



News Release

Escambia County
Office of Public Information and Communications
P.O. Box 1591, Pensacola FL 32591

Hurricane Katrina
News Release #14
Date: August 29, 2005
Time: 5:30pm

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Escambia County- Hurricane Katrina

- **Escambia County Emergency Operations**
 - The Emergency Operations Center is at full activation
 - A curfew from 10:00 pm to 4:00 am is in effect for Escambia County.
 - Escambia County is under a tornado watch for the remainder of the daylight hours.
 - The Board of County Commissioners signed a declaration of state of local emergency Friday morning.
- **Pensacola Regional Airport**
 - The Airport will reopen on Tuesday, August 30, 2005
 - Please call specific airlines to check flight status.
- **Gulf Power**
 - As of 2:00 pm Monday, August 29, 2005, Gulf Power is estimating 83,573 customers in Escambia County and 117,359 customers company wide are without power.
 - Crews will be working throughout the night to restore power.
 - To report an outage, customers should call 1-800-GUPOWER.
- **Escambia River Electric Cooperative**
 - As of 3:30 pm Monday, August 29, 2005, Escambia River Electric Cooperative is still experiencing scattered outages at this time in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties with approximately 30% of their customers without power.
 - To report an outage, customers should call 1-800-235-3848.
- **Bridges**
 - FDOT's goal is to complete major bridge inspections Monday, August 29, 2005 with the exception of the I-10 bridges.
 - The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) opened one eastbound lane on Highway 90, between Pensacola and Pace tonight.

- The I-10 Escambia Bay bridge closed at 2:15 am on Monday, August 30, 2005 and will remain closed until further notice. Traffic will detour off at either exit 13 (Davis Hwy) or 22 (Avalon Blvd) to Hwy 90
 - The Three-Mile Bridge (Pensacola to Gulf Breeze) closed at 1:15 am Monday, August 30, 2005 and will remain closed until further notice.
 - Garcon Point Bridge reopened at 5:00 pm today.
- **Florida Department of Transportation**
- Due to the closure of the Interstate 10 Bridge, the Florida Department of Transportation is asking motorists traveling I-10 Eastbound to use the following detour:
 - Highway 29 North (Exit 10A) to Highway 4, east to State Road 89, south to State Road 87, south to Highway 90, east to State Road 87, south to Interstate 10.
- **Escambia County School District**
- All public schools, offices and extracurricular activities, including high school open houses, are cancelled for Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
 - Pre-identified storm recovery staff are to report to their assigned work stations on Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
 - All district maintenance personnel should report to work at 7:00 am Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
 - Principals, teachers and school support staff should **not** report to schools on Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
 - The School District Information Hotline is (850) 469-5306 and information will be updated as needed throughout the storm.
 - The “Take Stock in Children” kick-off dinner scheduled for Tuesday, August 30, 2005 has been postponed and will be rescheduled.
- **United Way of Escambia County**
- Volunteers will be needed to assist with recovery through debris removal, damage assessments, and follow-up phone calls. Hours are flexible. If interested in volunteering, please call 471-6697 or 471-6696.
- **State of Florida**
- The Department of Children and Families will resume normal operations tomorrow, August 30, 2005 at noon.
- **Evacuations**
- As of 9:00am August 28, Escambia County officials ordered the residents of Pensacola Beach, Perdido Key, as well as people living in low lying, coastal areas and living in mobile homes and travel trailers to evacuate.
- **Shelters**
- **Status of shelters:**
 - Bellview Elementary, 4425 Bellview Avenue, Pensacola - **Open**
 - Blue Angel Elementary, 1551 Dog Track Road, Pensacola - **Open**

- Carver Century K-8, 440 East Hecker Road, Century - **Closed**
- Ferry Pass Middle, 8355 Yancey Avenue, Pensacola - **Open**
- Molino Park Elementary, 899 Highway 97, Molino - **Open**
- Pensacola Civic Center, 201 East Gregory, Pensacola - **Open**
- Tate High, 1771 Tate Road, Pensacola - **Closed**
- West Florida High School, 2400 Longleaf Drive, Pensacola - **Closed**
- University of West Florida – Building 13 - **Open**
- Special Needs Shelter at Pensacola Junior College – Lou Ross Building - **Open**
- The Pensacola Civic Center is also available as a Host Shelter for travelers. Evacuees from neighboring states are encouraged to take I-110 south to the Civic Center from Interstate 10.
- Population at the public shelters is at **1,008 with 475** of those from out of town and the population at the special needs shelter is at **58 with 7** of those from out of town.
- **County Updates**
 - Those county offices and departments under the **Board of County Commissioners** are closed Tuesday, August 30, 2005. Personnel should call the employee notification number (1-866-699-7572 or (850) 595-4577) for information and assignments.
 - **Supervisor of Elections** offices are closed Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
 - **Escambia County Health Department** is closed Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
 - **All Tax Collector Offices** will be closed on Tuesday, August 30, 2005, but will reopen on Wednesday, August 31, 2005.
 - All Tax Collector Employees must call their employee information line for Tuesday work assignments.
 - The **Clerk of Circuit Court Office** will be closed on Tuesday, August 30, 2005 and will reopen on Wednesday, August 31, 2005.
 - The Extension office will be closed on Tuesday. Normal Operations resume on Wednesday. Extension Agents will perform damage assessments for their program areas such as agriculture, horticulture, marine, etc. The office number is 475-5230.
 - The Escambia County Animal Shelter and Animal Control **will** operate normal hours on Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
 - Escambia County Building Inspections will begin damage assessments on Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
- **City of Pensacola**
 - City offices are closed Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
 - All essential personnel should report on regular schedule and all non-essential personnel should report by noon.
 - Any questions on reporting schedule, please contact supervisor.
 - Garbage service will resume Tuesday, August 30, 2005 on a holiday schedule.

➤ **Pensacola Beach**

George Touart, County Administrator
Sonya M. Smith, Public Information Manager

- The Santa Rosa Island Authority offices are closed Monday, August 29, 2005.
 - Pensacola Beach is closed until further notice.
 - Bob Sikes Bridge is being evaluated by Florida Department of Transportation.
 - When Pensacola Beach is deemed safe, it will open to residents, business owners and contractors with proper identification and credentials.
- **Perdido Key**
- The Perdido Key Chamber office will be closed on Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
 - The White Hurricane Passes are still good.
 - Once Perdido Key is cleared and deemed safe, only residents, business owners and contractors with proper identification and credentials will be allowed onto Perdido Key to secure property.
- **Escambia County Area Transit**
- Bus service will resume Tuesday morning, August 30, 2005.
 - Bus service to shelters was terminated at 4:00 am August 29. Shelter bus service to return those in shelters to their homes will begin once the EOC determines it is safe for individuals to return home.
- **Hospitals**
- West Florida Hospital sustained no structural damage and all services are functional.
 - Sacred Heart Hospital is reporting that its facilities appear to be in good shape with no significant damages and is preparing to return to normal operations.
 - **Elective Surgery and Outpatient Services** - The hospital will resume elective surgeries and outpatient services on Tuesday. The new Airport Blvd. Medical Park had no damage and will reopen Tuesday.
 - **Sacred Heart Medical Group** - Offices of Sacred Heart Medical Group, including the Urgent Care Center, will resume normal operations on Tuesday.
 - **Home Care** - Sacred Heart Home Care plans to resume services on Tuesday.
 - Baptist Health Facilities to resume full services on Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
 - All inpatient and outpatient services at both hospitals will resume operations on Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
 - Baptist Medical Park at Nine Mile Road and University Parkway in Pensacola will reopen Tuesday morning, August 30, 2005. Patients scheduled tomorrow for outpatient procedures and services should keep their appointments. The medical park's Walk-In Care Center and Occupational Health Center also will resume their services.
- **Colleges and Universities**
- Pensacola Junior College will be closed Tuesday, August 30, 2005 in Escambia County and Santa Rosa County.
 - The University of West Florida will be closed Tuesday, August 30, 2005. Classes will resume on Wednesday, August 31, 2005.

➤ **Court System**

- All courts in the First Judicial Circuit will remain closed on Tuesday, August 30, 2005 but will resume on Wednesday, August 31, 2005.
- Jurors that were scheduled to report either Monday or Tuesday should report on Wednesday, August 31, 2005 at 8:00 am to the M.C. Blanchard Judicial Building.
- All parties scheduled for hearings on August 31, 2005 should report as scheduled.
- Persons who missed a court appearance on August 29, 2005 or August 30, 2005 should contact their attorney immediately for rescheduling information. If you are not represented, you should contact the Clerk of Court for rescheduling information.
- If you have internet access, information will be posted on our local web site at www.firstjudicialcircuit.org and will be picked up by Tallahassee for posting at www.flcourts.org.
- Court Administration's primary line (850) 595-4400 will carry "Public Information" recordings regarding closures, temporary relocations, etc.

➤ **Naval Air Station Pensacola**

- NAS Pensacola, NETPDTC, Corry Station and Saufley Field will be closed Tuesday, August 30, 2005 to all employees and personnel, except those key and essential personnel with **Red Stickers** involved in recovery operations.
- NAS Pensacola will return to normal operations on Wednesday, August 31, 2005.
- The Pensacola Naval Hospital is open for regular business.
- All NATTC personnel have been evacuated. Training Air Wing SIX aircraft have been evacuated.
- NETPCTC essential personnel only are to report to work on Monday.
- Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities, Navy Exchange and Commissary are closed until further notice.
- Only Emergency Essential Personnel report to duty on Monday, August 29.
- Corry Station shelters are open for all military personnel and their dependents.
- There is no mandatory evacuation for military personnel living in family housing aboard NAS Pensacola.
- Navy Exchange employees do not report to work on Monday, August 29, 2005.

➤ **ECUA**

- Commercial and residential sanitation services will resume Tuesday, August 30, 2005. Monday routes will be picked up on Tuesday and Tuesday routes will be picked up on Wednesday.
- The ECUA Business Offices will be closed to the public and non-essential personnel on Tuesday, August 30, 2005. Only essential personnel should report to their assigned duty locations.
- Water and sewer systems on Pensacola Beach and Perdido Key were shut off at 8:00 pm tonight, Sunday, August 28, 2005.

➤ **Solid Waste Management**

- Perdido Landfill will open to the public at 10:00 am on Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
- **Energy Services of Pensacola (ESP Gas)**
 - Customers with natural gas emergencies please call 474-5300
- **Parks and Recreation**
 - All of the stalls at the Equestrian Center are full. However, you can tie down your horses in a covered arena or a secured outdoor arena.
 - The phone number at the Equestrian Center is (850) 941-6042.
- **Citizen Information Line**
 - The Citizen Information Line is open and staffing has been increased.
 - The number is (850) 471-6600 if they have questions.
- **County Employee Notification**
 - All Escambia County Road Department Employees are to report at their normal work hours to their normal work site on Tuesday, August 30, 2005.
 - BCC Employees assigned to the employee manpower pool, but not called in to work should report to their normal duty station and normal duty hours on Wednesday, August 31, 2005.
 - Employees assigned Emergency Essential and Emergency Critical should be working as assigned.
- **Additional Information**
 - Remain calm, especially while waiting in fuel lines, at grocery stores, banks, etc.
 - Be sure to store gasoline and diesel fuel in well-ventilated areas, away from heat sources, which could cause it to ignite.
 - Generators should be placed outdoors in a well-ventilated area.
- **Official Website**
 - www.bereadyescambia.com

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