



Harrison County Civil Defense

865-4002

FAX 865-4087

NEWS RELEASE

Linda Rouse, Director

10/2/2002 5:22 PM

Recommended Evacuation

The Harrison County Civil Defense has issued a recommendation for all residents in low-lying areas of Harrison County to evacuate to safe shelter. Residents are strongly urged to seek shelter at a residence out of harms way. This evacuation is recommended for all low-lying areas. Hurricane Lili is expected to make landfall along the northwestern Gulf Coast around 1:00 PM Thursday, October 3, 2002. Residents of the Mississippi Gulf Coast are urged to take necessary precautions for rising waters in low-lying areas and be aware that roads may be cut off by rising water as the storm approaches and makes landfall. Storm impact is expected to occur during a high tide, causing a storm surge of 3 to 5 feet. The Mississippi Gulf Coast front beach, bayous, river areas and along back bay will be impacted by the rising water particularly the areas of extreme eastern Biloxi and western Harrison County, as well as other low lying areas. High winds, expected to reach 40 miles per hour with stronger gusts, will push water inland and cause an elevation of water levels in low lying areas. Conditions are expected to deteriorate in the late afternoon and into the evening of Wednesday, October 2, 2002. In addition, heavy rains are expected to last throughout Thursday, October 3, 2002 with rainfall totals to reach 4 to 8 inches over the next 36 hours.

The following Red Cross General Population Shelters will open at 8:00 P.M. on Wednesday, October 2, 2002.

Donal Snyder Community Center
2520 Pass Road
Biloxi, MS 39531

Good Deeds Community Center
15101 Madison Street
Gulfport, MS 39503

All residents are reminded to bring the items that they will need for comfort for a period of 48 hours. When going to the shelter, residents are directed to bring all medications and personal needs to the shelter. Red Cross Shelters, while adequate, are stocked with minimal supplies. No pets are allowed; pet owners must make plans for the care of their household animals.

The Harrison County Civil Defense reminds all residents that this evacuation is recommended for all low lying areas of Harrison County.

