Tito" Palacios

Commissioner, Precinct 2

Joe M. Flores

Commissioner, Precinct 3

Joseph Palacios

Commissioner, Precinct 4

Executive Office

Valde Guerra

Executive Officer

Public Affairs Division

Karina Cardoza

Director

2818 S. Business Hwy 281

Edinburg, Texas 78539

(956) 292-7026 **P**

(956) 292-7766 **F**

www.co.hidalgo.tx.us **W**

public.info@co.hidalgo.tx.us **E**

Edinburg, Texas – As of 4:30 pm Friday, Tropical Storm Don is approaching the Rio Grande Valley, with areas already seeing its impact. According to the National Weather Service, the storm will move steadily westward into the evening, peaking during the evening and overnight hours. Heavy rain is expected to hit Hidalgo County between 5 and 7 pm and last throughout the evening, with minor bands of rain lasting until approximately 4 am Saturday. Residents should also watch out for lightning strikes and gusty winds as the storm passes.

Hidalgo County has activated a pre-staging Emergency Operations Center headquartered at the Hidalgo County Health Department in Edinburg and will remain operational throughout the storm for emergency management staff to monitor the storm as it progresses throughout the evening. After County offices close for business at 5 pm, an after-hours number will be available to take information regarding serious flooding issues in rural areas of Hidalgo County. The phone number for reporting flooding situations is 956-383-6221. **Please Note: This number is not for reporting emergency situations; if residents are experiencing an emergency, they should contact 9-1-1.**

Emergency management staff will continue to monitor the situation and are preparing to make appropriate arrangements as the need arises. Follow timely updates and information online at www.co.hidalgo.tx.us.

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