

News Release

Sept. 1, 2016 Release Number: 4072

Charleston County Tropical Storm Hermine Update #1

<u>Charleston County's Emergency Management Department (EMD)</u> is monitoring the threat of Tropical Storm Hermine in the Charleston County region. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will move to OPCON 4 at 5:00 p.m. today. The EOC has currently not been activated. However, we have staff ready in case the weather situation changes. Staff has participated in daily conference calls with state and local agencies to remain up-to-date on the potential impacts.

The following government operations will be closed tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 2: (non-essential employees)

- Charleston County Government
- Charleston County Libraries
- Charleston County Courthouse

Limited operations:

- Charleston Center (DAODAS) will be providing the Opioid Treatment Programs until 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 2.
- Bees Ferry Landfill will be open, but convenience centers will be closed
- There will be one session of Bond Court (time to be later determined)

Related storm information:

Charleston County downtown garages at Cumberland and at King and Queen Street will be available for free parking to citizens who live in flood prone areas beginning at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1, 2016. Cars must be removed by noon on Saturday, September 3.

Municipal sandbag operations:

- City of Charleston is distributing sandbags at the Fire Stations on Milford Street and Bees Ferry Road. The City
 has a limited supply of sandbags and is asking people to procure them from commercial vendors first. There is a
 limit of 15 sandbags that will be issued.
- North Charleston residents can obtain sandbags starting Thursday, Sept. 1 from the North Charleston Public Works facility at 5800 Casper Padgett Way. Proof of North Charleston residency must be provided. There is a limit of 10 sandbags that will be issued.
- Isle of Palms has filled sandbags available for pickup Sept. 1 at the City Parking Lot on Pavilion Drive. No proof of
 residency is required.
- City of Hanahan has sand and sandbags available to residents at City Hall located 1255 Yeamans Hall Road

Latest information from National Weather Service:

- **WINDS:** Winds could reach as high as 35 to 45 mph with gusts to 50 or 55 mph possible, mainly Friday and Friday evening. Winds this strong could cause minor damage to buildings, and weak trees may be damaged or come down. Isolated power outages may occur.
- HEAVY RAIN: A moderate threat exists for heavy rain, especially late Thursday Night and Friday. Flash flooding
 is possible. Creeks and streams could flood roads and vulnerable buildings and businesses as a result of four to
 eight inches of rain with isolated higher amounts.
- **TORNADOES:** There is risk for isolated tornadoes, especially late Thursday Night and Friday.
- MARINE: Dangerous conditions for marine interests, with seas up to 10 to 15 feet and winds gusts up to 55 knots

are possible, mainly Friday and Friday evening. Small craft should remain in port.

- **BEACH/SURF HAZARDS:** High rip current risk in South Carolina today and enhanced risk is expected again Friday. Elevated surf and areas of beach erosion will also occur.
- **STORM SURGE:** Little to no impacts, with 1 to 2 feet inundation possible, especially Friday.

Current Charleston County Hurricane Information: <u>http://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/emergency-</u> management/hurricane.php#defining

Definition of OPCON levels: <u>http://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/emergency-management/opcon.php</u>

Download the Charleston County EMD App for the latest updates by searching CC EMD in your carrier's app store.

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>



- Written by Charleston County Public Information Office -