

MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
MISSISSIPPI OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY



NEWS

CONTACT: **AMY CARRUTH, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC INFORMATION**
 JENNIFER GRIFFIN, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(601) 352-9100
April 10, 2003

APRIL 6 STORM DAMAGE UPDATE

(Jackson, Miss.) — The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) is assisting Clarke County officials in monitoring the rising waters of the Chickasawhay River. Clark County officials report that the town of Enterprise has experienced flooding to approximately 40 homes and several businesses.

“We are closely watching the rising river waters in the town of Shubuta,” said MEMA Director Robert Latham. “The citizens of this town have taken precautionary measures to evacuate their homes should there be flooding conditions.”

There are currently shelters open in Madison, Rankin and Clarke counties to assist flood victims. These shelters are:

Canton Community Center, 221 Park Drive	Madison County
Oakdale Baptist Church, Highway 471	Rankin County
Shubuta Volunteer Fire Department, Highway 45 South	Clarke County

All highways are now reopened with the exception of US 80 at the Chunky River and Highway 35 at Walnut Grove where bridges have been destroyed. In addition, Highway 512 near Quitman is closed due to flooding.

MEMA continues to work with municipalities and county emergency management agencies to assess damage to homeowners and businesses in 15 counties across the state. The assessments are first-hand, on-the-ground, surveys by teams of local officials to determine the type and amount of damage the strong storm system on April 6 inflicted on individuals and property.

The preliminary damage reports to MEMA indicate approximately 1,041 homes, 150 mobile homes, 72 apartment complexes, 155 businesses, and 42 agricultural areas were affected by the severe weather, including flooding and tornadoes. The storms caused injuries to nine individuals and contributed to the death of one individual.

The damage report reflected above is as of 3:00 p.m., Thursday, April 10. Local officials will continue to provide daily updates to MEMA as survey teams compile information from homeowners and businesses.

###

“Disaster Preparedness Saves Lives and Property”
Visit us online at www.msema.org