

# **News Release**

October 6, 2015 Release Number: 3968

## Charleston County Severe Weather Update #13

<u>Charleston County Government</u> would like to share information regarding Federal assistance in relation to the severe flooding incident. Early registration is open for the State of South Carolina for flood damage, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Currently, Charleston, Dorchester, Georgetown, Horry, Lexington, Orangeburg, Richland and Williamsburg counties are on the list of eligible counties for federal declaration for Individual Assistance. This list may later include other counties based on damage assessment reports. If your county is on the current list, you may go ahead and complete an application now. Please visit the FEMA website listed below and apply online to start your application. When asked to choose a disaster, select Disaster has occurred, but not in the list. Your application will be processed if and when a declaration is signed. You may also call the phone number below.

- <u>http://www.disasterassistance.gov/</u>
- 800-621-3362

Those without Internet access, Charleston County Public Libraries have computers with Internet access that may be utilized. Please note, two of the 16 library branches are not open Tuesday, Oct. 6 due to flooding damage. Those include the West Ashley Branch in South Windermere and the POE Branch on Sullivan's Island. Please see attachment for list of library branches.

A local disaster recovery center will be opened at a later date. More information will be provided about this as it becomes available.

Charleston County is also communicating with our tri-county partners to set up a volunteer coordination effort to match needs and volunteers. We will utilize our Citizen Emergency Information Line at **843-746-3900** as this effort evolves and provide updates as needed.

#### **OPCON Level:**

The Emergency Operations Center remains at Operational Condition (OPCON) 1, which means a disaster or emergency situation is in effect. It is the highest state of emergency operations. For definitions of all OPCON levels, visit our site here: <a href="http://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/emergency-management/opcon.php">http://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/emergency-management/opcon.php</a>.

#### **Additional County Information:**

Charleston County crews have been evaluating the damage to County roads since the rain began Friday, October 2. The County is compiling the information collected from the inspections and will begin the process of repairing damaged roads once conditions allow.

Currently, we anticipate using County, municipalities, state and contracted crews to repair roads as quickly as possible. However, we ask for the public's patience due to the high volume of work due to the severe weather. We anticipate issuing a schedule for repairs once evaluations have been completed. If you would like to report a damaged County road, please contact **843-202-7600**.

- Sandbags are available to ALL citizens and can be picked up from our service location at 617 Riverland Drive on James Island.
- Main Road remains closed off of Highway 17.

- The Convenience Centers and Bees Ferry Landfill are open. Recycling collection resumed today, Tuesday, Oct.
  6.
- The County offices were opened today, Tuesday, Oct. 6.
- The County's Judicial Center courthouse hearings will not be held today, Tuesday, Oct. 6.

Please note the following shelters available:

• Charleston County Sheriff's Office Al Cannon Detention Center Work Camp building is open as a shelter, operated by the Sheriff's Office. The work camp is located at the corner of Bridge View Drive and Leeds Avenue in North Charleston. Pets are permitted in the shelter along with their owner.

You may stay updated by downloading the free EMD app by searching CC EMD in your carrier's app store. Updates will also be posted on our Facebook, Twitter and YouTube pages.

### DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

Below is contact information for citizens to call and report damage from the severe weather based on where they live:

If you are in the following municipalities call:

- Town of Kiawah 843-768-9166
- City of Charleston
  843-724-7320
- Isle of Palms 843-886-9912
- Town of Mount Pleasant 843-884-5184
- Sullivan's Island 843-883-3198
- City of North Charleston 843-740-2564

If you are in the Unincorporated Charleston County or one of the following municipalities call 843-202-6930.

- Town of Awendaw
- Town of Hollywood
- Town of James Island
- Town of Lincolnville
- Town of McClellanville
- Town of Meggett
- Town of Ravenel
- Town of Rockville
- Town of Seabrook Island

For updates, visit the Charleston County website or follow us on our social media platforms:

- Visit our website: <u>www.charlestoncounty.org</u>
  - Emergency Management Department: <u>http://www.facebook.com/EMDChasCo</u>



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- Written by Charleston County Public Information Office -