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# What’s Your Flood Risk?

**Investigate whether the property floods and purchase flood insurance, if needed.**

SAMPLE

* Talk to neighbors: Does the street flood? Did this house flood?
* Ask the landlord/owner about flooding history. Get the answer in writing before you buy or lease.
* Review past floods and buyouts in the area: <https://riskfactor.com/>
* Enter a Harris county address to assess its specific flood risk: <https://riskfactor.com/>

## Check out your property’s flood risk before leasing or buying.

* Review FEMA flood maps at <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>
* Compare the elevation of flood plain with the slab elevation of your home. Do not buy or lease in the 100-year floodplain.
* Within 500-year floodplain, home height should be above 500-year flood plain elevation. Do not buy a home with elevation below 500-year flood plain.
* A higher risk of storm surge exists in east and southeast Harris County below 25 feet.
* Avoid purchasing a home under 25 feet of elevation.
* Elevate the home above 25 feet.
* Houston streets are backup drainage systems: compare the height of slab of house to crown of the street.
* Avoid homes where slab is even with or just slightly above crown of the street. The slab should be 2 feet or more above the crown of the street.

Know whether your zip code is an evacuation area. <http://prepare.readyharris.org/Evacuation-Map>

## Lone Star Legal Aid - 1-866-659-0666 – [http://www.lonestarlegal.org](http://www.lonestarlegal.org/)

SAMPLE

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* Fill in with your state-specific information: <https://floodfactor.com/>

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## Placeholder for organization contact info – phone number – [website](http://www.google.com/)