



Storm & Flood Preparedness

2006

INFORMATION TO HELP YOU MINIMIZE RISK TO LIFE AND PROPERTY

Don't be scared, just be prepared

OK, so you've survived Hurricane Katrina, the worst storm to ever strike the United States. With everything that you and your fellow Biloxians have been through since Aug. 29, what could you see this hurricane season that you haven't seen before?

Katrina, some might say, was a once-in-a-lifetime event. Just like Camille was.



With Katrina, we've shown that we can survive anything that comes our way, right? And those of us who have been through both Katrina and Camille should be even more confident and secure, right? We've passed the test, right? Nothing could be further from the truth.

We face an entirely different set of challenges

this hurricane season. The challenges we face are like the storm itself – unprecedented. Thousands of our residents and volunteers are in vulnerable trailers or campers throughout our city. Although we've hauled off the vast majority of Katrina's debris, a significant amount of unseen rubble remains in storm drains underneath city streets, causing street flooding in even minimal rainfall. And, of course, any mandatory evacuation would be restricted to two of the three operating bridges over the Bay of Biloxi.

Here's the message I have for you: This is not the time to be scared. It's the time to be prepared.

Over the past several months, as we've dealt with the day-to-day issues of our recovery, we've also had to draft new plans of action and contingencies to address a host of issues.

This newsletter is part of the city's continuing outreach effort to educate residents about the dangers of storm and flooding, and help you minimize the threat to you, your family and your property. Although hurricane season runs from June 1 to Nov. 30 each year, torrential downpours and flooding know no season.

As a resident of Biloxi, you have a responsibility to do your part. Read the stories in this newsletter. Heed the advice. Prepare a personal storm plan for you and your family, and consider contingencies to deal with an array of scenarios you may face.

As your mayor, I'm proud of the resolve and resilience that you and your fellow residents of Biloxi have demonstrated since Aug. 29. We've come too far and made too much progress – and we have too promising of future – to lower our guard at this point.

God bless you and God bless Biloxi.

A.J. Holloway
Mayor
July 6, 2006

Biloxi City Council:

George Lawrence • William "Bill" Stallworth
Charles T. Harrison Jr. • Mike Fitzpatrick • Tom Wall
Edward "Ed" Gemmill • David Fayard

The end of an era

The City of Biloxi and Cable One in August will lower the curtain on what had become one of the city's most successful tools in communicating to the public the dangers of storms and flooding. The annual telecast of "A Lady Called Camille" will be no more after this year. In fact, this year's telecast, which Cable One will present Aug. 17, will again include a video introduction that was taped at the Camille memorial in August 2005 and was aired a mere 12 days before Katrina. Read more on Page 4.

Warnings to come earlier this season

Biloxi was better prepared for storms and flooding in 2005 than at any other time in the history of the city, but the storm-devastated city faces a host of new issues this hurricane season, which means it's vitally important for residents to have their personal storm plan and hurricane kits in place.

Mayor A.J. Holloway says that with more than 2,000 trailers and campers temporarily housing residents and thousands of volunteers in town, having a timely flow of storm and flood information will be vital this hurricane season. Additionally, Holloway said, residents should expect to see earlier-than-usual recommendations regarding evacuations of low-lying areas.

"We told the national media repeatedly that Katrina wasn't our first rodeo, but we were hoping that it would be the largest we'd ever see," Holloway recently told a group of two dozen key city department heads and mid-level managers in one of a series of storm preparation meetings. "We all know it won't be our last, though. I'm proud of all the work that you and all residents of Biloxi have done and continue to do. Now, I'm telling you to get ready again."

The most important thing this season, Holloway said, will be providing timely evacuation information to the public.

"If we're in the probability cone," he said, "people should expect to see a recommended evacuation announcement 72 hours out, a mandatory evacuation for Zone A and low-lying areas 48 hours out, and a mandatory evacuation for Zone B 36 hours out."

If an evacuation order is given, no temporary trailers will be allowed on roadways. Said Holloway: "With the Biloxi-Ocean Springs bridge out for this hurricane season, we're limited on the number of evacuation routes, and we don't want these trailers holding up traffic. They'll remain where they are."

As many as five shelters could open in Biloxi, but the number and location of those shelters would depend on the projected path and strength of the storm. Public transportation would be announced for those without a means of travel to out-of-town shelters. Additionally, any contraflow plans for traffic on major roadways would be announced earlier than usual.

"People won't have to be told twice to evacuate," Holloway declared, "but it's vital that the word go out earlier, considering the many factors we face."

Holloway and Director of Administration David Staehling said that the city was better prepared than at any other time when Katrina struck Aug. 29.

"We had our temporary debris removal contract in place before the storm, we hit the ground running on that front, and, of course, we had the \$10 million business-interruption insurance policy in effect, too," Staehling said. "We look to have all of those things in place again this year, although we may have difficulty getting the business interruption policy for another \$92,000 this year."

During the city's recent series of storm preparation meetings, city personnel reviewed plans for staging emergency vehicles and heavy equipment in safer areas, arranging for post-storm fuel and other supplies, and updating contact information for key personnel. Evacuation routes using only two of three bridges available on the Biloxi peninsula also was discussed.

The city also conducted its annual storm-preparation meeting with key personnel from casino resorts, updating contact information and emergency procedures.



What you need to know

Residents of Biloxi can plan on seeing a constant flow of information regarding weather bulletins and advice this hurricane season.

Among the biggest revisions this year is a plan for earlier warnings.

Key timelines to remember:

Recommended evacuations:
If Biloxi is in the probability cone, expect to see a recommended evacuation announcement 72 hours before expected landfall.

Mandatory evacuation for Zone A and low-lying areas:
If Biloxi is in the probability cone, expect to see a mandatory evacuation order for Zone A and low-lying areas 48 hours before expected landfall. At this point, casino resorts are expected to close.

Mandatory evacuation for Zone B:
If Biloxi is in the probability cone, expect to see a mandatory evacuation order for Zone B 36 hours before expected landfall.

(To see evacuation zones and evacuation routes, see map on Page 2)

Etc.: Information also will be available via city e-news, and through a recorded message on the City of Biloxi Storm Info Line, which is at 435-6300.

Do you have flood insurance?

Some homeowners may have been required to buy flood insurance when they obtained a mortgage or home-improvement loan.

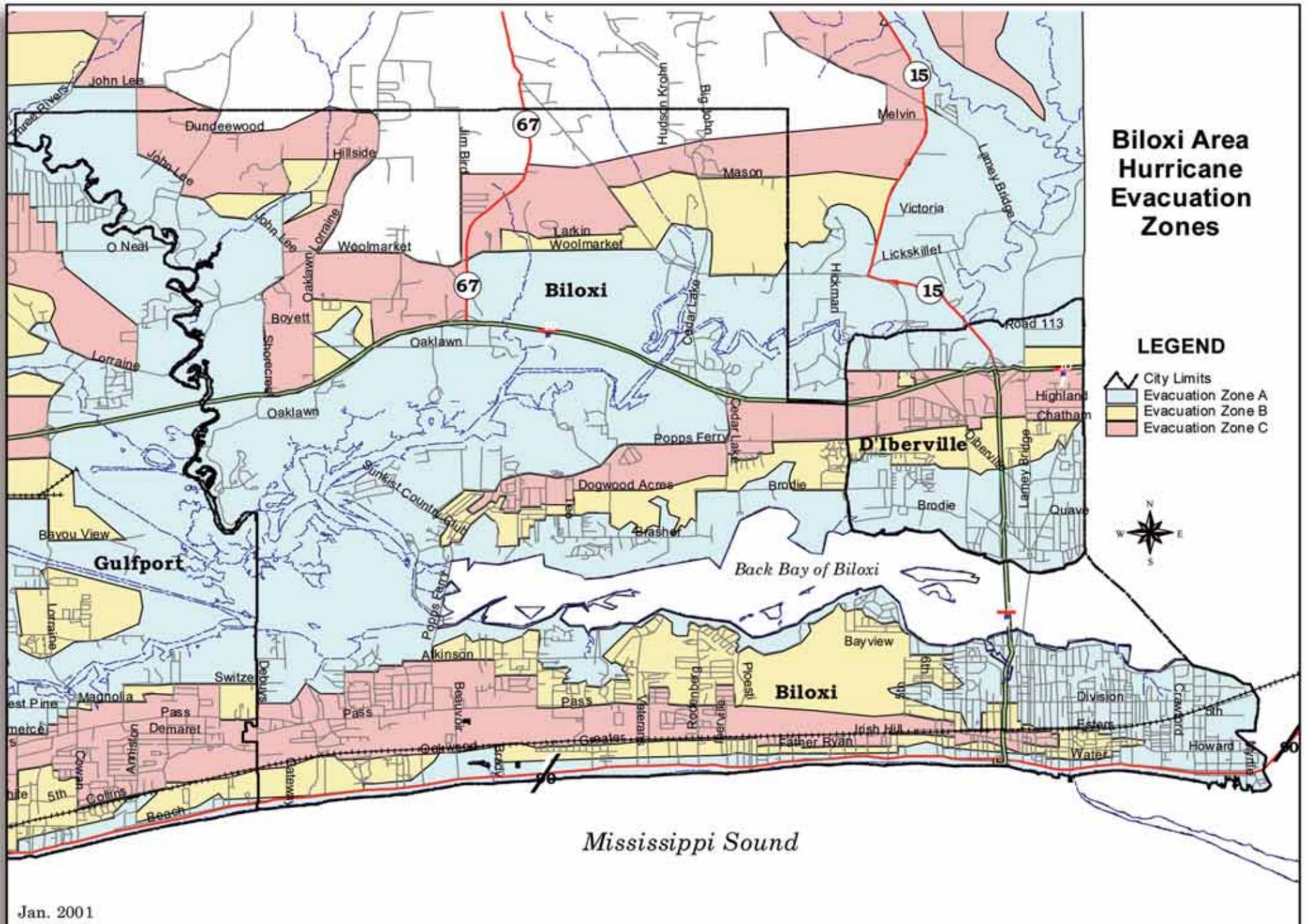
However, in many cases, these policies cover only the structure and not your possessions. You can protect your home and contents through the National Flood Insurance Program, in which the City of Biloxi participates.

Local insurance agents can sell a flood-insurance policy separate from your homeowners or windstorm policy.

These policies are regulated by the federal government. Any agent can sell a policy and all agents must charge the same rates, which are set nationally. Your rates will not change even if you file a claim.

There is a 30-day waiting period before the policy becomes effective.

Contact your insurance agent to determine what type of coverage you have.



Think ahead on evacuations, storm shelters

One of the toughest decisions that residents may have to make on when a storm approaches is whether they should evacuate their property and possessions for either a local shelter or out-of-town accommodations.

Depending on the severity of the storm, that decision can be made for those in low-lying areas: local authorities may order a mandatory evacuation.

In Biloxi, as many as six hurricane shelters can be activated in times of peril, but residents need to be aware of several factors if they are considering seeking refuge in a shelter.

The decision to open a shelter is usually based on the intensity of a storm and where it is expected to make landfall. Local Emergency Management leaders make the decision to open shelters in coordination with the American Red Cross, and the public is notified through

the media. In many cases, elementary schools are used for shelters, which are manned by Red Cross workers and public safety officers.

And the shelter sites can vary for year to year and storm to storm.

“The category of storms and the direction they are coming from are just a couple of the considerations when determining which shelters will be used,” Biloxi Emergency Management coordinator Linda Atterberry says. “Things like tides are also a consideration, so the locations of shelters and when they are activated are made on a case-by-case basis.”

If you think you may seek refuge in a shelter, some points to consider:

- Bring enough food and water for at least the first day. Bring your own blankets and other personal

needs. Cots cannot be guaranteed. No pets, firearms, alcohol or tobacco products are allowed.

- Public transit systems – buses and taxis – will stop operating when sustained winds reach 35 mph.
- If you have an infant, bring an adequate supply of diapers and formula.
- If you or a member of your family is on a special diet, bring the necessary food.
- If you are on prescription medication, try to have a two-week supply of medication.

If you’re thinking about evacuating, be familiar with evacuation routes. Traffic may be delayed by bridges opening to marine traffic. Bridges, by the way, will not open for marine traffic when sustained winds reach 35 mph.

Bag those leaves and trimmings after yard work

Chances are, you’ve seen it done or even done it yourself: You cut your lawn, rake up the trimmings and pile them near the curb in front of your home. Or, you’ll sweep the trimmings into the street, where you hope they’ll be carried away by the wind.

These two scenarios result in one of the biggest causes of flooding in the city – blocked storm drains. These careless or unthinking actions negate the millions of dollars in improvements that the city is making citywide to drainage systems.

Piling leaves at the curb or sweeping trimmings into the street means that they will eventually find their way into the city’s storm drains. Either bag the leaves for pickup,

take them to a neighborhood dumpster or compost them. A stopped-up storm drain or ditch cannot carry run-off water as it is intended to do. When it rains, that water can flood streets, your property or your neighbor’s property.

It’s actually a violation of city ordinance to dump any material into storm drains, ditches, culverts, streams or waterways. (Sec. 9-1-15, Code of Ordinances, 1992). If you see anyone dumping debris into storm drains, ditches, culverts or streams, please contact the Public Works Department at 435-6271 or online at sullivan@biloxi.ms.us, or the Code Enforcement staff in the Community Development Department, 435-6270 or online at dking@biloxi.ms.us.

Major repairs to flood-zone homes may trigger code issues

Homeowners with significantly damaged property in a flood zone will be required to make sure their homes fully comply with flood regulations before the city can issue a building permit for repairs, according to FEMA regulations.

Community Development Director Jerry Creel said some property owners may find that their homes had been constructed before standards were in place to govern construction in flood zones.

"Those who are looking to repair heavily damaged homes in a flood zone need to be aware of a few things," Creel said. "If the damage amounts to more than 50 percent of the fair market value of the home, it's considered 'substantially damaged' by FEMA. This means that in order for a building permit to be issued, the home must be brought into full compliance with the flood ordinance and FEMA regulations."

A number of homes, particularly older ones in east Biloxi, were built decades ago, before flood-zone regulations existed.

"They had been grandfathered in, but those grandfather clauses will not carry over into major new construction," Creel said. "One of the biggest issues that property owners will face is that regulations now call for structures in flood zones to be elevated four foot above the base flood elevation, which could range from 12 to 17 feet above the mean sea level, depending on the location of the property."

The city cannot allow property owners to re-build in a manner that violates flood plain management regulations, Creel said, noting that the city has waived permit fees for property owners making repairs or rebuilding their homes.

"Failure to comply with the codes will result in significantly higher flood insurance rates for everyone,"

Creel said, "and, frankly, insurance rates will end up increasing for all property owners."

Biloxi residents have seen flood insurance rates drop by 15 percent in the past several years, thanks to the city's enforcement of flood-zone regulations and its continuing efforts to educate the public about how to minimize the threat of storms and flooding.

You can see an online map showing flood zones in Biloxi at biloxi.ms.us. You may also contact floodplain manager Scott Underwood at sunderwood@biloxi.ms.us or at 435-6280.

The flood zone map is also available at the Community Development Department on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard or at the Woolmarket Fire Station on Woolmarket Road.

Be sure to get a building permit before construction

When you or a licensed contractor make repairs or alterations to your property, those repairs should be in compliance with established building codes. This ensures that work is up to code and will be able to withstand most weather conditions.

To make sure that your plans are within code, a building permit must be obtained from the City of Biloxi Building Division before you build, alter, regrade or fill on your property.

For work under \$500, there is no fee for the permit.

New buildings in the flood plain must be protected from flood damage. Biloxi's building code requires that new buildings must be elevated four foot above the base or 100-year flood level. (See the enclosed map for a view of the 100-year floodplain.)

The code also requires all "substantial" improvements or repairs from damage to a building be treated as new construction.

A substantial improvement or repair is one in which the value of an addition, alteration, repair or reconstruction projects exceeds 50 percent of the total value of the existing building.

Before you begin a project, contact the Building Division at 435-6270 or online at building@biloxi.ms.us. Qualified staff can help make sure that your project complies with building codes.

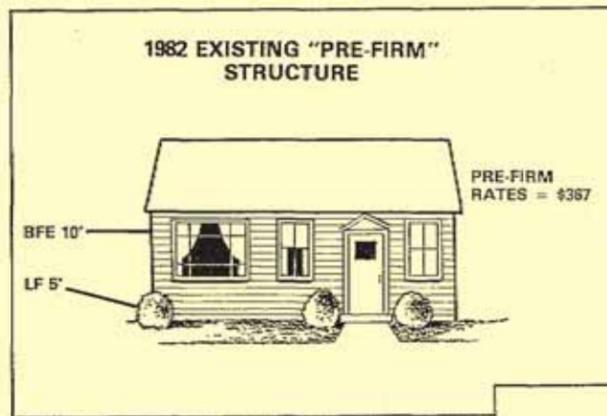
Contractors must have city license

Property owners are warned to beware of transient contractors who typically set up shop in the wake of disasters such as Hurricane Katrina.

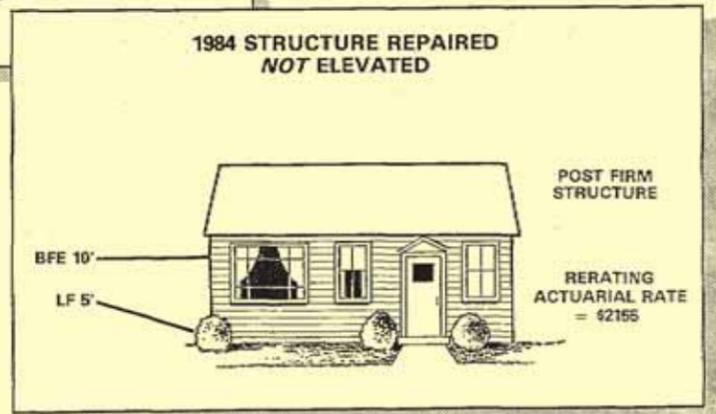
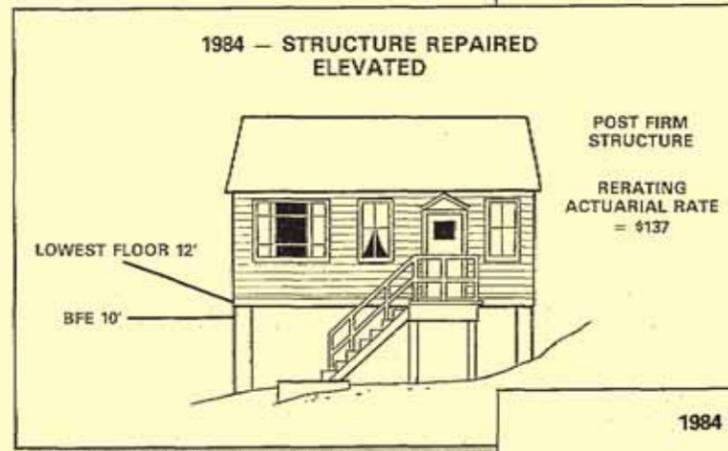
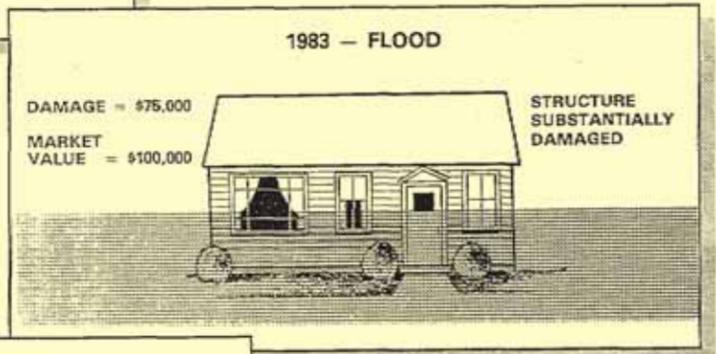
Ask to see the person's City of Biloxi license card, which is required to do business in this city. Do not pay any money in advance. Do not sign any contracts. And do not pay any money until the work has been inspected and approved by a city inspector.

If you have any questions or concerns, call the Community Development Department at 435-6280.

How elevations impact your insurance rates



This FEMA graphic, which was originally distributed to Biloxi residents in December, illustrates the implications that homeowners face when making repairs to homes that pre-date the Flood Insurance Rate Map. In short, if your home is in a flood-prone area of the city and if your repairs did not include steps to minimize the risk of damage from flooding, you face significant increases in the cost of your flood insurance. You can see the flood-prone areas of the city in the map on Pages 6 and 7 of this mailout. A larger version can be viewed online at biloxi.ms.us or at any city facility.



You can take steps now to protect your property against flooding

There are some steps that you can take now to prepare your property against flooding.

One option may be "retrofitting," which is altering your home to eliminate or reduce flood damage.

A few things to consider:

- Elevate your building so that flood waters do not enter or reach any susceptible portions.
- Construct barriers out of fill or concrete between your building and flood waters.
- "Dry flood proof" your building, which entails making walls and flooring watertight so water cannot enter.
- "Wet flood proof" your building, which entails modifying the structure and relocating contents to

lessen the damage caused by any flood waters that enter your structure.

- Sandbagging is a short-term measure that can also be helpful.

The City of Biloxi is home to many reputable, licensed building contractors who are qualified to make repairs for you. However, after each storm, a number of transient contractors sets up temporary shop in our community. Before signing any contract or paying any money for repair work, you should ask to see the person's City of Biloxi license.

If you have any doubts or questions, contact the Building Division at 435-6270 or online at building@biloxi.ms.us to ensure that this individual is licensed to operate in the City of Biloxi.

Need More Info?

- To read FEMA's answers to frequently asked questions about repairing significantly damaged properties in flood zones, visit biloxi.ms.us.
- To read FEMA's "Homebuilder's Guide to Coastal Construction," which provides technical guidance and recommendations concerning the construction of coastal residential, visit biloxi.ms.us.
- Those with other questions can call the Community Development Department at 435-6280 or e-mail building@biloxi.ms.us.

Despite storm, value of land will increase throughout city

Property owners who fear that Hurricane Katrina's wrath may have decimated the value of land just as badly as the storm devastated homes and businesses are in for a surprise.

Mayor A.J. Holloway and Community Development Director Jerry Creel say that interest in Biloxi among developers was unfazed by the storm, and members of the Biloxi City Council have taken steps to quash unfounded concerns that some property owners, particularly those in east Biloxi, have about future plans for Point Cadet area.

In fact, in the wake of the storm, council members passed a resolution declaring that the city has no plans to eminent domain any property in east Biloxi for commercial use, such as condominium development.

"Some of the national media wondered if we were concerned about land speculators coming into hard-hit

areas of Biloxi and trying to buy up property," Holloway said. "The fact is, we had people looking to buy property – and people looking to see property – well before the storm. That's free enterprise.

"The advice that the City Council and I have for property owners is this: Don't make any hasty decisions about whether to sell your property. This storm didn't diminish the value of property in Biloxi, particularly in east Biloxi. If anything, land values stand to increase as a result of this storm.

"There's a great deal of opportunity and excitement about our future, and longtime property owners should determine their best options on how they can share in that opportunity and excitement."

Although on-shore gaming has been legalized, any proposals to establish on-shore gaming sites would require

public hearings before a decision would be made on whether a particular parcel might be re-zoned. As part of the process, nearby property owners would be notified of any proposals and interested residents would be given opportunities to voice their position.

Although the mayor and City Council supported the measure to allow casinos to be located within 800 feet of the shoreline, the prospect of re-zoning property would originate with property owners, not the city.

In fact, Mayor Holloway recently said that he is opposed to any wholesale zoning changes to create more casino-zoned areas of the city, noting that a significant amount of unused casino-zoned property currently exists in Biloxi. You can see a current citywide zoning map on the city's website at biloxi.ms.us.

You can get free how-to info on preparation and construction

Need more information about flood preparation and construction? The city has assembled a wealth of free how-to booklets about steps that you can take to minimize damage from storms and flooding.

The books are available at these locations:

- Community Development Department, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Municipal Building, 435-6280.
- City Hall lobby, Lameuse Street.
- Donal Snyder Sr. Community Center, Pass Road
- Biloxi public libraries (Lameuse Street, Popp's Ferry Road, Division Street and Pass Road).
- Woolmarket Fire Station, 8479 Woolmarket Road

You can also contact the City's Building or Code Enforcement divisions online at biloxi.ms.us/communitydevelopment.

For detailed info on building permits and construction requirements, contact the Building and Code Enforcement divisions at the Community Development Department, 435-6270 or online at building@biloxi.ms.us. Those planning work in a flood-prone area should contact floodplain manager Scott Underwood at sunderwood@biloxi.ms.us or at 435-6280.

You can obtain a number of helpful emergency preparedness brochures online at FEMA's website (www.fema.gov) or from the National Hurricane Center (www.noaa.nhc.gov).

Storm, disaster info can be kid stuff, thanks to website

It's never too soon to begin the education process about storms and the damage they can cause, and a host of educational activities especially for children are now available online.

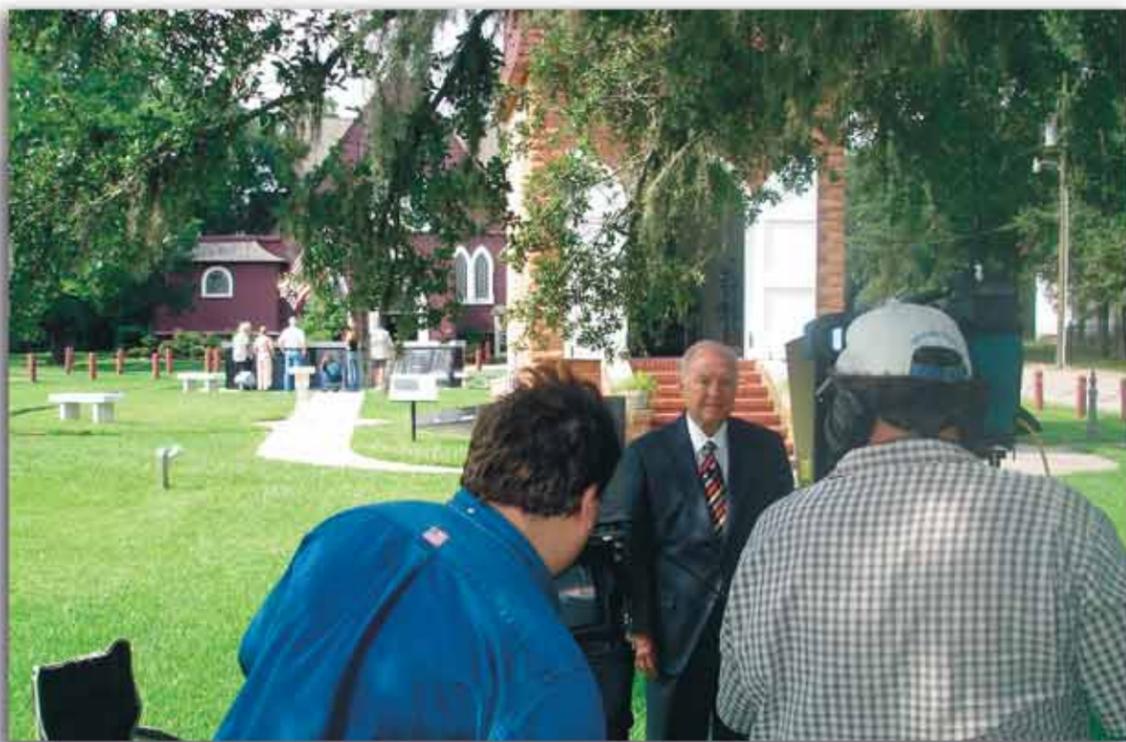
The Flood and Storm section of Biloxi's web site (<http://biloxi.ms.us>) includes a direct link to

FEMA for Kids, which

features Herman, "the spokescrab" and kid-style information on how to be prepared for disasters and how you can prevent disaster damage.

Parents and teachers will find a number of family or classroom activities for groups.

To see the FEMA for Kids site, visit <http://biloxi.ms.us/floodstorm> and click on For Kids at the top right.



Cable One Cable TV Advertising staffers Mike Kommersmith, left, and Vester Wentzell tape Mayor A.J. Holloway near the Camille memorial for a segment that aired Aug. 17, 2005, a mere 12 days before Hurricane Katrina destroyed the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer and bell tower, and leveled the Camille memorial, shown in the background at left.

City, Cable One to retire 'Camille' broadcast

For the past several years on the Aug. 17 anniversary of Hurricane Camille, Cable One has broadcast the documentary "A Lady Called Camille" to help educate new residents and remind longtime residents the dangers of storms and flooding.

With Hurricane Katrina establishing a new highwater mark in the annals of storm history, this year will mark the final presentation of the 30-minute documentary. In fact, this year's cablecast will feature a two-minute introduction by Mayor A.J. Holloway, that was taped last year at the site of the Hurricane Camille memorial on the grounds of the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer. Hurricane Katrina struck 12 days after the program aired.

Biloxi residents will have one last to revisit the devastation wrought by Hurricane Camille during the cablecast of the documentary "A Lady Called Camille," which Cable One will air on its Biloxi system on Aug. 17, 2006, the 38th anniversary of the Category 5 storm making landfall on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

The program, which features actual footage from the aftermath of a Category 5 storm, will air at 10 a.m., 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. on Cable 13 in Biloxi. Cable One is airing it as a public service to help educate residents on the dangers of hurricanes.

Camille, with winds in excess of 200 mph and a 25-foot storm surge, swept across the Coast on the night of Aug. 17, 1969. The storm, which at the time was the most severe to strike the U.S., caused billions of dollars in damage, with 134 deaths and 23 persons missing from the Gulf Coast area. A nationwide relief effort, which included scores of military and civilian volunteers and businesses, helped Biloxi and surrounding communities in the aftermath of the storm. President Richard M. Nixon also visited the Coast in the days after the storm.

"A Lady Called Camille," which was created by the National Office of Civil Defense shortly after the hurricane, shows preparation and recovery efforts that were organized largely by the legendary Wade Guice, former Harrison County Civil Defense Director whose wife, Julia, served as Biloxi Civil Defense Director at the time. The duo are seen at their posts at the outset of the film.

Said Mayor Holloway: "By airing this documentary each year, Cable One has performed an invaluable public service in helping the city educate residents about the dangers of storms and flooding. We appreciate their contributions on this project, and, unfortunately, we'll be retiring that Aug. 17 cablecast with a new one each year, to take place on Aug. 29. We'll have more news on that as the date gets closer."

Federal agencies encouraging residents to use direct deposit

In those critical days after Hurricane Katrina, the U.S. Treasury Department worked with the Social Security Administration to get displaced Social Security and other federal benefit checks to recipients, as quickly as possible. But those who already were using direct deposit had immediate access to their funds from virtually anywhere, thanks to ATMs and financial institution networks.

That's why the Treasury and the Federal Reserve Banks – through **Go Direct** – are urging Social Security check

recipients who live along the Gulf Coast to switch to direct deposit. The recommendation, offered in light of last year's devastating hurricanes, is aimed at ensuring citizens receive their federal benefits without disruption.

Go Direct makes it easy to sign up for direct deposit. People can sign up by calling the toll-free **Go Direct** helpline at (800) 333-1795 or by visiting www.GoDirect.org to sign up online. To learn more about **Go Direct**, visit www.GoDirect.org.

Stay in the loop year 'round

Don't wait until a storm threatens to get vital information about your community. You can get it now – delivered directly to you and for free. In the past 12 months alone, the city has e-mailed more than a half-million storm-recovery updates to Biloxians and other interested parties around the globe. The audience of more than 3,200 receives updated information on a host of local issues and projects, as well as detailed information about special meetings and events of community interest. These e-mails and the city website are your No. 1 source of information on all things Biloxi.

Visit the city's web site at biloxi.ms.us and click on "Are you in the loop?" on the left side of the screen. It takes only a few seconds to sign up, and you'll be in the loop – and in the know.



king Map



AFTER THE STORM

- Stay tuned to local radio for information.
- Help injured or trapped persons.
- Give first aid where appropriate.
- Do not move seriously injured persons unless they are in immediate danger of further injury. Call for help.
- Return home only after authorities advise that it is safe to do so.
- Avoid loose or dangling power lines and report them immediately to the power company, police, or fire department.
- Enter your home with caution. Beware of snakes, insects, and animals driven to higher ground by flood water.
- Open windows and doors to ventilate and dry your home.
- Check refrigerated foods for spoilage; if electricity is off, keep refrigerator and freezer closed as much as possible.
- Take pictures of the damage, both to the house and its contents for insurance claims.
- Drive only if absolutely necessary and avoid flooded roads and washed-out bridges. Refrain from sightseeing.
- Use telephone only for emergency calls.
- Inspecting utilities in a damaged home
 - Check for gas leaks. If you smell gas or hear blowing or hissing noise, open a window and quickly leave the building. Turn off the gas at the outside main valve if you can and call the gas company from a neighbor's home. If you turn off the gas for any reason, it must be turned back on by a professional.
 - Look for electrical system damage. If you see sparks or broken or frayed wires, or if you smell hot insulation, turn off the electricity at the main fuse box or circuit breaker. If you have to step in water to get to the fuse box or circuit breaker, call an electrician first for advice.
 - Check for sewage and water lines damage. If you suspect sewage lines are damaged avoid using the toilets and call a plumber. If water pipes are damaged, contact the water company and avoid the water from the tap. You can obtain safe water by melting ice cubes.

Stay tuned for more storm information

The National Weather Service monitors hurricane and storm activity, and issues official bulletins to local and regional TV and radio stations. Since television coverage may be interrupted by power outages, you should also have a battery-operated radio to follow emergency advisories. It is vital that you monitor these weather broadcasts, especially as a storm approaches.

Additionally, the City of Biloxi relays vital information on a regular basis through its online e-mail program. To sign up for the notices, visit <http://biloxi.ms.us>, where you'll also find detailed and regularly updated weather forecasts.

Here is a list of local outlets where you can obtain information:

Television

WLOX-TV 13
WXXV-TV 25
The Weather Channel

Radio-FM

WQYZ 92.5
WMJY 93.7
WJZD 94.5
WZNF 95.3
WUJM 96.7
WCPR 97.9
WKNN 99.1
WGCM 102.3
WBUV 104.9
WXRG 105.9
WXYK 107.1
WZKX 107.9

Radio-AM

WQFX 1130
WBSL 1190
WGCM 1240
WROA 1390
WXBD 1490
WTNI 1640

Online

biloxi.ms.us
fema.gov
co.harrison.ms.us

By Phone

City of Biloxi
Storm Info Line
435-6300

2006 Storm Names

Alberto	Helene	Oscar
Beryl	Isaac	Patty
Chris	Joyce	Rafael
Debby	Kirk	Sandy
Ernesto	Leslie	Tony
Florence	Michael	Valerie
Gordon	Nadine	William

Major flood-producing storms that have impacted Biloxi since 1969 include:

- Hurricane Camille
- Hurricane Elena
- Tropical Storm Allison
- Hurricane Frederic
- Hurricane Georges
- Tropical Storm Isidore
- Hurricane Katrina

Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale

1 74-95 mph No real damage to building structures. Damage primarily to unanchored mobile homes, shrubbery, and trees. Also, some coastal road flooding and minor pier damage

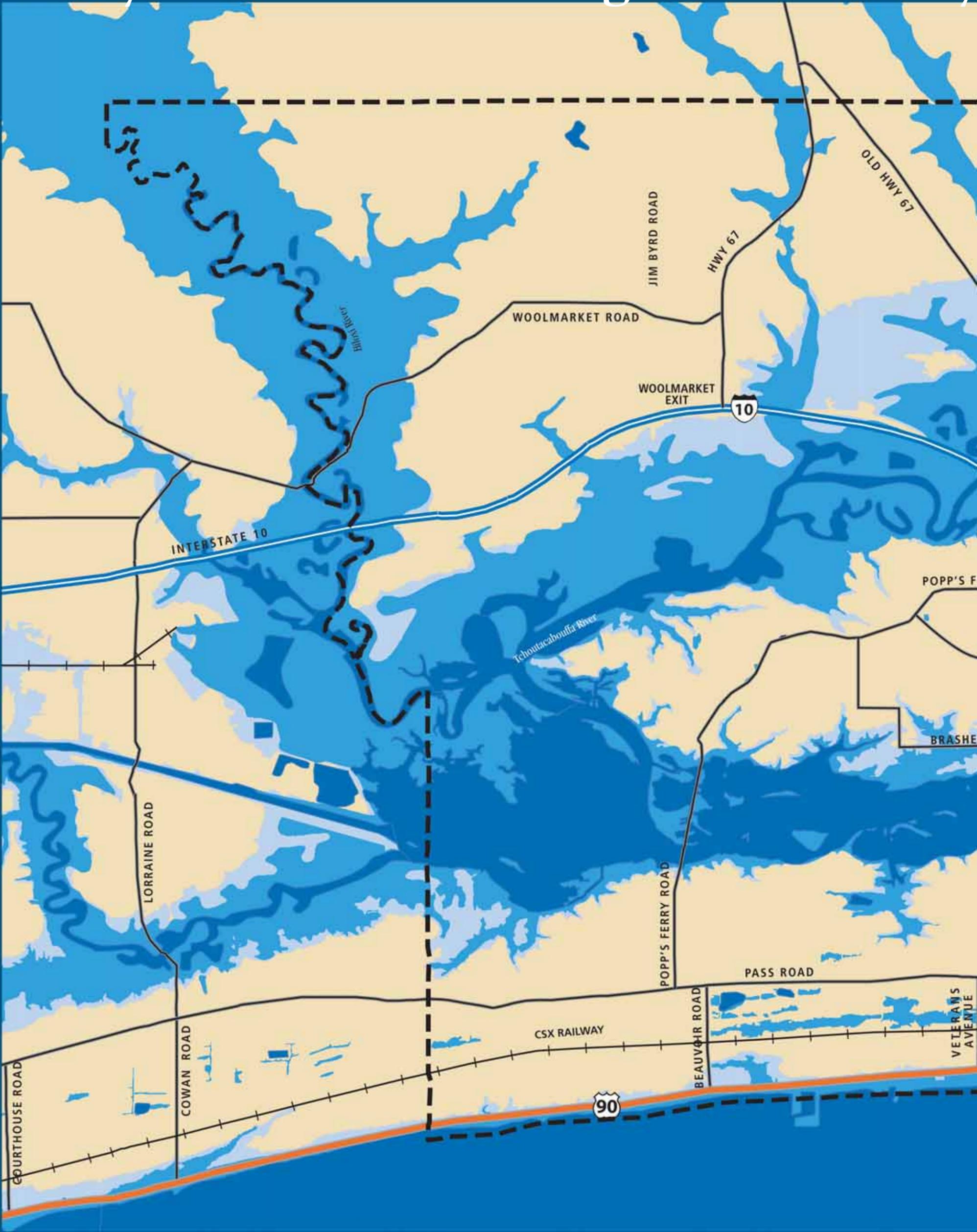
2 96-110 mph Some roofing material, door and window damage to buildings. Considerable damage to vegetation, mobile homes, and piers. Coastal and low-lying escape routes flood 2-4 hours before arrival of center. Small craft in unprotected anchorages break moorings.

3 111-130 mph Some structural damage to small residences and utility buildings with a minor amount of curtain-wall failures. Mobile homes are destroyed. Flooding near the coast destroys smaller structures with larger structures damaged by floating debris. Terrain continuously lower than 5 feet above sea level (ASL) may be flooded inland 8 miles or more.

4 131-155 mph More extensive curtain wall failures with some complete roof structure failure on small residences. Major erosion of beach. Major damage to lower floors of structures near the shore. Terrain continuously lower than 10 feet ASL may be flooded requiring massive evacuation of residential areas inland as far as 6 miles.

5 greater than 155 mph Complete roof failure on many residences and industrial buildings. Some complete building failures with small utility buildings blown over or away. Major damage to lower floors of all structures located less than 15 feet ASL and within 500 yards of the shoreline. Massive evacuation of residential areas on low ground within 5 to 10 miles of the shoreline may be required.

City of Biloxi - Existing and Advisory

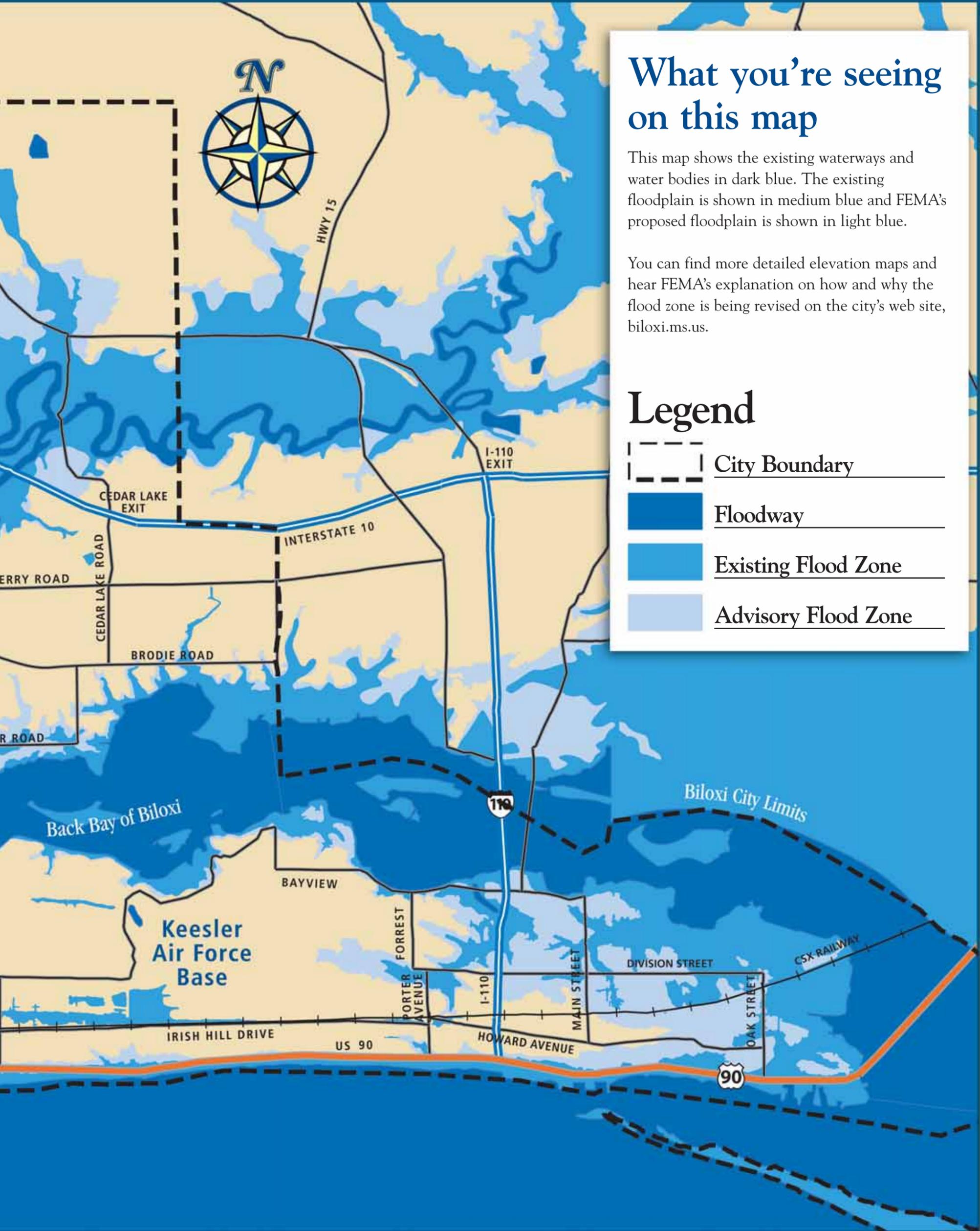


Data Source:
City Boundary and Floodway data provided by MARIS Existing Flood Zone data provided by FEMA Advisory Flood Zone developed by URS and HMGP.



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Flood Zones



Completed elevation certificates are available from the city's Community Development Department.



FEMA



MEMA

Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Date Created: May 16, 2006
Author: J. Herr

Cảnh báo sớm về bão năm nay

Năm 2005 Biloxi đã chuẩn bị đối phó bão lụt kỹ hơn bao giờ hết trong lịch sử của thành phố, nhưng chính thành phố bị bão tàn phá này lại phải đương đầu với một loạt vấn đề mới trong mùa bão này mà chính xác là cư dân nhất thiết phải có kế hoạch đối phó bão của từng cá nhân và chuẩn bị sẵn các trang bị dự phòng bão.

Thị trưởng A.J. Holloway nói rằng đối với hơn 2,000 cư dân hiện đang sinh sống tạm thời trong trailers và lều trại và hàng ngàn tình nguyện viên thành phố, nắm được nguồn thông tin về bão lụt kịp thời sẽ vô cùng cần thiết trong mùa bão này. Ngoài ra, Holloway nói: “Cư dân nên dự đoán có những đề nghị sớm hơn thường lệ về việc di tản khỏi các khu vực đất thấp.”

“Chúng tôi đã nhắc đi nhắc lại với giới truyền thông quốc gia rằng cơn bão Katrina không phải là cuộc thử sức đầu tiên của chúng ta, mà chúng ta hy vọng nó sẽ chỉ là cuộc thử sức lớn nhất mà chúng ta từng thấy.” Holloway vừa qua đã nói với một nhóm gồm hơn hai chục lãnh đạo các ban ngành chủ chốt của thành phố và các trưởng phòng cấp trung trong các cuộc họp chuẩn bị đối phó bão. “Tất cả chúng ta đều biết nó sẽ chưa phải là cuộc thử sức cuối cùng. Tôi tự hào về toàn bộ công việc mà quý vị và toàn thể cư dân Biloxi đã làm và sẽ tiếp tục làm. Giờ đây, tôi đề nghị tất cả mọi người chuẩn bị lại.”

Năm nay, điều quan trọng nhất là, Holloway nói, phải thông báo việc di tản kịp thời cho công chúng biết.

“Nếu chúng ta ở trong vùng dự báo có bão”, ông nói, “người dân phải dự đoán sẽ có một thông báo di tản trong vòng 72 giờ, một cuộc di tản bắt buộc đối với Vùng A và các vùng thấp trong vòng 48 giờ, và một cuộc di tản bắt buộc đối với Vùng B trong vòng 36 giờ.”

Khi có lệnh di tản, cư dân sinh sống tạm thời trong các trailers không được đưa xe trên đường. Holloway nói: “Do không sử dụng cầu Biloxi-Ocean Springs trong mùa bão năm nay, chúng ta bị giới hạn ở một số tuyến đường di tản, và chúng ta không muốn bị những trailers này gây tắc nghẽn giao thông. Các trailers này phải ở đúng vị trí quy định.”

Biloxi sẽ mở đến năm trung tâm tạm cư, nhưng số lượng và địa điểm của các trung tâm này sẽ tùy thuộc vào chiều hướng và cường độ của cơn bão. Phương tiện vận chuyển công cộng sẽ được thông báo cho những người không có phương tiện để đi đến các trung tâm tạm cư ngoài thành phố. Ngoài ra, phải thông báo kế hoạch sử dụng đường tạm xe lưu thông hai chiều ở các trục đường chính sớm hơn thường lệ.

“Người dân không cần phải nhắc đến lần thứ hai mới di tản” Holloway tuyên bố, “nhưng chủ yếu là lệnh di tản phải phát sớm hơn, xét vì chúng ta phải đối phó nhiều yếu tố.”

Holloway và Giám đốc Quản lý David Staehling nói rằng thành phố đã chuẩn bị rất kỹ hơn bao giờ hết lúc Katrina ập vào ngày 29 tháng 8.

“Trước khi bão vào chúng tôi đã ký hợp đồng tạm thời dọn dẹp vật liệu đổ nát trước bão, về mặt này chúng ta đã giải quyết xong, và, dĩ nhiên, chúng ta cũng được hưởng chế độ bảo hiểm gián đoạn kinh doanh 10 triệu đô la” Staehling nói. “Năm nay chúng ta phải cẩn thận sắp xếp ổn thỏa lại các việc này, mặc dù chúng ta có thể gặp khó khăn trong việc xin thêm \$92,000 đô la cho bảo hiểm gián đoạn kinh doanh cho năm nay.”

Trong các cuộc họp chuẩn bị đối phó bão của thành phố mới đây, nhân viên thành phố đã xem xét kế hoạch để sắp xếp các loại xe cấp cứu và các thiết bị nặng vào các khu vực an toàn hơn, bố trí nhiên liệu và các nhu yếu phẩm khác cho sau bão, cập nhật thông tin liên lạc cho các nhân viên chủ chốt. Việc chỉ sử dụng hai trong số ba cây cầu hiện có trên bán đảo Biloxi cho tuyến đường di tản cũng được thảo luận.

Thành phố cũng tổ chức cuộc họp hàng năm về công tác chuẩn bị đối phó bão với nhân viên chủ chốt của các casino resorts, cập nhật thông tin liên lạc và qui trình cấp cứu.

Những điều bạn cần biết

Cư dân Biloxi có thể lập kế hoạch tiếp tục xem thấy các nguồn thông tin thông báo thời tiết và khuyến nhủ về mùa bão năm nay.

Trong các kế hoạch xem duyệt lại năm nay, gồm có kế hoạch cấp báo sớm.

Các mức thời gian cần nhớ:

Di tản theo đề nghị: Nếu Biloxi nằm trong vùng dự báo có bão, dự đoán sẽ có thông báo di tản trong 72 giờ trước khi có cơn bão đổ vào đất liền.

Di tản bắt buộc đối với Vùng A và các khu vực đất thấp: Nếu Biloxi nằm trong vùng dự báo có bão, dự đoán sẽ có thông báo di tản bắt buộc đối với Vùng A và khu vực đất thấp 48 giờ trước khi bão đổ vào đất liền. Vào thời điểm này, các casino resorts nên đóng cửa.

Di tản bắt buộc đối với Vùng B: Nếu Biloxi nằm trong vùng dự báo có bão, dự đoán sẽ có lệnh di tản bắt buộc đối với Vùng B 36 giờ trước khi bão đổ vào đất liền.

(Xin xem bản đồ ở trang 2 để biết các vùng di tản và các tuyến đường di tản)

Ngoài ra, cũng có thể xem thông tin qua báo điện tử của thành phố, và điện thoại ghi âm từ đường dây điện thoại về thông tin bão của Thành phố Biloxi, số 435-6300.

Advertencias a venir anterior esta estación

Biloxi fue preparado mejor para las tormentas y el flooding en 2005 que en cualquier otra hora en la historia de la ciudad, pero la ciudad tormenta-devastada hace frente a un anfitrión de nuevas ediciones esta estación del huracán, que los medios él son vital importantes para que los residentes tengan sus kits personales del plan y del huracán de la tormenta en lugar.

Alcalde A.J. Holloway dice que con más de 2.000 acoplados y campistas temporalmente contener residentes y a millares de voluntarios en ciudad, teniendo un flujo oportuno de la información de la tormenta y de la inundación será vital esta estación del huracán. Además, Holloway dicho, residentes debe esperar ver recomendaciones temprano-que-generalmente con respecto a las evacuaciones de areas de bajo-mentira.

“Dijimos a medios nacionales en varias ocasiones que Katrina no fuera nuestro primer rodeo, pero esperábamos que sería el más grande que veríamos siempre,” Holloway dijo recientemente a grupo de dos jefes de docena servicios dominantes de la ciudad y de encargados mid-level en uno de una serie de reuniones de la preparación de la tormenta. “Todos sabemos que no será nuestro dura, aunque. Soy orgulloso de todo el trabajo que usted y todos los residentes de Biloxi han hecho y continúan para hacer. Ahora, le estoy diciendo conseguir listo otra vez.”

“La cosa más importante esta estación, Holloway dicho, proporcionará lainformación oportuna de la evacuación al público.

“Si estamos en el cono de la probabilidad,” él dijo, “gente debe esperar ver un aviso recomendado de la evacuación 72 horas hacia fuera, una evacuación obligatoria para la zona A y las áreas de bajo-mentira 48 horas hacia fuera, y una evacuación obligatoria para la zona B 36 horas hacia fuera.”

Si se da una orden de la evacuación, no se permitirá ningunos acoplados temporales en los caminos. Holloway Dicho: “con el Biloxi-Oce’ano suelta el puente hacia fuera para esta estación del huracán, somos limitados en el número de las rutas de la evacuación, y no deseamos estos acoplados que soportan tráfico. Seguirán siendo donde están.”

El tanto como cinco abrigos podrían abrirse en Biloxi, solamente número y localización de esos abrigos dependerían de la trayectoria y de la fuerza proyectadas de la tormenta. El transporte público sería anunciado para ésos sin los medios del recorrido a los abrigos de la hacia fuera-de-ciudad. Además, cualquier plan del contraflow para el tráfico en los caminos importantes sería anterior anunciado que generalmente.

“La gente no tendrá que ser dicha dos veces para evacuar,” Holloway declarado.

“Solamente él es vital que sale la palabra anterior, en vista de los muchos factores que hacemos frente.” Holloway y el director de la administración David Staehling dijeron que la ciudad fue preparada mejor que en cualquier otro momento en que Katrina pulsó de agosto el 29.

“Teníamos nuestro contrato temporal del retiro de la ruina en lugar antes de la tormenta, golpeamos el funcionamiento de tierra en eso frente, y, por supuesto, teníamos la póliza de seguro de la negocio-interrupcio'n \$10 millones en efecto, también,” Staehling dicho. “Miramos para tener todas esas cosas en lugar otra vez este año, aunque podemos tener dificultad el conseguir la política de la interrupción del negocio para otros \$92.000 de este año.”

Durante la serie reciente de la ciudad de reuniones de la preparación de la tormenta, los planes repasados personal de la ciudad para los vehículos de la emergencia del estacionamiento y el equipo pesado en áreas más seguras, arreglando para el combustible de la poste-tormenta y otras fuentes, y poniendo al día la información del contacto para los personales claves. Las rutas de la evacuación que usaban solamente dos de tres puentes disponibles en la península de Biloxi también fueron discutidas.

La ciudad también condujo su reunión anual de la tormenta-preparacio'n con los personales claves de recursos del casino, poniendo al día procedimientos de la información del contacto y de emergencia.

Lo que todo residente tienen que saber:

Habra constante informacion sobre: trayectoria de la tormenta, posible inundaciones, rutas de tomar.

Rutas de evacuacion recomendada: 72 horas que las tormenta esta en el modo de probabilidad.

Evacuacion mandatoria para la Zona A y areas bajas: Espere ver evacuacion en 48 horas y casinos cerrados.

Evacuacion mandatoria para la Zona B: Espere ver evacuacion madatoria en 36 horas.

(Para ver rutas de evacuacion y zonas, ver el mapa en las pagina 2.)

Etc: Informacion via city e-news y llamando por telefono el City of Biloxi Storm Info Line, para un mensaje grabado 435-6300.



The color of construction

City simplifies permits, adds splash of color to better identify work

Identifying the types of construction going on in Biloxi is simpler these days – for contractors, property owners and city inspectors, as well as citizens interested in construction in their neighborhoods. Tracking construction is a particularly vital concern in flood zones.

The city’s Community Development Department is now using color-coded permits that clearly illustrate the type of permit granted for construction work, and the new system has reduced what once may have required a contractor to obtain five separate permits to having everything all on one permit.

It’s all part of the city’s continuing efforts to help streamline and simplify the process, and to amplify that different types of work may be required to meet stricter standards.

For instance, work in an area susceptible to flooding, known as a special flood hazard area, must comply with FEMA regulations and the city’s Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. Those planning any work in a flood-prone area should contact floodplain manager Scott Underwood at sunderwood@biloxi.ms.us or at 435-6280.

Previously, permits were a standard beige color, and contractors may have been required to obtain separate permits for building, electrical, plumbing, gas and mechanical (heating, ventilation and air conditioning).

“Now,” says Jerry Creel, the city’s Community Development director, “when someone passes by a project, they won’t be seeing a collection of non-descript permits. Instead, they’ll see that color-coded permit, and they’ll know that if it’s blue, then the project is in a flood zone, which means that things like elevation will be more serious than on the typical construction job. These color-coded permits are designed to help call attention to those issues.”

The colors:

- Lime green permit is the basic permit for work where there are no special conditions or enhanced requirements.
- Blue permit is for properties or structures located in a special flood hazard area.
- Beige signifies the “Architectural/Historical Review District,” which means that the proposed project has been reviewed and approved by the Architectural and Historical Review Committee.
- Red is a Demolition Permit.
- Orange is for “Moving” a structure.
- Purple is for “grading” or “filling” a site.

Frequently Called Numbers

Area code is 228 unless otherwise noted.

- **American Red Cross**
Provides emergency disaster assistance
- **Animal control** 435-6103
To report stray or dead animals
- **Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division**
..... 601-359-4230
Assistance on legal questions or complaints
- **Auto tag info** 435-8242
County Courthouse at Lameuse/MLK Boulevard
- **Birth certificates**601-576-7960
State Department of Vital Statistics in Jackson
- **Building permits** 435-6270
For permits for construction and improvements
- **Business licenses** 435-6247
To obtain a license to do business in the city
- **City Council** 435-6257
To reach council members or clerks of council
- **City Court** 435-6125
Information on traffic tickets and court docket
- **Debris removal** 374-1211
Jonathan Kiser is supervisor of debris removal
- **Drivers licenses** 432-7803
D'Iberville High School Football Stadium parking lot
- **Emergency police and fire** 911
Non-emergency: 435-6107 (police)
or 435-6200 (fire)
- **FEMA** 1-800-621-FEMA (3362)
Federal Emergency Management Agency
- **Garbage collection** 392-5108
Allied Waste is city's residential garbage contractor
- **Harrison County Coroner's Office**
..... 1-800-958-9519
For information on missing persons
- **Housing Authority** 374-7771
To get information on public housing
- **Human Resources** 435-6259
For info on city employment; third floor, City Hall
- **Mayor's office** 435-6254
Citizen services, public records requests
- **Museums information** 435-6244
Info on city museums or to rent historic properties
- **Parks & Recreation** 435-6281
Info on programs, or to rent most city facilities
- **Planning Commission** 435-6266
To apply for a change in your zoning or land use
- **Public schools** 374-1810
Administrative office for all Biloxi public schools
- **Salvation Army** ... 1-800-SALARMY (725-2769)
- **Streets and drainage** 435-6271
To report pot holes, damaged street signs
- **Voter registration** 435-6279
To register to vote or change in address

Utilities

- Cable TV
Cable One 374-5900
- Electricity
Mississippi Power 800-532-1502
Coast Electric Power Assoc 388-3109
- Gas
CenterPoint Energy Entex 896-7500
- Water/sewer
City of Biloxi 374-7953 or 435-6236

More information is available online at biloxi.ms.us, (to receive e-news, click on "Are you in the loop?")

Information also is updated on the City of Biloxi Storm Info line at 435-6300.



City Hall is open 24/7

Find a wealth of information about city programs and initiatives online



Information about your city government, the ongoing recovery effort and hurricane preparation is at your fingertips, and it's available for you any time, any day. And while you're there, sign up for timely e-news updates by clicking on "Are you in the loop?" The city's web site is your No. 1 source of information for all things Biloxi.



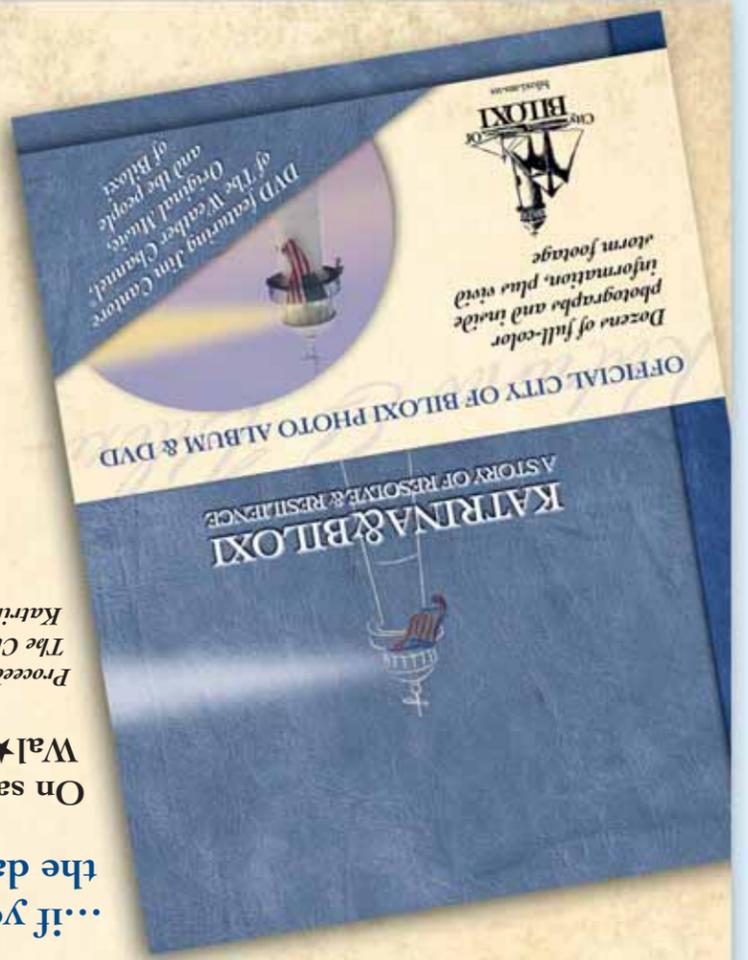
biloxi.ms.us

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