

# *Storm Surge*

***STORM SURGE*** is the abnormal rise in sea level before, during, and even after a tropical storm or hurricane approaches and/or makes landfall.

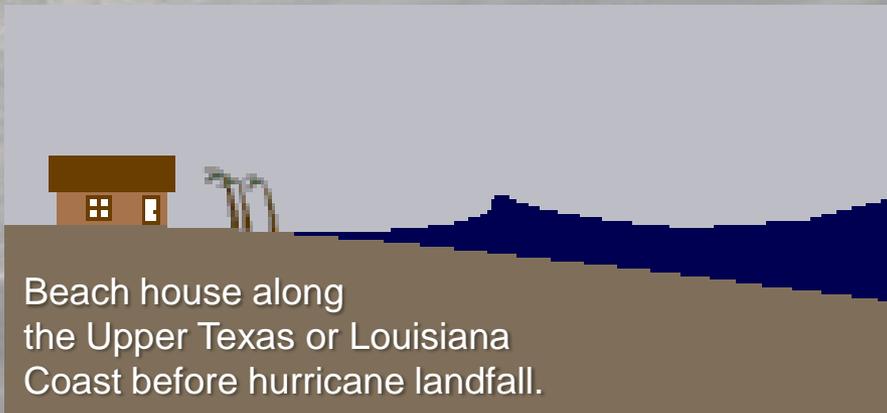
Storm surge is extremely destructive to anything in its path, especially if the surge comes in with a significant speed. This is because water is extremely heavy. **A cubic yard of water weighs nearly 1700 pounds!**

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The height of the storm surge depends on the size and strength of the tropical cyclone. The larger and/or stronger the storm, the higher the storm surge.

However, this is not the only factor that affects the height of the storm surge. The shape and slope of the continental shelf across the coastal waters is another big factor in determining the height of the storm surge.

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Additional information can be found on our Tropical page:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/lch/?n=tropic>

## *Southwest Louisiana Hurricane Guide*

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/images/lch/tropical/LCHHurricaneGuide-SWLA.pdf>

## *Southeast Texas Hurricane Guide*

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/images/lch/tropical/LCHHurricaneGuide-SETX.pdf>



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