



News Release

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MEDIA CONTACT

Shawn R. Smetana, Public Information Officer
Phone: (843) 958-4007/Fax: (843) 958-4004
Email: ssmetana@charlestoncounty.org

Charleston County Hurricane Matthew Update # 7

Charleston County Government has announced its reentry plan following the lifting of Gov. Nikki Haley's evacuation order for Hurricane Matthew. At 10 a.m. residents were allowed to return to Charleston County. However, citizens are asked to be patient as they return since there may still be water on roadways, power outages and debris.

Damage assessment crews were dispatched this morning and Public Works crews have begun debris cleanup. The County has moved to OPCON 3 and is scaling back staffing at the Emergency Operations Center. Charleston County has begun bus transportation to transport citizens who were in the shelters back to their pick-up points.

According to the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) healthcare facilities have seen an increase in carbon monoxide poisoning requiring advanced care due to operating generators in enclosed spaces. Carbon monoxide poisoning is a serious medical condition that can lead to death. DHEC advises people should not operate generators in enclosed spaces to include garages, inside your home or under raised homes.

County offices will be closed on Monday, Oct. 10. The closure also includes:

- Charleston County Public Library branches
- Bond Court will be held Sunday, Oct. 9 at 2 p.m. and Monday, Oct. 10 at 10 a.m.
- The Bees Ferry Landfill will be open on Monday, Oct. 10. Recycling collection will be delayed by one business day. Convenience centers schedule will be announced.
- Downtown Courthouse operations for non-essential personnel will be closed Monday, Oct. 10.
- Citizens called to jury duty on Monday, Oct. 10 should not report to the courthouse.
- The Charleston Center (DAODAS) is open and operating today. Clients in the Opioid Treatment Program downtown are asked to call 843-958-3300 for assistance.
- The Charleston County Council meeting, which was originally scheduled for Tuesday, October 4 has been rescheduled for 5 p.m. on Thursday, October 13. We will also hold the regularly scheduled Tuesday, October 18 County Council meeting as usual.

The Citizen's Information Line remains staffed until 8 p.m. Citizens can still leave a message, which will be returned the following morning.

Citizen Info Line: (843) 746 – 3900
TTY (843) 746 - 3911
Spanish / Español: (843) 746 – 3909

Here are some important numbers from the storm period:

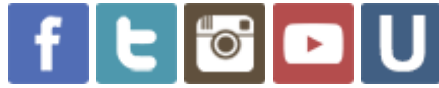
- Charleston County's Citizen Information Line received 5,510 calls between Tuesday, Oct. 4 and Sat. Oct. 8.
- The 9-1-1 Consolidated Dispatch Center received 1,547 calls between Oct. 8 and Oct. 9.
- 13,600 law enforcement/fire/EMS dispatches between Oct. 5 and Oct. 9.
- There were 354 storm-specific 9-1-1 calls between Oct. 5 and Oct. 9.

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

For information on Charleston County Government news and services, the public can:

- Visit our website: www.charlestoncounty.org

- Emergency Management Department: <http://www.facebook.com/EMDChasCo>



- Prepared by the Public Information Officer -