

**1900**  
**September** - Major hurricane hits Galveston. The "Great Galveston Storm" is the worst natural disaster to date in U.S. history. Loss of life reported to be 6,000 to 8,000 citizens. Harris County experiences widespread flooding, with property damage at \$30 to \$40 million.

**1907**  
Major storm floods much of Houston and Harris County.

**1908**  
First drainage district created in Harris County in Brays Bayou watershed.

1900

1910

1920

**1911-1914**  
Houston Ship Channel construction begins.

**1914**  
Houston Ship Channel opens.

**1916**  
The United States Geological Survey publishes topographic maps for Harris County.

**1913**  
**December** - Major Brazos River storm spreads to Harris County. Entire area is hard hit. Buffalo, White Oak, Brays and Greens Bayous are all out of banks. Many citizens evacuate.

**1915**  
**August** - Another Galveston hurricane causes major damages throughout Harris County. Buffalo Bayou and widespread areas of Houston experience heavy flooding. Damage estimated at \$56 million.

**1930**  
**May** - Large rainstorm cell remains stationary over Harris County for 3 days. Rainfall amounts reported as high as 12.5 inches. Entire area averages 8 inches.

**1932**  
**August** - Hurricane hits Freeport, taking 40 lives. Harris County has widespread flooding on all bayous.

**1935**  
**December** - Massive storm inundates Houston and Harris County. Buffalo Bayou 52 feet above normal. Overwhelming devastation leads to creation of the Harris County Flood Control District in 1937.

1930

1940

1950

1960

**1940**  
**November** - Heavy rains last for 5 days in Northeast Harris County. 10,000 head of cattle lost.

**1943**  
**July** - Hurricane near Galveston creates extensive flooding for Harris County. \$16.5 million in damages.

**1945**  
**August** - Area hurricane produces heaviest rainfall ever recorded in Harris County. More than 15 inches in 24 hours. Flooding reported on all bayous.

**1949**  
**October** - Category 4 hurricane hits Freeport with 135 mph winds (90 mph at Houston). \$6.7 million total damage.

**1950**  
**February** - Thunderstorm precedes cold front, resulting in Greens Bayou running out of banks. Area residents evacuate. Baytown also reports flooding.

**1955**  
**May** - Major thunderstorm hits northern portion of Harris County. Structure flooding reported in the area.

**1957**  
**June** - Hurricane Audrey crosses the Louisiana/Texas coast. Flooding is reported in Harris County.

**1959**  
**October** - Thunderstorm floods more than 100 structures in Houston area.

**1960**  
**June** - Thunderstorm inundates many areas throughout Harris County. Cypress Creek, Spring Creek and San Jacinto River experience flooding. Over 200 families evacuate.

**1961**  
**September** - Hurricane Carla pounds the Gulf Coast, taking 34 lives. It is the largest hurricane ever recorded, with property damages exceeding \$300 million. Heavy flooding reported in southern Harris County.

**1969**  
**February** - Thunderstorm precedes cold front, flooding more than 250 area structures. Damages exceed \$3.3 million.

1970

**1972**  
**March** - Thunderstorm precedes cold front and floods much of northern Harris County. More than 700 families evacuate.

**1973**  
**June** - Major storm hits Harris County and brings 10-15 inches of rain. Sims and Greens bayous are reported out of banks. 10 lives are lost and damages exceed \$50 million

**1979**  
**July** - Tropical Storm Claudette brings record rainfall amounts to the area. A U.S.-record of 43 inches of rain in 24 hours falls in Alvin. Total damages exceed \$700 million.

**1983**  
**May** - Large thunderstorm floods areas along several bayous. Damages exceed \$14 million.

**1983**  
**August** - Hurricane Alicia strikes Galveston and Harris County. Damages approach \$1 billion, mostly due to wind.

**1983**  
**September** - Nine inches of rain falls south of downtown. More than 1,000 structures flood along Brays Bayou. Damages top \$38 million.

1980

**2012**  
**July** - High water rescues along Cypress, Little Cypress and Willow creeks after several days of heavy rainfall beginning July 9. More than 70 structures flood in northern Harris County.

**2014**  
**August** - Slow-moving rains drench portions of Harris County with 3.5-4.5 inches. In the Greens Bayou watershed, 109 structures flood.

**2015**  
**May 25-27** - Memorial Day Flood. More than 6,000 structures flood. Seven fatalities. Highest rainfall recorded in Buffalo and Brays watersheds. Nearly 11 inches in 3 hours on Brays Bayou.

**1984**  
**October** - Thunderstorm in northern Harris County floods more than 200 structures. Total damages exceed \$32 million.

**1989**  
**May & June** - Two separate storms result in two back-to-back presidential disaster declarations.

1990

**2015**  
**October 31** - Heavy rainfall of 5-12 inches from Sugar Land to Crosby over 12 hours drenches already-saturated grounds in mainly central/eastern Harris County. Nearly 400 homes flood; one flood-related fatality.

**2016**  
**April 17-18** - Tax Day Flood. Historic flood over northern and western Harris County results in seven fatalities. Average 12-16 inches of rain in 12 hours countywide; record pool levels in Addicks and Barker reservoirs. Estimated 9,820 structures flood in Harris County.

**2001**  
**June** - Tropical Storm Allison strikes first on June 5; returns three days later for a second round of storms. Texas Medical Center essentially shut down. North Downtown Houston decimated. Two million people impacted; 22 lives lost. More than 70,000 structures flood. Damages top \$5 billion.

**2006**  
**June 19** - Rainfall on already saturated ground floods 3,370 homes, 561 apartments and one nursing home, mostly along Berry and Sims bayous. Rainfall 8-10 inches in three hours.

2000

**2016**  
**May 26-27** - Memorial Day Flood. North and northwest Harris County hit with 8-13 inches of rain. Overbank and structural flooding along Spring, Willow, Little Cypress and Cypress creeks, San Jacinto River. More than 900 in the Spring Creek watershed in Montgomery County.

**2017**  
**August 25-30** - Hurricane Harvey. Catastrophic flooding followed Harvey after making landfall as a category 4 hurricane near Port Aransas. Reported deaths: 36. Worst house flooding ever in Harris County with an estimated 154,170 homes flooded; 300,000 vehicles flooded; U.S. total damages of \$125 billion. Rainfall totals of 25-40 inches across much of Harris County with a maximum rainfall total of 47.4 inches over a 4-day period along Clear Creek at I-45.

**2008**  
**September** - Hurricane Ike, 3rd costliest in U.S. history, strikes Galveston Island. Eleven deaths in Harris County. Storm surge swamps 2,500 structures; rainfall causes 1,200 more structures to flood. More than \$28 billion in damage.

**2009**  
**April 17-28** - brings extensive flooding; five children drown when a car goes into a Greens Bayou tributary. Some highways close; record high water on Bear, Langham, Mayde creeks. 2,305 structures flood on Langham Creek and Buffalo Bayou. HCFCD records one-hour rainfall of 6.9 inches at Clear Creek.

2010

**2019**  
**September 17-19** - Tropical Storm Imelda. 3,990 homes flooded in Harris County; third-greatest number of houses ever flooded in single event in Harris County. Significant flooding on Cedar and Luce Bayous and the East Fork of the San Jacinto River. A 48-hour rainfall total of 29.1 inches was recorded in northeast Harris County near Huffman with 1-hr rainfall rates of 5-6 inches in the Humble and Aldine areas.

**1929**  
**April** - Enormous gulf storm descends on Houston and Harris County and lasts 14 hours. Many areas of county report rainfall close to 10 inches. Extensive damage sustained to structures in almost all of Harris County. All bayous are reported to be out of banks.

**1929**  
**May** - As the area is still reeling from the last storm, another major storm hits Harris County. Structural damage, heavy street flooding and widespread crop damage reported. San Jacinto River 30 feet above normal.

**1992**  
**March** - Major storm floods more than 1,500 structures and many bayous are out of banks. Much of I-10 is under water.

**1994**  
**October** - Major storm hits Harris County. Twice as many structures flood than in the 1992 storm. Most bayous are out of banks.

**1998**  
**September** - Tropical Storm Frances causes extensive flooding along White Oak Bayou and other bayous. More than 1,300 structures flood.

**1998**  
**October & November** - Adding insult to injury, two more major storms flood hundreds more structures, mainly in north Harris County.