

May 6, 2014
4:30 p.m.

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Flooding Update #10

County Actions

- The Santa Rosa County Mosquito Department resumed a full fogging schedule on **Monday, May 5**. The spray schedule is available online at <http://santarosa.fl.gov/mosquito/index.cfm>.
- The Gulf Breeze Library is closed until further notice. The parking lot is being used as a staging area for debris by the City of Gulf Breeze.

Safety Information

- Flooded waters can contain dangerous materials including debris, chemicals, pesticides and biological waste from septic tank flooding. All residents are encouraged to stay out of standing flood waters due to health and safety risks. Persons coming in contact with standing flood waters are urged to shower immediately and/or wash hands, feet, or other contact areas with anti-bacterial soap or gel often.
- When cleaning your home, be sure to wear protective equipment such as gloves and boots to avoid direct contact with contaminated water and throw away all food that was touched by flood water including canned food. It can be difficult to throw away items in a home, particularly those with sentimental value. However, saving items that have been soaked by floodwater may be unhealthy. In general, materials that cannot be thoroughly cleaned and dried within 24 to 48 hours should be discarded.
- More safety tips from the Santa Rosa County Department of Health and other flooding related information is available online <http://santarosa.fl.gov/emi>.

Assistance

- The City of Gulf Breeze is placing portable toilets and hand washing stations in four neighborhood intersections starting Wednesday, May 7.
- Residents who have unmet needs such as housing, food, clothing or other essential services, are asked to contact the Citizen Information Center at (850) 983-INFO (4636).
- Residents who need volunteer assistance with their home repairs and cleanup:
 - **Residents south of the Yellow River** please call (850) 490-7399 or visit the Volunteer Reception Center located at the Gulf Breeze United Methodist Church, Fairpoint Campus, 75 Fairpoint Drive in Gulf Breeze from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 - **Residents north of the Yellow River** please contact the United Way of Santa Rosa County at (850) 623-4507
- Farm Share is partnering with Representative Mike Hill and Representative Doug Broxson to sponsor a disaster relief food distribution on Thursday, May 8 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Winn Dixie Parking Lot, 3355 Gulf Breeze Pkwy, Gulf Breeze. Families in need after the devastation of the flood earlier this week will be provided Farm Share food and supply bags free of charge. Each household will receive a variety of fresh produce, canned & dried food, water, juice, paper products, and other needed essentials.
- The Gulf Breeze United Methodist Church Fairpoint Campus, 75 Fairpoint Drive in Gulf Breeze is offering dinner to the community on Wednesday, May 7 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Volunteers

- **Volunteers, both individual and groups, are urgently needed to help with flooding relief duties.**
- Individuals or groups wishing to volunteer:
 - For projects south of the Yellow River please call (850) 490-7406 or visit the Volunteer Reception Center located at the Gulf Breeze United Methodist Church, Fairpoint Campus, 75 Fairpoint Drive in Gulf Breeze to register between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.
 - For projects north of the Yellow River please contact the United Way of Santa Rosa County at (850) 623-4507 or online at www.unitedwaysrc.org.
- It is vital that all volunteers groups working in the area work through the Volunteer Reception Center or United Way. While well-meaning, volunteers not managed and handled efficiently and correctly can do more harm than good. Too many workers, vehicles, and convergent volunteers at the scene of a disaster can create congestion and interfere with response activities, and the need to manage converging resources puts additional strain on emergency response systems. Flood damage can pose unique potential dangers to volunteers who are not specially trained by experienced disaster relief organizations, so it is vital that the volunteers' skills are matched to the volunteer task. It also helps avoid duplication of services and ensures that all impacted areas are prioritized and specific needs addressed.

Donations

- The United Way of Santa Rosa County is the coordinating point for donations in Santa Rosa County.
- **ALL** individuals or groups who would like to make donations should call (850) 623-4507.

Damage Assessments

- **According to the Santa Rosa County Property Appraiser, damage to homes and businesses are estimated at \$8.14 million.**
- **County staff are continuing to assess damage. Preliminary assessments are \$3.9 million for damage to county buildings, roads, drainage and landfill.**
- **The City of Gulf Breeze is currently estimating their damage to roads, drainage, facilities and Tiger Point Golf Course at \$2 million. This figure is expected to increase as assessments continue.**
- Preliminary assessments show the county has met state and federal damage thresholds for individual assistance for residents and businesses, so the assessment process by state, FEMA and local teams has ended. The following numbers were submitted to the state for use in the federal declaration process:
 - Residences – 782 total
 - Affected – 355
 - Minor – 180
 - Major – 212
 - Destroyed – 1
 - Inaccessible - 34
 - Businesses
 - Minor – 16
 - Major – 32
 - Inaccessible – 3
- Residents with flood damage can report damage online including submitting photos at <http://santarosa.fl.gov/EmergencyNEW/WebDamage.cfm> or by calling (850) 983-4636.
- If you have already begun repairs, be sure to take photos of the damage and keep all receipts for any repairs you make. Make sure the date is clearly visible on all receipts.
- Agricultural damage includes:
 - Farm Structures – 5 affected at \$50,000 loss
 - Land Damages – 10,000 acres affected with a \$750,000 loss.
 - Crop Damage
 - Total acres of farmland affected: 55,000 acres.
 - Wheat - 1,153 acres planted and affected with 35% yield loss.

- Oats - 70 acres planted and affected with 35% loss.
- Corn - 700 acres planted and affected with 10% loss.
- Grass (Hay) - 1,500 acres planted and affected with 40% loss.
- Vegetables - 350 acres affected with 10% loss
- Yield losses on cotton and peanuts are anticipated due to delayed planting up to 3 to 4 weeks. Fields will have to dry out and many will have to be reworked to repair soil erosion damage before planting can occur.

Permits & Contractors

- Residents who are making repairs or replacing items may need a building permit for work including but not limited to the foundation, drywall, roofing, electrical, water or gas, or air conditioner/heating. Protect yourself.
- When hiring a contractor be sure to:
 - Obtain more than one bid for the work you want performed.
 - Check our website to ensure they are licensed in Santa Rosa County at <http://data1.santarosa.fl.gov/gopermitslive/>
 - Check the business out with the Better Business Bureau www.bbb.org/northwestern-florida
- Please call Santa Rosa County Development services with questions about contractor or permit requirements, between 7:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at (850) 981-7000.

Roads & Bridges

- Do not remove road barricades on closed roads or bridges. Even after the water has receded, public works crews must complete safety inspections.
- Dangerous road conditions can be reported to the Santa Rosa County Road and Bridge Department at (850) 626-0191.
- Ramps made of road rock have been placed at the following locations by the City of Gulf Breeze: intersection of Shoreline Dr. and South Sunset Blvd., Shoreline Drive and Camelia St. and Shoreline Dr. and Navarre St.
 - The ramps were constructed to protect discharge hoses that are being used to drain the flooded areas in the center of the city. The ramps are marked with temporary traffic warning devices and drivers should reduce speed and use caution when traversing the ramps.
 - Residents should not tamper with the flood pumps. The pumps have been placed in appropriate locations to alleviate flooding, or assist on repairs.
- **Closed Roads**
 - Stevens Drive at Alexander Ave.
 - Conecuh Street between Madison and Monroe
 - Gilmore Drive, from Hampton St. to Navarre St.
 - Washington Ave
 - Dracena Way
 - Futura Drive
 - York Street, from Hampton St. to Navarre St.
 - Bayview at Crestview Lane
 - Broad Street, between Berry Hill Road and Madison Street in Milton. The detour is Conecuh Street
 - Bryant Bridge Road
 - East Bay Boulevard between Shadow Lakes Sub and Zilla Street in Navarre. The detour for those east of Zilla Street is Bergren Road
 - Holley Club Road in Navarre
 - Norman Riley Road, in the Blackwater State Forest, is closed between Bud Bass Road and Bryant Bridge Road
 - Sherwood Dive at Codell Street in Holley by the Sea is closed due to damage. The detour will be around the block.
 - Village Parkway – open to local traffic only

Water Quality Advisory

- Due to heavy rainfall in the past several days that may have contaminated recreational water ways, the Florida Department of Health in Santa Rosa County is advising residents to avoid water related activities, including swimming, fishing, and boating, for the next several days.
- Advisory signs will be posted in the areas where the health department conducts Healthy Beaches water sampling; Navarre Park at Highway 98, Navarre Beach West, Navarre Beach Pier, Juana's Beach, and Shoreline Park. Signs will remain in place until water samples indicate that bacteria levels have returned to normal.

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