

# *Shreveport Police Dept.*

Date: August 26, 2020

Phone: (318) 455-3116 Fax: (318) 673-6933

Contact: Sgt. Angie Willhite, Public Information Officer

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



---

## **Chief Raymond warns Shreveport to prepare for Hurricane Laura**

Shreveport Police Chief Ben Raymond urges everyone to be prepared for the dangerous weather that will arrive in our area in the next 24 hours. Here are some suggestions to help keep you and your loved ones safe.

### **“Turn around Don’t drown”!**

Stay inside and off the roadway if possible. If you must travel and you come across an area of high water DO NOT attempt to travel through it. The water may be deeper than you think and could be moving swiftly. Remember it takes just 12 inches of water to carry away most vehicles and two feet of water will carry trucks and large SUV’s away. It is NEVER safe to drive in floodwaters.

### **“Turn around Don’t drown”!**

It is just as important to avoid walking through swift moving water. Just 6 inches of water can knock an adult off their feet and potentially carry them away. Stay away from drainage ditches. These can be attractive swimming spots for children following floods. The fast moving water partnered with debris can be deadly. Please keep your children away from flooded ditches.

### **Power Outages**

With projected winds of up to 80 MPH or higher, power outages are likely. If you see a downed power line DO NOT APPROACH! Make sure you have enough water, baby formula, non-perishable food items, flashlights, and batteries to get you through at least 3 days.

### **Sandbags**

Sandbags are still available from 7:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at 3825 Mansfield Road. They are currently out of stock but plan to have more ready by noon. Please call them at 673-6337 for more information. The Caddo Parish Commission will also have sandbags available at 1701 Monty Street during the same hours. Both locations limit you to 25 sandbags per vehicle.

### **Secure Your Property**

Secure all of your outdoor yard items so that they do not blow away. They could be destroyed or damage other property.

Residents that live on or near lakes should put their boats on a trailer if possible. If you are going to keep your boat on the water and have no boathouse storage, be sure to anchor your boat and position the bow of the boat toward the prevailing winds. Store all kayaks, deck furniture, etc. indoors if possible or secure it so it will not be blown into the water.

### **Pets**

Last but certainly not least, please bring your pets indoors during inclement weather. They will be frightened and could drown or be harmed by moving debris.