



FEMA

Fact Sheet

Texas Hurricane Harvey DR-4332

Placement of Temporary Housing Units in Special Flood Hazard Areas

This fact sheet provides guidance to communities that participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), on the placement of temporary housing units (manufactured housing units or recreational vehicle/travel trailers). This guidance applies to FEMA-provided temporary housing units.

Specifically, this guidance is to ensure proper regulation of temporary housing units in the SFHA, by minimizing risk to life and property while providing reasonable temporary accommodation for displaced homeowners.

****Standards for the Placement of Temporary Housing Units in the SFHA****

When a NFIP participating community approves the placement of temporary housing in the SFHA, the community will undertake steps to issue temporary permits for placement of temporary housing units to minimize risk to life and property, and to ensure the permitting requirement of the local floodplain management ordinances are in compliance. A community using this guidance has discretion to use existing procedures to grant temporary permits for temporary housing without granting a variance. Communities may provide a blanket temporary permit to FEMA housing units to speed recovery.

FEMA temporary housing units will not be placed in the coastal high hazard areas or the regulatory floodway.

FEMA will ensure that temporary housing units are elevated to the highest level practicable for the placement of temporary units. Since the housing solution is “temporary” the units may be placed below the BFE, if it is not practicable to elevate the unit to or above the BFE.

The temporary permits that will regulate the placement of the housing unit may be issued for up to six months with extensions not to exceed a cumulative total of 18 months and maintained as a part of the permit records.

To benefit the resident, a community may advise the occupant of the risk associated with living in a floodplain and any evacuation notification that may be issued by the community.