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Date: 10/9/2016 9:19:56 PM
Subject: updated draft

COLUMBIA, S.C. – Residents affected by hurricane Matthew should continue monitoring local news sources and verified, trusted social media feeds for the most up to date information about communities and what to do when returning home.

Evacuations and Returning Home

At the request of local officials, evacuation orders for zones in Georgetown and Horry counties are still in effect. Local emergency managers are working to make the communities safe for residents to return,

Evacuation orders have been lifted for Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton (with the exception of Edisto Beach) Dorchester and Jasper counties. Residents should remember the effects of Hurricane Matthew will continue for days, if not weeks.

Local public safety officials manage the entry to previously evacuated communities. Residents should follow the directions provided by county and local governments to safely return to their homes.

Traffic/Road Conditions Upon Re-Entry

Residents should return home only after the evacuation order has been lifted by local and state officials. You should prepare for extended travel times and congestion along Interstate 26, U.S. 176 and U.S. 178. For real-time traffic information, visit scdot.org

Flooding

State and local officials are monitoring the Edisto, Little Pee Dee, and Waccamaw Rivers, among others.

In Colleton County, the Edisto River is expected to crest on Wednesday at 14.5 feet. As water rises, conditions around the river will become hazardous. If you are near the Edisto River, prepare for flooding and secure property now. Make plans to prepare for an evacuation ahead of Wednesday.

In Horry County, state and local officials are monitoring the Little Pee Dee and Waccamaw Rivers. As of Sunday morning, the Waccamaw River was at 14 feet. Officials expect the river to crest at 16.7 feet by the end of this week. The Little Pee Dee River in Galivants Ferry was at 11 feet Sunday morning. It is expected to crest at 13.1 feet. Both of these rivers will be higher than the water level recorded during the October 2015 floods. Take precaution now to secure belongings if you live near these rivers.

Goods & Price Gouging

Residents can expect some difficulties finding basic supplies upon re-entry. It's not that these goods aren't available, but it's difficult to transport them to stores. If you suspect price-gouging, report all instances to the South Carolina Attorney General's office. Visit <http://www.scag.gov/archives/29112> for information.

Power Outages & Generators

There are currently more than 600,000 people without power across the state. Power crews will assess electrical damages in certain areas once evacuation orders have been lifted and they can safely travel to inspection sites. For questions regarding power, please contact your local power provider.

Do not operate generators out of garages as that increases the chances of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Boil Water Advisories

For information on boil water advisories, visit the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) website, www.scdhec.gov.

Curfews

The following counties continue to be under curfews:

- Colleton County & Dorchester County: until further notice
- Beaufort County: 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.
- Jasper County: 8 p.m. to sunrise
- Williamsburg County: 8 p.m. to 8 a.m.
- Charleston County: 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. for unincorporated areas of the county including the cities of N. Charleston and Charleston. The Town of Mount Pleasant's curfew is from midnight to 6 a.m.
- Florence County: 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. for the next three days
- Myrtle Beach: 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.;
- Georgetown: 8 p.m. to 7 a.m.
- Berkeley County: midnight to 6 a.m.

Airports & Airlines

For questions regarding airports and flight schedules, please contact the appropriate airport or airline.

Ways to Volunteer and Donate

Volunteer Services

To volunteer your services, please visit the United Way Association of South Carolina website. Their "Get Connected" portal matches volunteers with local volunteer opportunities across the State. Additionally, you can contact any of the SC Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (SCVOADs) listed below to find local volunteer opportunities.

Clothing

We are not directly accepting used clothing items. However, we are requesting that any in-state clothing donations be taken to a charitable organization within your community. These organizations already have the resources to make the best use of clothing donations.

Food

We are requesting that South Carolina citizens take collected food items to local food banks or other charitable organizations. These local food banks and organizations work with us and will distribute food to the victims in South Carolina and other impacted areas. If you prefer, you may make a monetary donation to the South Carolina Food Bank Association via their website at <http://www.scfoodbankassociation.org/>.

If you will be conducting a food drive for disaster relief, please contact the South Carolina Food Bank Association to get information on most-needed items.

As of 7:00 p.m. Sunday, October 9, 2016:

South Carolina agencies of the state Emergency Response Team are fully engaged in response, rescue and recovery operations.

The South Carolina Emergency Operations Center remains fully activated at Operating Condition 1, the highest of five response levels.

Utilities report approximately 600,000 power outages statewide.

The S.C. Dept. of Social Services is currently operating 57 emergency shelters for 2537 evacuees statewide.

State Fire reports 28 rescue teams are deployed throughout South Carolina. Water rescues are ongoing in Horry and Georgetown Counties.

The S.C. Department of Public Safety reports troopers have responded to 1038 calls for service.

SCDPS confirms three storm related fatalities, 2 of which occurred in Florence County and one occurred in Richland County.

2842 S.C. National Guardsman remain on state active duty.

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"South Carolina's emergency management program minimizes loss of life and property damage from all-hazard incidents."