

From: Veldran, Katherine <KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov>
To: Veldran, Katherine <KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 10/14/2016 3:14:00 PM
Subject: Hurricane Matthews Recovery Status Update

Please see the information below. We have provided a brief update of Hurricane Matthew recovery operations.

RIVER FLOODING (PEE DEE):

Citizens in the Pee Dee area should monitor the rising water levels and should evacuate immediately if asked by local law enforcement. Some rivers are expected to flood beyond the levels reached during the 2015 October Flood or Hurricane Floyd in 1999. The following rivers have crested or are expected to crest within the next week:

- Waccamaw River (Horry and Georgetown Counties);
- Little Pee Dee River (Marlboro, Dillon, and Marion Counties);
- Black River (Lee, Sumter, Clarendon, and Williamsburg Counties).

POWER OUTAGES:

To date, there are 42,736 power outages, down from a peak of 861,706 outages, a 95.04% restoration rate statewide since the beginning of the Hurricane Matthew event. Power outages may last for several days or weeks as utility crews have to navigate impassable roadways due to fallen trees or flooded roads. Do not use generators indoors. Running generators in homes, garages, or other closed areas can lead to increased levels of carbon monoxide, which can be fatal. Residents should contact their individual electric provider for additional information.

ROAD & BRIDGE CLOSURES:

Currently, there are 182 total road and bridge closures – 155 roads and 27 bridges – a 62.162% reduction in closures from a peak of 481 closures during the Hurricane Matthew event. To view a map of road and bridge closures, visit <http://www.scdot.org>. Approximately 1,600 maintenance personnel from DOT are working around the clock to clear or repair our roads and bridges. In addition, the DPS Highway Patrol has answered approximately 5,079 calls for assistance from motorists since the beginning of the Hurricane Matthew event, and of those, 2,050 were collisions (tracking stopped due to return to normal operation on October 12, 2016 at 4:00PM).

OPEN SHELTERS:

As of this morning, there are 11 general population shelters with 372 occupants and 3 special medical need shelters with 15 occupants open in the state. This is down from a peak of 77 shelters and 6733 occupants during Hurricane Matthew. Visit www.scemd.org for an updated list of open shelters. Please note that shelters cannot accommodate specific dietary restrictions, including allergies, so individuals should pack special food or other essentials accordingly.

FEDERAL DISASTER DECLARATIONS:

To date, the federal government has issued Major Disaster Declarations for 13 counties, which means that local governments and certain nonprofits in those counties can seek reimbursements for costs associated with debris removal or emergency protective measures: Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Darlington, Dillon, Dorchester, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Jasper, Marion, and Williamsburg Counties.

Additional counties or categories of reimbursable costs may be added at a later date, depending on the results of Preliminary Damage Assessments as conducted by local, state, and federal representatives. Currently, assessments are ongoing in 25 counties: Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Beaufort, Berkeley, Calhoun, Charleston, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Colleton, Darlington, Dillon, Dorchester, Florence, Georgetown, Hampton, Horry, Jasper, Orangeburg, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Richland, Sumter, and Williamsburg Counties. Note: At this time, no South Carolina resident is eligible to apply for Individual Assistance from FEMA. For additional information, visit www.fema.gov.

Katherine F. Veldran
Deputy Chief of Staff, Legislative Affairs | Office of Governor Nikki Haley
C: 803-767-7583
KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov

