



# STPNOC

SAFETY TAKES  
PREPAREDNESS

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

MATAGORDA COUNTY

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# Safety Takes Preparedness

Matagorda County, Bay City and Palacios emergency management officials and the STP Nuclear Operating Company have provided the emergency information in this pamphlet.

Matagorda County is a recreational destination for boaters, birders, beachgoers, sports fishermen and hunters. The County is also home to the South Texas Project – one of the nation’s safest and most reliable nuclear power facilities. The state-of-the-art facility is located on a 12,220 – acre site 90 miles southwest of Houston.

- The two-unit facility is a major source of electrical generation in the state. STP provides clean, reliable electricity to more than two million Texas homes. More than 25 percent of the state’s carbon-free electricity is produced by STP.

The facility was constructed with more safety features than any other nuclear power facility in the nation. These features include multiple, independent and redundant systems. STP is the largest employer in Matagorda County with approximately 1,200 employees. These individuals include experts in Engineering, Operations, Maintenance, Chemistry and Radiation Protection. Licensed Operators are intensively trained and qualified by the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). All employees must complete nuclear training courses when hired, plus annual requalification.

- STP, like all U.S. nuclear power facilities, was designed and constructed to be very safe. STP has three separate barrier systems to protect against any potential release of radioactive material. The fuel cladding, reactor coolant system and the containment building safely isolate radioactive materials from the environment.

Safeguards allow STP to more than meet stringent radiation emission limits set by the Environmental Protection Agency and enforced by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. If you live next to the facility, you receive less than one additional millirem (a unit that measures ionizing radiation) of radiation a year.

- It is unlikely STP will experience a major emergency. However, in any type of event, your safety could depend on your readiness to act. People residing within ten miles of the plant should pay particular attention to the emergency information regarding the South Texas Project.

This emergency preparedness information is provided to help all residents and visitors in Matagorda County for any type of area emergency. If you need additional information, contact the Matagorda County office of Emergency Management at 979-323-0707.

*If you have any questions, call 979-245-5526.*

*Si tiene alguna pregunta, llámenos al 979-245-5526.*

*For additional information see the STP website [www.stpegs.com](http://www.stpegs.com).*

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# Be Prepared

The information in this section was developed to help you in an emergency. If an incident at the nuclear plant occurs, you should have time to decide what to do and prepare for any actions you may have to take. Remember, responding to any emergency requires common sense and simple precautions. Be sure you and your family understand the information in this section. Talk it over with your family, friends and neighbors. During an emergency, they may need your help or you may need theirs, so be prepared.

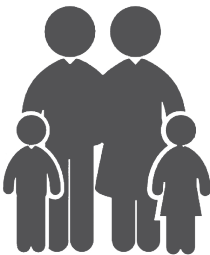
## BE PREPARED

The best way to handle any emergency is to prepare in advance. There has never been a serious accident at STP; but if one occurs, carefully developed and well-rehearsed plans will be activated immediately to protect the health and safety of the public. This pamphlet is a key element in those plans.

Please make sure you, and any family or friends traveling with you, understand the material in this pamphlet. For more information, call the Matagorda County Office of Emergency Management at 979-323-0707. People who need special assistance during an emergency should contact the Sheriff's Office at 979-245-5526.

## Develop a Buddy System and a Family Plan

In an emergency, rescue workers may not be able to assist you immediately. That's why it is important to have a buddy system and a family plan. Plan ahead to have a friend, family member, neighbor and yourself assist each other during an emergency.



Make contact with someone who will be your buddy. You should plan to call each other in an emergency. Decide now how you will contact each other, and develop alternate ways of finding each other in an emergency. Rehearse your plan with your buddy. During an emergency, look for or check on other individuals in your vicinity who may need help and, if help is needed, let authorities know.

Your family may not be together when a disaster strikes, so it is important to have a family plan. Your plan should include how you will contact each other if you are separated during a disaster. For example, have each family member and buddy contact the same friend or family member who lives outside your area.

Even better, choose an out-of-state friend or family member as a "family" contact that you, your family and buddy can call. Everyone must know the name, address and phone number of the contact. You may have trouble getting through, but be patient.

Have two predetermined locations outside the emergency area where your family or buddy can reunite, if separated. Each should be a safe distance from your home in case of fire, and outside your neighborhood or work location in case you cannot return home or to work.

## Prepare a Basic Emergency Supply Kit

Each family should put together a basic emergency supply kit. See the “Evacuation Tips, Recommended Items to Take With You” section (pages 13-16) of this pamphlet to reference suggested items or see websites below.



## IF YOU HAVE FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

### How to Register

If you are disabled, have special health care needs during evacuations, or do not have transportation and you have no one who can help you during disasters, you should immediately call 2-1-1 to register as a person with Functional Needs.

The call will be answered by a representative with the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) office. If you experience difficulty in registering, contact Matagorda County Office of Emergency Management at 979-323-0707. If your information needs to be changed or deleted, dial 2-1-1.



If you urgently need assistance during a disaster, call the Matagorda County Sheriff's Office and place the **orange** “Assistance Needed” card (page 27 of this pamphlet) in a front window or tape it to your front door. Unless you have been instructed to turn off your electricity, leave the porch light on so emergency workers can see the card.

For further information, see website [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) or [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) or [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org), Disaster Services.

### Remember:

**Your best defense in a situation is to remain calm, have a plan, prepare in advance, and follow our county emergency officials' directions.**



If you know someone in the area who is blind or unable to read, please read the information in this pamphlet to them or contact the Matagorda County Office of Emergency Management.

## **EMERGENCY CLASSIFICATIONS FOR STP**

STP personnel frequently practice with local and state agencies to ensure the readiness of emergency preparedness is maintained. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has four emergency classifications for events at a nuclear power plant:

### **Unusual Event**

This is the lowest classification level and means a minor problem has taken place. Federal, state and local officials will be notified. An “Unusual Event” poses no danger to the public. No action is required by you.

### **Alert**

An “Alert” means a problem has occurred at the plant, but there is no danger to the public. The plant’s emergency response facilities are activated, and federal, state and local officials have been notified and will be ready to respond if the problem becomes more serious.

### **Site Area Emergency**

At this classification level, there is no immediate danger to the people living close to the plant; however, you should prepare to take action. The Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), alert radios and a computerized telephone calling system may be activated.

### **General Emergency**

This is the most serious emergency classification. This signifies the potential exists for a release of radioactive material or a serious security event has occurred at the plant.

County officials may provide protective action recommendations to take if you live close to the nuclear plant. Listen to the NOAA (National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration) Weather Radio (NWR) at frequency 162.425 or your local EAS radio station, KKHA FM 92.5 for official news broadcasts and protective action recommendations including instructions from Matagorda County emergency management officials. The Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), alert radios, and a computerized telephone calling system will be activated.

# Prompt Notification Systems

There is little threat of a serious incident at STP, but just in case, here is the most important information you and your family need to know if you live within ten miles of the nuclear plant. Matagorda County has four methods to promptly notify if there is an accident at STP—the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), alert radios, a computerized telephone calling system and route alerting. These systems may also be activated in case of other types of emergencies in the County.

During an actual emergency, information will be broadcast on the NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) at frequency 162.425, and your local EAS radio station, KKHA FM 92.5. Included will be official instructions from Matagorda County emergency management officials.

## **INTEGRATED PUBLIC ALERT & WARNING SYSTEM (IPAWS)**

- IPAWS is FEMA's national system for local alerting which disseminates emergency notifications through Emergency Alert Systems (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEAs) that are received on your mobile device to inform you of any chemical spill, hurricane, tornado, flood, or problem at STP that may affect you. WEAs are free notifications that have a special tone and vibration.
- Mobile devices that are IPAWS-WEA capable are typically automatically opted-in to receive alerts when first set up. Persons that have opted-out at some point will need to opt back in to receive emergency messages. Persons that do not do this are choosing to not receive emergency messages.
- If you get a WEA, take any recommended action, and listen to the official Emergency Alert System (EAS) NOAA Radio at 162.425 or your local EAS radio station, KKHA FM 92.5 for additional news and instructions from Matagorda County Office of Emergency Management.
- If you are asked to SHELTER IN PLACE: Get inside the nearest building. Brick or concrete are best. Get as far into the middle of the building as possible. Take recommended actions and listen to NOAA Radio at 162.425 or your local EAS radio station, KKHA FM 92.5 for additional news and instructions.
- If you are asked to EVACUATE: During an STP declared emergency, official messages over Emergency Alert System stations may direct you to report to one of the reception centers: MRMC Wellness and Rehabilitation Center in Bay City, or Palacios High School Field House in Palacios. Officials will determine which center is to be opened.

• **NOAA Frequency 162.425**

• **Your local EAS radio station, KKHA FM 92.5**

## **ALERT RADIOS FOR STP NUCLEAR PLANT**

Alert Radios are preset to the NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) frequency 162.425. If you have been provided with an Alert Radio, please plug it in and place it on “standby” to automatically receive broadcast information. The emergency alert system radio will sound a warning tone for several seconds before an emergency news announcement. The radios are periodically tested. If you have any questions about the emergency alert system or problems with your radio, please call Matagorda County Emergency Management Office at 979-323-0707.



*NOAA Weather Radio (NWR)*

## **TELEPHONE AUTO-DIALER**

If you have a telephone and live inside the 10-mile radius of the nuclear plant, you may receive a computerized telephone call. The call will advise you to turn on your radio to hear official news broadcasts.

For an STP event, during the computerized call, you will be asked to respond by touching “9” if you understand the message, “6” if you do not understand the message, and “1” to repeat the message. This will let Matagorda County officials know if you have received and understood the message.



## **OFFICIAL NEWS BROADCASTS**

During an emergency, NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) at frequency 162.425 and your local EAS radio station, KKHA FM 92.5 will be the first to receive situation updates and protective action recommendations from county officials. All messages will be repeated frequently throughout an incident. Although television stations may broadcast emergency information, these radio stations should be considered the official news sources during an emergency in Matagorda County. Follow the instructions provided to you by Matagorda County officials. You may be asked to evacuate, shelter in place, or monitor and prepare.

## **ROUTE ALERTING**

Law enforcement or local fire departments may assist in notifying residents by driving through areas and using a Public Address System to provide emergency information.



***For emergency information about Matagorda County go to  
[www.co.matagorda.tx.us](http://www.co.matagorda.tx.us)***



# Taking Protective Action

## IF YOU ARE ASKED TO EVACUATE

- **Stay calm.** Take the time needed to make appropriate decisions and to carefully take necessary actions. If the incident is a nuclear power plant event, you will have time to take necessary action.
- **Gather what you, your family, and pet(s) will need.** You may have to be away from home several days.
- **Limit telephone use to emergencies only,** keep the lines open for official use.
- **Check on your family and buddy.** See if your family, buddy, neighbors, and older or disabled friends need assistance. Be sure family members and your buddy have the name, address and phone number of your “family” contact.
- **If you need help evacuating, call Matagorda County Sheriff’s Office.** Place the **orange “Assistance Needed” card** in a front window or tape it to your front door. This sign is located on page 25. Unless you have been instructed to turn off your electricity, turn on your porch light so emergency workers can see the sign.
- **If you do not need assistance, place the green “We Have Been Notified” card** in a front window or tape it to your front door before you leave home. This will let law enforcement officials know you have received word of the incident and are taking appropriate actions. The green sign is located on page 24. Unless you have been instructed to turn off your electricity, turn on your porch light so emergency workers can see the sign.
- **During severe weather** (i.e. hurricane warning), remember high profile vehicles such as trailers, boats, mobile homes and 18-wheelers are not allowed on roads in Matagorda County.
- **Check the Texas Department of Transportation website** for information about road conditions – [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov).
- **Do not worry while you are away.** Roadblocks will control access to the areas that have been evacuated, as weather permits.
- **Report to the designated Reception Center,** if directed to do so by county officials.
- **When it is safe for residents to return to their homes,** an announcement will be broadcast over NOAA Radio at frequency 162.425 or your local EAS radio station, KKHA FM 92.5.

## IF YOU ARE ASKED TO SHELTER IN PLACE

- **Stay indoors**, either inside your home or in a nearby building. Do not leave unless told to evacuate by Matagorda County emergency management officials.
- **Listen to the official news broadcasts** on the NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) at frequency 162.425 or your local EAS radio station, KKHA FM 92.5 for information.
- **Close all windows, doors and fireplace dampers.** This limits outside air from entering your home. If you are in your vehicle, close the window and vents.
- **Turn off any heating or cooling system** that draws in air from the outside. Use portable fans or ceiling fans to circulate the air inside.
- **If you must go outside, cover your mouth and nose with a damp cloth,** and limit your time outside.



## MONITOR AND PREPARE

Residents in the 10 mile Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) are asked to monitor the situation and prepare for the possibility of evacuation, shelter in place, or other protective actions.

# Plans Made For School Children

## EARLY RELEASE

At the “Alert” level (page 6), as a precaution, and if appropriate, children will be released to their parents from Matagorda School, and Tidehaven Junior and High School.

Parents/guardians should pick up their children at their regular schools, if recommended to do so by Matagorda County officials. If the decision has been made to do so, schools will attempt to notify parents/guardians of the early release. Parents/guardians may also receive information through the Emergency Alert System (EAS) on the NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) at frequency 162.425 or your local EAS radio station, KKHA FM 92.5.



## SCHOOL EVACUATION

As a precaution and if appropriate, at the “Site Area Emergency” level (page 6), schools will be evacuated. If evacuated, students will be taken to one of the following host schools:

**Matagorda School students will be taken to:  
Linnie Roberts Elementary School  
Bay City (4100 Hiram Brandon Dr.)**

**Tidehaven Junior and High School students will be taken to  
either: Blessing Elementary (139 FM 616)  
or Markham Elementary (200 E. Sixth Street)**

If a school evacuation occurs, parents/guardians will be notified through official radio broadcasts. Children will remain under adult supervision at the host school until picked up by a parent/guardian.

# Reception Center

## REPORTING TO A RECEPTION CENTER

If you are asked to evacuate, you may be directed to report to a Reception Center, either in:

**Bay City**

**or**

**Palacios**

If the evacuation is due to an incident at the nuclear plant, you may be checked for possible radiation contamination at the Reception Center. After being checked and registered, you may go to a Matagorda County temporary care facility, a hotel, or the home of a friend or relative who lives outside the affected area.

Firearms, pets (with the exception of service animals) and alcoholic beverages will not be allowed inside the reception centers or the temporary care facilities.

Pets can be taken care of outside the STP Reception Centers for a short period of time.

A map showing the nuclear plant's 10-mile radius is located on page 22.

Locate where you live or your current location in the 10-mile radius of the nuclear plant and mark your evacuation routes to either Bay City or Palacios.

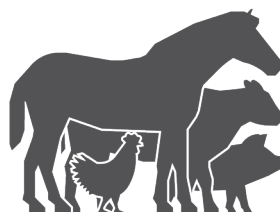
# Evacuation Tips

## CLOSURES

During an emergency, public areas such as beaches and parks may be closed. Law enforcement officers can then assist with other community needs. For a nuclear power plant event, this occurs at the “Site Area Emergency” level (page 6). Announcements of closures of public areas are made over the NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) at frequency 162.425 or your local EAS radio station, KKHA FM 92.5.

## PROTECT YOUR LIVESTOCK

- Livestock must be left on your ranch. Before you leave, be sure your livestock has enough food and water for a few days. Stored feed is best.
- If an evacuation recommendation/order is already in effect, **LEAVE IMMEDIATELY**. Do not take time to leave food and water for your livestock. You will be allowed through road blocks after the incident is over to take care of your livestock.
- Animals used for milking should be sheltered and given stored feed because contamination eaten by a dairy animal may be concentrated in its milk.
- If you are in an affected area, milk samples may be taken from your animals. This will indicate whether the milk is safe to drink.



## PROTECT YOUR CROPS

- An unharvested crop is hard to protect. However, normal harvesting and processing may still be possible.
- Crops already harvested will be safer if stored inside.
- Before eating local crops, fruits and vegetables, please contact the Matagorda County Extension Office at 979-245-4100.

## CARE FOR YOUR PETS

- Pets most likely cannot survive on their own, and if they do, you may not be able to find them when you return. Therefore, it is recommended you take your pet with you if you evacuate. Deciding in advance what to do with your pet during an emergency can save its life.
- Even though pets and other animals (with the exception of service animals) are not allowed in public Reception Centers due to public health reasons, help will be available to you at the Matagorda County Reception Center to care for your pet. And since there are few temporary



care facilities that accept pets, it is important for you to make evacuation plans that include your pets as you put together your family plan. The Matagorda County Office of Emergency Management can help you with a list of hotels/ motels that allow pets.

- Pets may be boarded with local veterinarians and boarding facilities. Pet owners will be responsible for boarding fees. When evacuating with a pet, be sure to take a leash, cage and a way to tie your pet outside.
- Bring an adequate supply of food and water, medications, litter and litter box, water and feed bowls, can opener, veterinarian's name and telephone number, pet toys and bed, current pet identification and registration/vaccination records.
- If you leave your pet at home, be sure it has adequate food and water for a few days.

***For further information about assuring your pet's well-being during an emergency, see the American Red Cross website at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org), Disaster Services, Be Prepared, Animal Safety.***

## **AS YOU LEAVE HOME, REMEMBER...**

- For natural disasters, switch off water, gas and electricity at the main source.
- During a nuclear power plant event, leave your refrigerator and freezer on.
- Turn off lights and any unnecessary appliances.
- Lock your home.
- When leaving your home due to a nuclear plant or chemical plant event, keep the windows in your car closed and the air on recirculation.

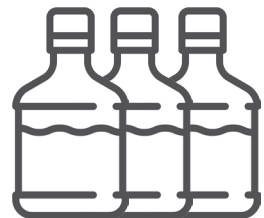


## **Evacuation Expenses**

- If Matagorda County officials recommend evacuation during a nuclear power plant event, insurance may be available to help pay your evacuation expenses. County officials authorized to make protective action (evacuation) recommendations are the county judge, precinct commissioners, or mayors.
- Representatives of the insurance group will be available within 24 hours to assist you with expenses. American Nuclear Insurers (ANI) will provide information by radio and/or newspaper about location(s) where you may file a claim. You should keep a record and receipts of all expenses you incur because of the recommended evacuation.

## **Recommended Items To Take With You:**

- This pamphlet
- Water—at least a three day supply of one gallon per person, per day
- Ready-to-eat food, enough for three days (food that will not spoil and does not need to be cooked or heated)



- Extra clothing
- Checkbook, credit cards, cash, and legal records (insurance, household inventory, tax records, insurance records, wills, stocks, bonds and deeds, passports, social security cards, bank account numbers, credit card numbers and companies, family records). *Note: ATMs may be inaccessible in time of a disaster.*
- Proper identification, including evidence of your physical address (e.g. electric bill)
- Eyeglasses, dentures, prescription drugs and non-prescription drugs
- Baby supplies (bottles, formula, food, diapers and toys)
- Pet supplies (carrier, food and toys)
- Portable radio, a flashlight and batteries (checked for freshness)
- First aid supplies
- Tools and supplies (manual can opener, tape, pliers, matches, aluminum foil, maps, pens, paper, eating utensils, plates, cups, plastic storage containers, whistle, etc.)
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items (toilet paper, disinfectant soap, feminine products, plastic garbage bags, chlorine bleach, etc.)
- Bedding for each person
- Entertainment items (books, games, playing cards, etc.)
- Special items (extra set of house and car keys, address book, etc.)
- Laptop computer and cell phone with chargers, if available
- A list of phone numbers



## INGESTION PATHWAY INFORMATION

Recommended protective actions for applicable agricultural industries including milk, livestock, and crops produced for human consumption.

- There are potential effects of radiation and radioactive material deposits on the human food supply. For instance, vegetation will absorb radiation deposited in the soil. When grass is contaminated by radiation and then eaten by dairy cows, radioactive elements are passed through their milk into human bodies when drunk.
- Identification of possible preventative protective actions can be taken for food and water which include:
  - Milk: Remove all lactating dairy animals from pasture and place them on uncontaminated feed and water.
  - Vegetables and Fruits: Wash, brush, scrub or peel fruits and vegetables to remove surface contamination.
  - Meat and Meat Products: If levels of radioactivity in meat approach the preventive response level, surveillance and protective actions for meat are recommended (e.g., placing meat animals on uncontaminated feed and water).

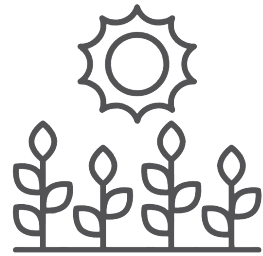


– Poultry and Poultry Products: Monitor poultry if they are raised outdoors, especially if used for egg production. If poultry live indoors and are fed stored rations, contamination is unlikely.



– Soils: If soil problems occur, proper soil management procedures can be implemented to reduce contamination:

- 1) Idling (i.e., non-use of the land) may be necessary; however, in worst cases removal and proper disposal of soil would be more appropriate;
- 2) Alternating types of crops to those which contribute little or no radioactive material to the human diet (i.e., cotton or flax versus grain);
- 3) Deep plowing to keep radioactive substances below the plant root zone where these substances can decay; and
- 4) Liming to limit absorption of specific radioactive substances by the crops.



– Grains: Milling and polishing of mature grown grain to remove most radioactive contamination.

– Water: Covering open wells, rain barrels, and tanks to prevent contamination of water supplies.

- Other emergency protective actions which may involve the interdiction or condemnation of foods, feeds or other contaminated products.



# Information About Radiation

## **RADIATION: A FACT OF LIFE**

Radiation is a form of energy like sunshine or light. It is all around us and we receive very small amounts of radiation, known as background radiation, each day. It is in the air we breathe, the food we eat, our homes and even in our bodies.

In addition to background radiation, there is man-made radiation from such things as medical and dental X-rays and nuclear medicine treatments. Very small amounts of radiation come from the generation of nuclear power.

## **HOW RADIATION IS MEASURED**

Radiation is measured in units called millirems. The average person receives about 620 millirems of background and man-made radiation per year.

The additional amount a person might receive from living near an operating nuclear power plant is about one half millirem per year. Even though radiation is invisible and cannot be smelled or tasted, it is easily detected and measured with instruments.

## **TYPES OF RADIATION**

The main types of ionizing (higher energy) radiation are: alpha particles, beta particles, gamma rays and neutron particles. Alpha particles are the least penetrating and can be stopped by a sheet of paper, but can be hazardous if inhaled or ingested. Beta particles can be stopped by a thin sheet of metal, but can also be hazardous if inhaled or ingested. Gamma rays and neutron particles are the most penetrating. Gamma rays can be almost completely stopped by three feet of concrete. Neutron particles can be stopped by water, concrete and metal.

## **BENEFITS OF RADIATION**

Radiation is used to benefit modern society in hundreds of ways. By improving our quality of life, these beneficial uses (medicine, industry, agriculture, etc.) are possible because radiation can be precisely measured and controlled.

## **POTASSIUM IODINE**

When taken, Potassium Iodine (KI) floods the thyroid with non-radioactive iodine and prevents the body's uptake of the radioactive iodine. Potassium Iodine (KI) does not protect a person from other types of radiation, only radioactive iodine. Therefore, evacuation takes precedence and is the best means of protecting ones' self from radiation exposure. The State and County do not distribute KI to the general public.

Radiation Source	Approximate U.S. Average Annual Radiation in Millirem (mR)/Year
<b>Natural</b> - Radon - Cosmic-Sea Level - Terrestrial	200 mR 26 mR 28 mR
<b>Man-Made</b> - Consumer Products - Smoking - Air Travel	5 – 13 mR 1,300 mR .5 mR/hr
<b>Medical</b> - Diagnostic X-Rays - Nuclear Medicine	255 mR 75 mR
<b>Television Viewing</b>	.01 mR
<b>Standing at the South Texas Project Boundary for One Year</b>	.06 mR

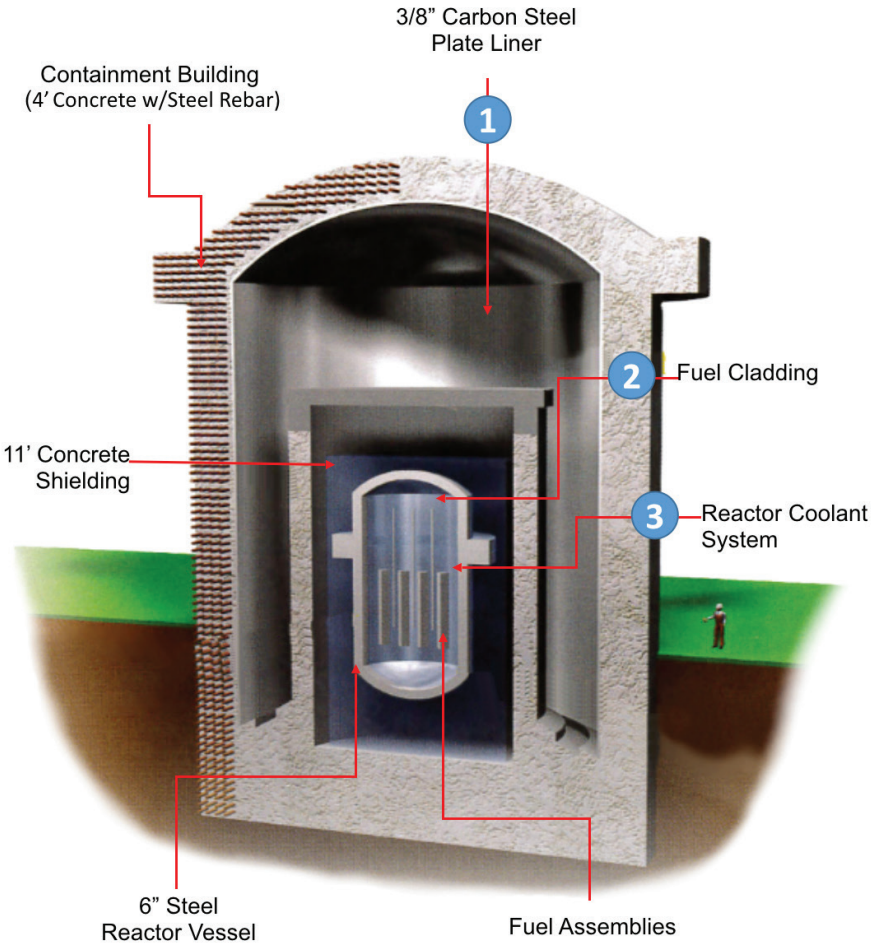
**Average Annual Effective Dose Equivalent  
in U.S. Population  
NCRP No. 93**

**Approximate Per Person Effective Dose Equivalent  
in U.S. Population is 620 mR/yr NCRP No. 93**

*For further information about radiation see [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov),  
Electronic Reading Room, Basic References,  
About Nuclear Energy, Radiation Protection.*

# STP NUCLEAR POWER PLANT RADIATION BARRIERS

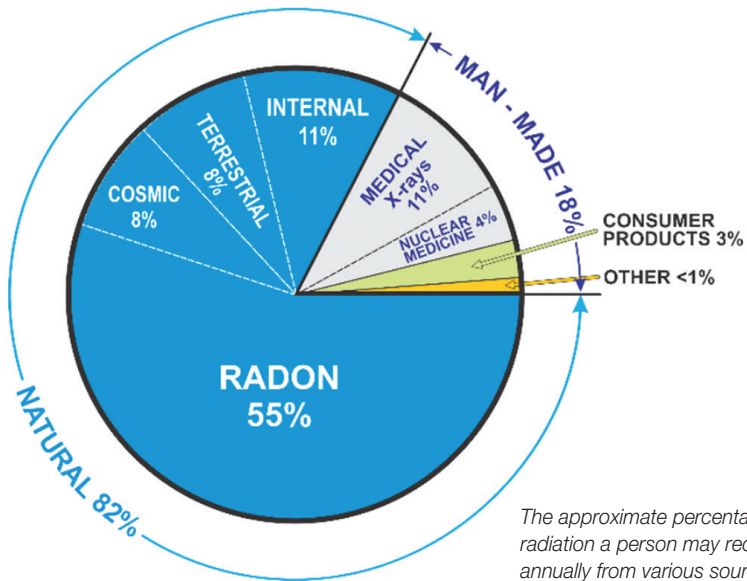
STP has three separate barriers which protect against radiation releases. The fuel cladding, reactor coolant system, and the containment building, illustrated on the below, safely isolate radioactive materials from the environment.



***For additional information about radiation and nuclear power see NRC and NEI websites [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov) and [www.nei.org](http://www.nei.org).***

## RADIATION – NATURAL AND BENEFICIAL

The average American typically receives about 1.7 millirem of radiation each day from natural sources, like the sun and from the many beneficial man-made uses of radiation, like x-rays. In addition to generating electricity, radiation is crucial in medical research and treatment, food safety, computers, televisions and deep-space probes. These and other beneficial uses are possible because radiation can be precisely measured and controlled.



## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TERMS

- **Department of State Health Services (DSHS), Radiation Control Program** is a state agency that provides Matagorda County with technical assistance during a radiological incident.
- **DPS, Pierce is the Department of Public Safety office at Pierce, Texas.** It serves as the state's 24-hour warning point for Matagorda County. The DPS staff can obtain resources to assist Matagorda County during emergencies.
- **Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ)** is an area within the 10-mile radius of a nuclear power plant.
- **Department of Homeland Security-Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS-FEMA)** is the federal government agency responsible for assisting with off-site emergency planning, preparedness, response and recovery.

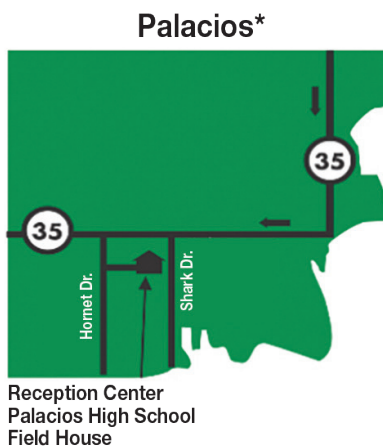
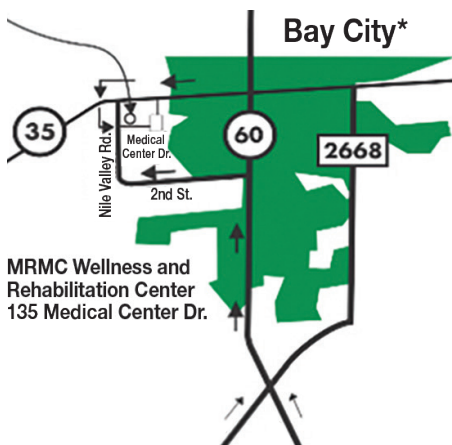
- **Host School** is a location where school children who have been dismissed early are housed until picked up by a parent or guardian. A host school is outside any hazardous area.
- **Matagorda County Office of Emergency Management** is the county agency responsible for emergency management planning. This office coordinates with the Texas Division of Emergency Management in response to any emergency.
- **National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** is a federal agency focused on the conditions of the ocean and atmosphere.
- **NOAA Weather Radio (NWR)** is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information from the nearest National Weather Service Office 24 hours a day 7 days a week.
- **Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI)** is an industry organization that promotes safe utilization and development of nuclear energy to meet the nation's energy, environmental and economic goals and to support the nuclear energy industry.
- **Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)** is the federal government agency responsible for licensing, regulating and inspecting nuclear power plants to make certain they operate safely.
- **Plume** is a cloud of potentially hazardous material that mixes with the air and moves with the wind.
- **Protective Response Zones** are geographic areas where residents may be asked to take shelter, evacuate or wait for further emergency information. Eleven (11) protective response zones have been established for the 10-mile radius around the STP nuclear plant.
- **Reception Centers** are the locations designated for residents who have been asked to leave their homes due to a nuclear power plant event. The centers are outside the 10-mile radius of the plant. Radiation monitoring and decontamination, as well as registration, first aid, temporary care facilities and medical help are provided, if necessary, at these locations.

# STP 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone

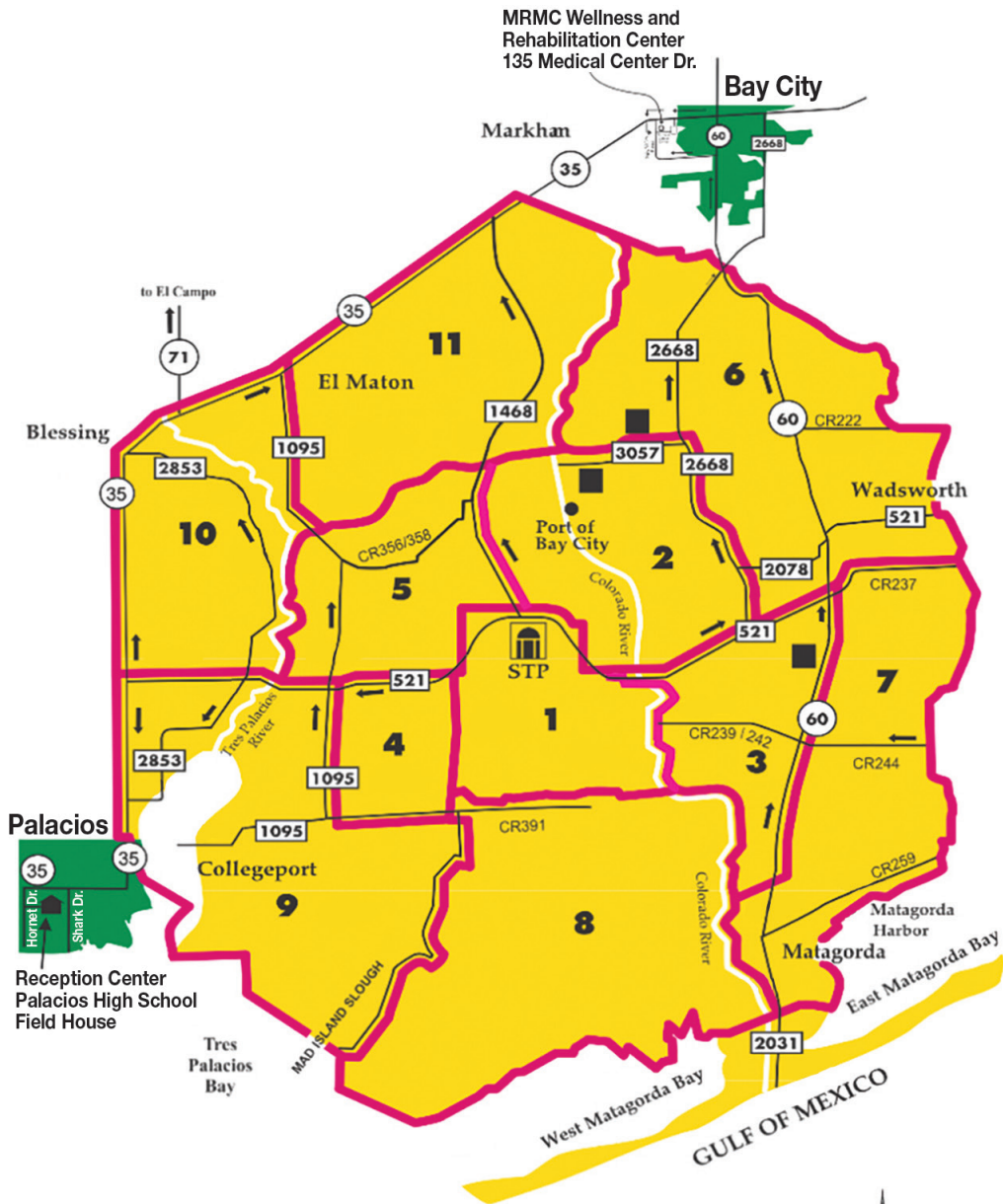
## MAP & RECEPTION CENTERS

If you are within 10 miles of the plant when a serious incident occurs, you may receive IPAWS alerts directly to your phone. IPAWS alerts have a unique tone and vibration, both repeated twice.\* In the event this happens, listen to the radio stations listed on the back of this brochure for information and instructions from Matagorda County Emergency Management Officials. Boaters and beach-goers may hear announcements or warnings from local law enforcement and/or Coast Guard personnel patrolling in cars, boats or helicopters. Familiarize yourself with this map, locate the area where you are and the route you will take if advised to leave the area or report to a reception center.

***\*An IPAWS alert is a Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) that is received on your mobile device to inform you of any chemical spill, hurricane, tornado, flood, or problem at STP that may affect you. WEAs are free notifications that have a special tone and vibration.***



\*Closeup views, see map on page 23 for locations



**LEGEND**

-  State Highway
-  Protective Response Zones 1-11
-  Farm to Market
-  Reception Centers
-  Streets/Roads
-  Industrial Facility
-  Evacuation Routes



# Evacuation House Signs

If you receive notification to evacuate, cut out and place one of the following two cards in front of your residence so it will be visible to emergency workers who are assisting with evacuation.



***Place this in your front window or in a visible location.***

***Leave on a light so it can be seen, unless you have been instructed to turn off your electricity.***



# WE HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED

**If you receive notification to evacuate and DO NOT need assistance, place this in your front window in a visible location.**

*Place this card in front of your residence so it will be visible to emergency workers who are assisting with evacuation. Leave on a light so it can be seen, unless you have been instructed to turn off your electricity.*



# ASSISTANCE NEEDED

**If you receive notification to evacuate and  
DO need assistance, place this in  
your front window in a visible location.**

*Place this card in front of your residence so it will be visible to emergency workers who are assisting with evacuation. Leave on a light so it can be seen, unless you have been instructed to turn off your electricity.*









## **For Information Call:**

Matagorda County Office of Emergency Management  
2200 7th Street, Bay City, TX  
979-323-0707

## **For Special Assistance During Emergencies Call:**

Matagorda County Sheriff's Office  
979-245-5526

## **Joint Information Center:**

979-244-5318

*(This number is activated to answer calls from the public  
ONLY during STP or Matagorda County Events)*

## **Emergency Alert Radio Stations:**

- NOAA NWS Radio (Frequency 162.425)
- Your local EAS radio station, KKHA FM 92.5

## **Si tiene alguna pregunta, llámenos al:**

979-245-5526



Scan here to view information on [STPNOC.com](http://STPNOC.com)



**MATAGORDA COUNTY**