



## *News Release*

Escambia County  
Office of Public Information and Communications  
34 West Government Street, Pensacola FL 32501

Hurricane Ivan Update # 49  
Date: September 21, 2004  
Time: 2300

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### *Hurricane Ivan Situation Update*

#### **Curfews:**

- Remain in effect from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. until further notice.

#### **Distribution Centers:**

- Each household will receive two 12 packs of water, two bags of ice and six Meals ready to eat (MRE's) each day.
- The following ten sites are open for the distribution of ice, water and food from **7 a.m. to 6 p.m.:**
  - Bealls Outlet Shopping Center, 33 Brent Lane, Pensacola
  - Old Winn Dixie Shopping Center, North Highway 29, Cantonment
  - Washington High School, 6000 College Parkway, Pensacola
  - Northview High School, 4100 West Highway 4, Walnut Hill
  - Tate High School, 1771 Tate Road, Cantonment
  - Escambia High School, 1310 North 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Pensacola
  - Jim Bailey Middle School, 4110 Bauer Road, Pensacola
  - Old Warrington Village Shopping Center, Navy Boulevard, Pensacola
  - Carver Middle School, 700 E. Hecker Road, Century
  - Molino Park Elementary, Highway 97, Molino

#### **Board of County Commissioners:**

- Any county employee that is not on Special Storm assignment, or otherwise notified must report at 8 a.m. Sept. 22 to your regular work location and see your Department Director.
- The Escambia County Building Inspections Office will relocate to 6451 North "W" Street (Janet Holley Tax Collector's Office) and will be open for business Tuesday, Sept. 21 at 8 a.m. They can be reached at (850) 438-6500.

#### **Escambia County:**

- Property Appraiser Office employees should report to work tomorrow, Sept. 22. The office **will not** be open.
- Escambia County Clerk's employees should not report to work on Tuesday, Sept. 22 unless contacted by their supervisors. All employees of the County Clerk should contact their supervisor Tuesday afternoon for Wednesday, Sept. 23 assignments.

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### **City of Pensacola:**

- All City boards, commissions, and councils meetings at City Hall have been cancelled until further notice.
- Building permits will be issued beginning Tuesday, Sept. 21 at 8 a.m. at the Code Enforcement Building, 2761 North Palafox St. An Escambia County license is required.

### **Pensacola Naval Air Station:**

- The Navy Commissary, Navy Exchange and gas station will open on Wednesday, Sept. 22 at 8 a.m. with limited services. Due to lack of computer connectivity, all transactions must be cash or check.
- NAS Pensacola Housing residents will be allowed to visit their quarters on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The visitation will be conducted on a prearranged schedule. Residents should call 475-2534 or 453-9586 for information on time and date of their scheduled visit.

### **State Court System:**

- Domestic Violence Court will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 22 at 8 a.m. at the Board of County Commissioners' Board Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Old Courthouse, corner of Palafox and Government Streets. Parties who were scheduled to attend on September 15<sup>th</sup> and September 22<sup>nd</sup> should plan to attend.
- The Public Defender's Office asks that all attorneys employed with the Public Defender call 484-0477. All other employees of the Public Defender's Office should call 453-3242.

### **Utilities:**

- **Emerald Coast Utilities Authority (ECUA)**
  - Residential sanitation collection, household garbage only, began Monday, Sept. 20 for ECUA customers. Eighty percent of residential and commercial routes were services. This is not for hurricane debris. More than three times the amount of garbage collected as during a average Monday collection.
  - Twenty-one of 31 water wells are back in service with a 56 million gallon daily pumping capacity. Sunday and Monday, Sept. 19-20 ECUA crews repaired 515 water line leaks and investigated 53 sewer overflows.
  - Both the Main Street and the Bayou Marcus wastewater treatment plants are operational but because only 35 of 320 lift stations are online, citizens are urged to continue to conserve water.
  - A boiled-water advisory remains in effect for ECUA water customers. Boil all tap water that is to be used for consumption for one minute or add eight drops of chlorine bleach to each gallon and allow it to sit for 30 minutes.
  - The one million gallon elevated water tanks at Woodchuck and Pensacola Christian College were returned to service Monday. The Southwest pumping

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station was placed back in service and the three million gallon water tank on Sorrento Road was about 60 percent full.

- Citizens are urged to report water leaks by calling 595-3344 or 595-3394.

➤ **City of Pensacola Sanitation:**

- City residents' regular household garbage collection will begin Thursday, Sept. 23 to those residents who can be reached by garbage trucks. Residents living on blocked streets can take their cans to the nearest clear intersection. If several garbage cans are grouped together, they must be at least five feet apart.
- Garbage drop-off sites on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Summit Boulevard, and at Legion Field will operate from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday. The drop-off locations will also operate Saturday, Sept. 25, and Sunday, Sept. 26. Regular garbage collection is expected to resume Monday, Sept. 28.

➤ **Energy Services of Pensacola:**

- ESP repaired 174 major leaks and 188 minor leaks as of Monday, Sept 20.
- When gas service is returned the pressure will rise and minor gas leaks may be detected. If anyone detects such a leak, they should call ESP at 474-5300.

➤ **BellSouth**

- Reporting 73% of customers have phone service.
- Customers wishing to call BellSouth for repair service may use the following numbers:
  - Residential repair from a BellSouth phone, dial 611; from wireless or non-BellSouth phone or outside of Florida, dial 1-800-432-1424.
  - Business repair from a BellSouth phone, dial 866-620-6900; from wireless or non-BellSouth phone or outside Florida, dial 1-800-252-0803.

➤ **Gulf Power**

- Power restored to 188,841 customers in their service area. Escambia County has 41,017 customers restored with 96,946 remaining without power.

➤ **Escambia River Electric Cooperative**

- Approximately 50% of customers in Escambia County have power.

**Debris / Solid Waste:**

- The clean-up process will begin this week. Follow these procedures to help expedite this process:
- Separate debris
    - Vegetative debris (trees, brush, etc.)
    - Construction debris (shingles, etc.)
    - Household garbage
  - Place your debris on the right-of-way in front of your property.
  - Be patient, as the clean up process will take some time.

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### **Roads:**

- The following are updates on roads and bridges in Escambia County:
  - The Escambia River Bridge will be closed tonight from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.
  - The Pensacola Bay Bridge (3 mile Bridge) will be open beginning at 7 a.m., Sept. 21 to residents, emergency service vehicles and restoration vehicles. DOT officials asks that no other traffic go through the area because it will contribute to the traffic congestion problems and have an adverse effect on restoring Gulf Breeze. Residents will be required to show identification.
  - DOT officials encourage all travelers to use detour routes; specifically around Highway 90 to reduce traffic congestions.
  - Work Garcon Point should be complete on Sept. 22.
  - Work on the I-10 Bridge to open two lanes of traffic should be complete on Oct. 11.
  - Work on Bob Sikes Bridge should be complete on Sept. 29.
  - Work on the Navarre Bridge should be complete on Sept. 22.
  - Work on the Garcon Point Bridge should be complete on Sept. 22.
  - Work on Perdido Key Drive has been put on a 120-day contract.
  - Highway 98 is open to Mississippi.
  - Highway 90 is open to Mississippi.

### **Escambia County Area Transit:**

- ECAT will resume a limited bus schedule with twelve routes starting Wednesday, Sept. 22. These routes are:
  - Route 1 at 7:40 a.m.
  - Route 3 at 7 a.m.
  - Route 4 at 6:45 a.m.
  - Route 6 at 7:30 a.m.
  - Route 9 at 7:15 a.m.
  - Route 7a at 8:26 a.m.
  - Route 7b at 7:56 a.m.
  - Route 10b at 7 a.m.
  - Route 11b at 8:30 a.m.
  - Route 15b at 8:30 a.m.
  - Route 16 at 8:26 a.m.
  - Route 18 at 7:45 a.m.
- The routes will run every two hours Monday – Friday. There are currently no Saturday or Sunday routes. There are also no evening services. For additional information contact ECAT at 595-3228

### **Pensacola Regional Airport (PNS):**

- Pensacola Regional Airport will reopen for commercial business on the morning of Friday, Sept. 24. Individual airlines should be contacted to access their schedules of flights. Passengers are urged to be at the airport two hours prior to their flight.

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- All Transportation Security Administration (TSA) should report to work Friday, Sept. 24.
- Vehicles located at Pensacola Regional Airport during Hurricane Ivan should be retrieved.
- Beginning Wednesday, Sept. 22 rental cars can be returned to the Pensacola Regional Airport between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Alternate return locations are: Avis, University Mall between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Budget, 2 East Nine Mile Road between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Dollar, 6208 Ninth Ave. between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

### **Escambia County Animal Regulation/Control:**

- The Escambia County Animal Shelter recovered 3 domestic animals on Pensacola Beach. They will be back on Pensacola Beach and Perdido Key tomorrow.
- Escambia County Animal Control and The Animal Shelter can be reached at 595-3075 for non-emergency calls, and 595-3080 for emergencies.
- The Animal Shelter resumed normal operating hours 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday – Saturday.
- Injured wildlife should be taken to the Wildlife Sanctuary, 105 N S Street, Pensacola.
- A temporary refuge for pets has been established at Escambia County Animal Shelter 595-3073.

If necessary, there will be accommodations made for people who are in need of animal food for their pets. These services can be found at 200 W. Fairfield Drive. Contact them at 595-3075.

### **Water Safety:**

- The Florida Marine Patrol advises boaters to avoid attempting to drive boats towards any barrier island. Missing and sunken boats make this action extremely dangerous.

### **FEMA Assistance:**

- Escambia County residents may apply for FEMA assistance by calling 1-800-621-FEMA. Residents who sustained damage from Hurricane Ivan must register to be eligible for assistance.

### **Insurance Information:**

- Mr. Bill Bailey, Hurricane Insurance Information Center, will be available tomorrow, Sept. 21. For more information, please call 941-623-2479 or 212-346-5500.
- Citizens should check credentials on anyone who claims to be an insurance adjuster to ensure the adjuster has been processed by the Florida Insurance Council.

### **Search & Rescue:**

- The FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task forces have demobilized
- According to law enforcement officials, divers finished searching the bay along the I-10 bridge. No other vehicles or bodies have been found.

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### **Burn Ban:**

- The Escambia County Board of County Commissioners has established an emergency ordinance implementing a Burn Ban for the County until further notice. Low water pressure and water line breaks make burning brush extremely dangerous.

### **Pensacola Beach**

- Pensacola Beach residents with their Santa Rosa Island Authority decal will be allowed access to the island at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 22. Every effort is being made to clear the roadways; however, residents may only be able to get as far as Casino Beach by car and have to walk the remainder of the way.

### **Perdido Key:**

- Perdido Key residents will be allowed access to the island tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Animal Control will assist residents with animal recovery efforts.

### **Shelters:**

- As of Sept. 20, there were 183 people in the Special Needs shelter at Pensacola Junior College.
- As of Sept. 20, there were about 900 people at the two open shelters in Escambia County.

### **Schools:**

- The Superintendent of the Escambia County School District will hold a press conference at 11:30 a.m. Sept. 22 at the Escambia County EOC.

### **Childcare:**

- Childcare facilities in Escambia County should call the School Readiness Coalition at 595-5400 or 595-5888 to help determine which facilities are operational and which facilities need assistance.

### **Public Health**

- Boil Water Notice is still in effect for all areas of Escambia County.
- Emergency mental health locations
  - CSU located at "J" and Avery (469-3497)
  - Baptist Hospital Emergency Room, 1700 "E" Street, Pensacola
  - Regular patients should go to Lakeview Center

### **Mosquito Control:**

- With all the rain and standing water from Hurricane Ivan, Neighborhood Environmental Services Department would like to remind everyone of the Five "D's" for mosquito control.
- Avoid being outside at dusk.

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- Avoid being outside at dawn.
- Use repellent with DEET as an ingredient.
- Drain- Remove standing water in any thing that is located in the yard.
- Dress- Wear light colored clothing and cover all exposed areas of skin.
- Officials state they are in the process of setting up a program for damaged swimming pools to help control mosquito problems.
- Mosquito Control resumed spray operations today.

### **State Courts System First Judicial Circuit**

- The M.C. Blanchard Judicial Center has substantial damage. The facility will be closed to court proceedings until further notice. Temporary facilities will be identified and operational in the near future.
- At this time, Mission Essential Functions only will be conducted until further notice. This consists of: First Appearances, Baker Act Hearings, Juvenile Detention/Shelters and Domestic Violence proceedings. Persons scheduled for Domestic Violence court proceedings on Sept. 22 should plan to appear as scheduled – the location will be announced through the media late Sept. 20 or early Sept. 21.

### **United States Postal Service:**

- Pensacola City and Associates Offices are operating from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- The main Post Office at Jordan Street has no power, but is operational with limited services.
- Downtown Station and East Hill Station have no power and are not offering retail services.
- NAS Branch is closed until further notice.
- Delivery started Monday, Sept. 20, and completed 70% to 80% of all deliveries in Escambia County.
- Residents should ensure that there is a clear path to their mailboxes for mail delivery.
- The Postal Service is recommending that residents, whose houses were damaged, not change addresses. Please put a hold on your mail and pick it up at the post office.
- Special arrangements will be made for any areas that mail cannot be delivered.

***Citizen Information Line (850) 595-3344***

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**Media Note: For more information, call Sonya M. Smith, Public Information Manager at (850) 595-3315 or (850) 595-3362.**