



Shelby County Office of Preparedness

News Update Emergency Operations Center

5/5/10
Memphis, TN
4:00 p.m.

“There are a lot of people out there still in need,” stated Bob Nations, Jr., Shelby County Office of Preparedness HLS/EMA Director. “The EOC will remain at full activation until we have recovered.”

Shelby County Office of Preparedness Mobile Command Center, stationed in Millington to facilitate communications and coordinate resources, will remain until the area stabilizes.

Flood- Related Fatality: Memphis Police Officer, Major Vernell Stepter, reported the first flood-related fatality for Shelby County. The body of Terrance Williams, 32, was found dead today near the Parkview Apartments. It is believed that he had abandoned his car in high flood waters. Mr. Williams was reported missing Saturday morning.

Disaster Declaration: Damage assessment teams have completed their surveys. The projected expenses associated with these damages have been tallied and a preliminary report was submitted to the West Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) today. Shelby County has not received a federal disaster declaration as of today.

Flood Warnings: The National Weather Service in Memphis has continued the flood warning for the **Mississippi River at Memphis**. At 10:00 a.m. today the stage was 27.2 feet with minor flooding expected. Flood stage is 34.0 feet. The river is expected to rise above flood stage by Sunday and continue to rise to 34.5 feet on Monday. Citizens are advised to stay tuned to NOAA weather radio and / or TV for information. The **Wolf River in Germantown** is no longer under a flood warning. The river crested at 24.02 feet at 2:15 p.m. May 4, 2010. At 11:15 am today the river fell below flood stage at 20.49 feet. The danger of flooding homes, businesses and roads has passed.

Debris Removal / Solid Waste: Citizens are asked to move debris to curbside for pickup. Solid waste pick up has begun in Millington. For the Waverly Farms subdivision in unincorporated Shelby County, solid waste clean up will begin soon.



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Health Concerns: The Memphis and Shelby County Health Department is available to advise citizens on safe debris removal. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at www.cdc.gov, the United States Environmental Protection Agency at www.epa.gov and FEMA at www.fema.gov are valuable information resources.

Millington Update: Mutual Aid Agreements with Shelby County and other municipalities are helping to provide Millington with additional resources, such as heavy equipment to remove debris. Millington Police officers have increased patrols in the area and have begun distributing bottled water and juice to residents. From 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Millington residents (**only**) may call 901.872.2211 for flood-related issues and call 901.872.3333 for non-emergency issues. More information may be found at www.millingtontn.gov. Millington City Hall is open to citizens wishing to stop by.

American Red Cross: Eight Emergency Response Vehicles (ERVs) from North and South Carolina are out in the flooded areas providing food and water for victims.

Waverly Farms Subdivision Update: Curbside debris pickup will begin soon. The Shelby County Sheriff's Office continues to provide security with routine patrols.

Public Works / Roads and Bridges: State of Tennessee bridge inspectors have arrived to check the extent of damage to the Raleigh Millington Bridge at Big Creek.

Shelby County Road Closures:

- Sullivan, Brunswick (between Tracy and Idaville)
- Osborn town (between Godwin and Moose)
- Raleigh-Millington at Loosahatchie River

City of Memphis Road Closures:

- James Road
- Hawkins Mill
- Egypt Central

Shelters: The First Baptist Church at 5010 West Union Road, Millington, TN 38053 remains open as an American Red Cross Shelter. Americorp Vista volunteers are presently lending assistance. Health Department nurses are on site during the day to address medical issues. The Shelby County Sheriff's Office is providing security. There are 67 evacuees at the shelter. The church will be closed as a shelter by this weekend. The evacuees will be moved to alternative housing at that time.



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Power Outages: MLGW reports that electrical power was been restored to all customers affected by flooding. 300 residential gas meters that were submerged in flood waters have been inspected and 50 of them have been turned back on, with 50 more waiting for inspection. The remaining two hundred gas meters are located in the Shady Homes subdivision, which is not inhabited at this time.

**The next EOC briefing will be Thursday afternoon, May 6, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.
The Press is welcome.**

(End of Release)