



News Release

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

Hurricane Dennis
News Release #3
Date: July 8, 2005
Time: 12:15

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Escambia County- Prepares for Evacuations

➤ **Evacuations**

- As of 6:00pm this evening, Escambia County will be implementing evacuations in all low lying, coastal areas for a category 4 hurricane. This includes the areas along the waterways, South of Highway 98, Perdido Key, Pensacola Beach and Innerarity Point.
- **This also includes all travel trailers, RV's and mobile homes throughout the county.**
- For a detailed map of the evacuation areas, visit www.bereadyescambia.com.

➤ **Shelters**

- As of 6:00pm the following shelters will open
 - Bellview Elementary, 4425 Bellview Ave
 - Blue Angel Elementary, 1551 Dog Track Road
 - Carver Century, 440 East Hecker Road
 - Ferry Pass Middle, 8355 Yancey Avenue
 - Molino Park Elementary, 899 Highway 97
 - Pensacola Civic Center 201 East Gregory Street
 - Tate High School, 1771 Tate Road
 - University of West Florida, 11000 University Pkwy, Bldg. 13
 - West Florida High School, 2400 Longleaf Drive
- **Special Needs Shelter-** Pensacola Junior College, Lou Ross Building, 1000 College Blvd.

➤ **Escambia County Emergency Operations**

- Officials are monitoring Hurricane Dennis.
- The EOC is fully activated at this time.
- The Board of County Commissioners signed a declaration of state of local emergency during their regularly scheduled business meeting last night. The

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

declaration will allow the county to implement evacuation orders and open shelters.

- We will monitor the conference call from the National Hurricane Center at 10:00am.
- The public will be advised as soon as any decisions are made.

➤ **County Office Closings**

- County offices and facilities will close at noon today.

➤ **Courts**

- All courts in Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, and Walton Counties will be closed on Monday, July 11, 2005 in anticipation of Hurricane Dennis.
- The Information Hotline for the courts is 850/595-4400 in Pensacola. Information will be updated on that line as it becomes available. The courts have also established a web link at www.firstjudicialcircuit.org where updates will also be posted. Persons who miss a court date on Monday should call their attorney's office on Tuesday for rescheduling information. Unrepresented persons should call the respective Clerk of Court when the courts reopen.
- It is anticipated that all courts will re-open for business on Tuesday, July 12, 2005 unless otherwise posted or stated on the Information Hotline.
 - **ESCAMBIA COUNTY JURORS:** All Escambia County jurors scheduled to report for the week of Monday, July 11, 2005 should not report to the M.C. Blanchard Building on Monday. Pay close attention to the news media for updated information and further instructions.
 - **SANTA ROSA COUNTY JURORS:** No jurors are scheduled to report the week of Monday, July 11, 2005. Jurors scheduled to report the following week should pay close attention to news media for updated information and further instructions.
 - **OKALOOSA COUNTY JURORS:** Jurors scheduled for jury duty on Monday, July 11, 2005 should plan to report instead on Wednesday, July 13, 2005. Pay close attention to the news media for updated information and further instructions.
 - **WALTON COUNTY JURORS:** Jurors scheduled to report on Monday, July 11, 2005 are excused. Pay close attention to the news media for updated information and further instructions.

➤ **Sandbags**

- Escambia County Road Department will be making sandbags and sand available at four (4) locations throughout the county beginning at 10am.
 - Baars Field (ballpark) on Sorrento Road
 - Equestrian Center
 - John R. Jones Park (between the baseball and football fields)

➤ Corner of South Plaza and Madrid (North of Muscogee Road)

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- Hours of operation will be today, Friday from 10am to 7pm and tomorrow, Saturday from 7am to 7pm.
- There will be a limit of 25 bags per person.
- Sand will be available for citizens to fill their own bags. Please bring a shovel.

➤ **Equestrian Center**

- There are some outside pens/arena spaces (2) available for horses on a first come first serve basis.
- There is space available in the covered arena as well.
- All covered stalls are full.

➤ **Department of Agriculture**

- The Department of Agriculture is available to assist in moving livestock.
- For more information contact Tim Niemann at (850) 718-0459.

➤ **Perdido Landfill**

- The landfill will close at noon on Saturday and re-open on Monday at 1pm (weather permitting).
- The Solid Waste Department is pulling all their recycling containers. They will be replaced as soon as the storm passes.
- Citizens are encouraged to report anyone who is seen dumping illegally by providing vehicle tag numbers and descriptions to (850) 595-3535.

➤ **Pensacola Beach**

- There are no lifeguards on the beach. They are performing other public safety duties at this time.
- The public is urged to stay out of water.

➤ **Red Cross**

- All Red Cross volunteers and individuals wishing to volunteer their support for Hurricane Dennis should contact their local Red Cross office unless already scheduled for assignments.
- In Escambia County, Red Cross volunteers and those wanting to assist should call (850) 432-7601.

➤ **Additional Information**

- Businesses selling emergency supplies are encouraged to remain open as long as possible.
- All other businesses are encouraged to allow their employees the time and opportunity to prepare their homes and families in advance of the approaching storm.
- 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.

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- Generators should be placed outdoors in a well-ventilated area.

➤ **Citizen Information Line**

- Citizens may call (850) 471-6600 if they have questions about Hurricane Dennis.

➤ **Official Website**

- www.bereadyescambia.com

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