

***Orange County Office
of Emergency Management***



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**Press Release
Monday, July 8, 2024**

Orange County Judge John Gothia has issued a Declaration of Disaster for Orange County, Texas due to imminent threat attributed to Hurricane Beryl effective immediately. Hurricane Beryl poses a threat of imminent disaster, possible property damage, injury due to wide spread flooding, storm surge and damaging wind and heavy rain.

Citizens are encouraged to take the necessary precautions to remain safe and to monitor the local weather stations due to the changing forecast and maintain situational awareness due to the severe weather that may cause flash flooding, damaging winds and isolated tornadoes.



JOHN H. GOTHIA
COUNTY JUDGE
ORANGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
123 SOUTH 6TH STREET
ORANGE, TEXAS 77630

**ORANGE COUNTY, TEXAS
DECLARATION OF DISASTER**

WHEREAS, the County of Orange, Texas, on the 8th day of July, 2024, was in imminent threat of being in the path of a weather event currently designated as Hurricane Beryl, as described in reports issued by the United States National Weather Service and the Texas State Operations Center, potentially causing widespread injury or loss of life and severe property damage resulting from conditions created by torrential rainfall, potentially causing life threatening flash floods and tornadic activity over an excessive period of time in residential, agricultural and commercial areas, as well as major infrastructure damage preventing access to, or the safe passage on, many roadways, as well as the potential for long term countywide electrical power and utility outages. Such conditions have created an imminent public safety hazard.

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Orange County, Texas, has determined, based upon trajectory reports issued by the National Weather Service and the Texas State Operations Center, that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect life, as well as to protect or rehabilitate property, and are necessary and hereby ordered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF ORANGE COUNTY, TEXAS:

- I. That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for Orange County, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
- II. Pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners Court of Orange County, Texas.
111. Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of The Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
- IV. Pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Orange County Emergency Management Plan.
- V. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED THIS THE 8th day of July, 2024.

John H. Gothia, County Judge
Orange County Texas
