

STATE JOINT INFORMATION CENTER
HURRICANE LILI INFORMATION
MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



NEWS

CONTACT: **Amy Carruth, Public Relations Director** **(601) 352-9100**

October 3, 2002 Release #1 6:00 a.m.

(Jackson) - The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) is closely monitoring the projected path of Hurricane Lili. The following assistance is being provided to citizens to aid in their safe response to Hurricane Lili.

Impassible Roads in Southwest Harrison County

- The Pass Christian Fire Dept. reports the following roads are flooded at this time:
 - North end of Davis Ave. between the railroad and North St.
 - North end of Clark St. near Henderson Ave.
 - Canal St. off Henderson Ave.
 - Orange St. off Henderson Ave.
 - Parts of the Timber Ridge subdivision
- The Harrison Co. Sheriff’s Dept. reports the following roads in Henderson Point are flooded at this time:
 - 1st Ave
 - 3rd Ave. off Hwy 90
 - First block of Sandy Hook
 - Audubon Lane at Gulf View
 - Ponce de Leon at Magnolia
 - Pall Mall
- As of 4:40 a.m. the Biloxi Police Dept. has reported the following road conditions:
 - Water is flowing onto Howard Ave. by the Palace Casino
 - Crawford St. and Bayview Ave. are not passable by normal vehicles
 - Water at Seymour Ln. and 3rd St. is flowing towards Howard Ave.
 - The water on the east side of Grand Garage (south side of Hwy 90) is about 2 foot deep.
 - Cedar Lake Rd. south of Hwy 67 by bridge and Lil Joe’s is not passable.

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Harrison County State Department of Human Services Offices to Close

- All State of Mississippi Department of Health offices and State Department of Human Services offices in Harrison County will be closed on Thursday, October 3, 2002. Closures will include Hancock County Offices. Offices will re-open as conditions permit.

City of Biloxi Closings

- City of Biloxi offices and facilities -- except for Public Safety and Public Works -- will be closed Thursday, but essential city employees are to report to work Thursday. Biloxi Municipal Court cases scheduled for Thursday have been moved to Thursday, Oct. 24. The Biloxi Fireman's Day Parade and opening of the Firefighters Museum, both scheduled for Saturday, have been postponed.

Harrison County Closings

- All offices of Harrison County will be closed until further notice. All employees are required to call in on daily basis and monitor news for the opening of county offices. All department heads and essential personnel including field personnel are required to report to work as usual. You will be required to either work civil defense operations or an assigned work area.

Please contact civil defense for a volunteer work schedule at 228-865-4002.

Once again, it is extremely important for all department heads and essential personnel to report to civil defense on Thursday morning, October 3, 2002 by 8:00 a.m.

All other employees must keep abreast of the current situation either by phone or by newscast.

- All Harrison County schools and Gulfport City Schools as well as all Catholic schools will be closed on Thursday, October 3, 2002. City offices in Long Beach, Mississippi and Biloxi, Mississippi will be closed on Thursday, October 3, 2002. The Long Beach Senior Citizen Center will be closed on Thursday, October 3, 2002 and will re-open as conditions allow. All residents are reminded that closure of city offices is done as a precaution due to the possibility of high winds and rising water along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Coast Casino's to Close

- The Mississippi Gaming Commission has announced that all Coast Casino's will be closed to the public at 10:00 P.M. on Wednesday, October 2, 2002. This action is taken as a safety precaution since weather conditions are expected to deteriorate before midnight. The date and time of re-opening will be announced later.

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