

# Your Post-Hurricane Assessment Checklist

CHECKLIST FOR BUSINESS

**As health and safety champions, we know the safety and well-being of your employees is top priority.**

With the occurrence of Hurricane Laura, one of the most powerful hurricanes ever to hit the southern region of the United States, we are sure your concern for your employees' wellbeing has increased ten-fold.

Marked as a Category 4 hurricane, it raged through Louisiana and parts of Texas with strong winds and heavy floods on Thursday, August 27th, causing excessive damage to buildings and loss of power for several Americans in the area.

We want to provide assistance and support in any way, shape, or form, to help your organization recover from this difficult experience and bounce back stronger.

Our mission at eCompliance is to help prevent workplace incidents, and we are hoping that this Post-Hurricane Assessment

will help safety champions that are dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Laura.

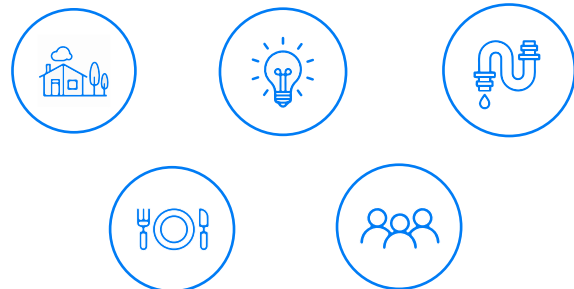
The purpose of this Post-Hurricane Assessment is to help mitigate all risks in and around your business.

This checklist should be helpful to anyone assessing the damage to their office building or active worksite, and who is seeking ways to reduce any hazards that are presented. This checklist is also meant to help protect employees and front-line workers.

The information within this checklist has been sourced from our team of safety experts at **eCompliance**, the **Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Guidelines**, the **National Institute of Environmental Health and Sciences**, as well as the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**.

**Here's an overview of the sections included in this Post Hurricane Assessment checklist for your business:**

- Building and Worksite Entry
- Utilities (Gas and Electric)
- Seepage and/or Sewer Back-up
- Food and Water
- Employee Communication & Resources



For more information, please contact your local authorities or these emergency numbers:

**American Red Cross**  
1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767)

**Texas Emergency Helpline**  
211 or 877-541-7905

**U.S. Department of Health & Human Services**  
1-800-985-5990

**Louisiana Hurricane Hotline**  
1-800-351-6712

**OSHA Hurricane Preparedness and Response Website**  
<https://www.osha.gov/dts/weather/hurricane/>

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ID: \_\_\_\_\_ ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYEE: \_\_\_\_\_ LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT: \_\_\_\_\_ SITE: \_\_\_\_\_



### 1 DISCLAIMER

**1.1** eCompliance provides online tools to assist people with their EHS needs. This assessment is not intended to be all-inclusive legal information or to provide legal advice. Although we go to great lengths to make sure our information is accurate and useful, we recommend you consult an appropriate professional for assurance that our information, and your interpretation of it, is appropriate to your particular situation.



### 2 BUILDING OR WORKSITE ENTRY

**2.1** Please follow the steps below to determine whether your business is safe to enter. If any of the questions are marked as "FAIL", it is not safe to enter your building or worksite and you should instruct your employees to work from home, if possible.

**2.2** I am wearing the proper PPE and have provided front-line workers with the right gear, before entering the office building or worksite:

Rubber Gloves, Rubber Boots, Mask, Goggles

Pass  Fail  N/A

**2.3** The street and sidewalks are dry.

Pass  Fail  N/A

**2.4** I have assessed the area for any structural damage, cut power lines, hazardous materials, etc. and labeled any dangerous areas for employees to avoid. I have contacted the appropriate authorities to fix any damages. Avoid downed power lines as they may still cause harm!

Pass  Fail  N/A

**2.5** The property in front of the worksite is clear of debris. If not, I have categorized it into different categories as presented by the [National Institute of Environmental Health and Sciences](#). (Make sure you are always wearing the appropriate PPE when handling any materials and avoid lifting heavy objects alone).

Pass  Fail  N/A

**2.6** Safe walkways have been labeled and identified for employees to enter and evacuate the worksite.

Pass  Fail  N/A

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**2.7** When I enter the building or worksite, it appears to be dry.

Pass  Fail  N/A

If question (2.7) failed, call your local power provider to have your outside power meter turned off before addressing the damage. If I need to call my local power provider, I have done so and have written my reference number below.

**2.8** The windows, doors, and machinery are intact.

Pass  Fail  N/A

**2.9** To ensure the safety of all workers, I have trained workers on the following [OSHA standard 29 CFR 1910.147\(c\)\(7\)](#) concerning the maintenance and handling of machinery and equipment.

Pass  Fail  N/A

**2.10** The power is NOT ON or if the power is ON there is no water in the building above any of the electrical outlets. If there is water inside, DO NOT TURN THE POWER ON. Call an electrician to assess the situation.

Pass  Fail  N/A

**2.11** Ensure all inside structures such as stairs and floors are safe and not slippery, to avoid any falls or further damage. If not, I have labeled the area and marked it as dangerous for employees to avoid.

Pass  Fail  N/A

**2.12** Avoid confined spaces unless you have the proper training according to [OSHA standard 29 CFR 1910.146](#).

Pass  Fail  N/A

**2.13** The carbon monoxide detector is working and if damaged, I have called the appropriate organization for assistance.

Pass  Fail  N/A

**2.14** If windows and doors have been boarded up, I have opened them all to let fresh air in and avoid mold. I have also thoroughly dried everything inside the building or worksite to avoid mold.

Pass  Fail  N/A

**2.15** If floodwater is found in the building or worksite, assume it is contaminated and wash your hands. I have made sure I have no open wounds which have come into contact with floodwater and sought medical aid, if needed.

Pass  Fail  N/A

**2.16** I have disinfected or thrown away anything that may have come into contact with contaminated flood water.

Pass  Fail  N/A

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**2.17** I have ensured that first aid equipment is readily available on site.

Pass       Fail       N/A

**2.18** I have checked for harmful substances such as asbestos and dangerous chemicals with the help of a certified expert.

Pass       Fail       N/A

### 3 UTILITIES (GAS AND ELECTRIC)

**3.1** 3.1 In case of an emergency - call 911.

**3.2** For non-emergency calls about natural gas service or appliances, call your local gas provider.

Pass       Fail       N/A

**3.3** No odors or leaking/exposed gas lines (if "Fail" -dial 911, leave the area immediately, and wait outside for the emergency crews to arrive).

Pass       Fail       N/A

**3.4** All appliances and electric cords that were submerged in water (i.e. machinery, generator, computers, other electronic devices) have been inspected and pilot relights conducted by a Licensed Gas Fitter, electrician, or plumber (this is MANDATORY).

Pass       Fail       N/A

**3.5** I am aware of the fact that if my building does not have electrical service, I should NOT use camp stoves, gas heaters, gas powered generators INSIDE the building or worksite.

Pass       Fail       N/A

**3.6** Before I use candles inside the building, I have ensured that I have a working battery-operated smoke alarm installed and functional fire extinguishers nearby.

Pass       Fail       N/A



### 4 SEEPAGE AND/OR SEWER BACKUP

**4.1** If I have water which has seeped in through the foundation, I have contacted my insurance company for directions on what is covered and who to contact for repairs.

Pass       Fail       N/A

**4.2** If the sewer has backed up in the building or worksite, I have contacted 311 by phone or by using the 311 handheld app available on all smartphone devices, to submit a service request.

Pass       Fail       N/A

**4.3** I have ensured that all washroom facilities are disinfected and safe for use.

Pass       Fail       N/A

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**4.4** There are hand sanitizing stations available for use.

Pass       Fail       N/A

**4.5** Advise all workers who may have been exposed to contaminated water, to have taken a tetanus shot within the last decade.

Pass       Fail       N/A

### 5 FOOD AND WATER

\*If food or beverages are kept inside your building or work area, please ensure that the following measures have been taken to protect the health of your employees.

**5.1** I have disposed of any contaminated beverages on-site and have ensured clean drinking water available for employees.

Pass       Fail       N/A

**5.2** I understand that the area under the seal of jars and bottles cannot be adequately disinfected and that those containers and the content has to be discarded.

Pass       Fail       N/A

**5.3** I have destroyed refrigerated and frozen foods which have thawed or have spent an unknown amount of time in refrigerators without power (If in doubt, throw it out!).

Pass       Fail       N/A

**5.4** Floodwaters carry disease and germs and only foods sealed in metal cans are safe. I have discarded all food that is not sealed in a can.

Pass       Fail       N/A

**5.5** I have discarded damaged or blown (bulged) cans.

Pass       Fail       N/A

**5.6** If the seal of the cans are UNDAMAGED, I have cleaned and disinfected the outside of the can.

Pass       Fail       N/A

**5.7** I have used a firm brush to clean the area around the rims and caps.

Pass       Fail       N/A

**5.8** I have disposed of the following if they have come into contact with flood waters:

- the contents of freezer and/or refrigerator
- all boxed foods
- all products in jars (including preserves)
- all bottled drinks
- toilet items

Pass       Fail       N/A

