



MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2010

Parking lot of vacant Yazoo City building becomes ‘Volunteer City’

In an effort to help provide essential resources to those affected by Saturday’s tornado, the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service has created “Volunteer City” in the parking lot of the former Yazoo Motors Building located at the intersection of Hwy 49 and Old Hwy 16. . All Volunteer efforts are now being coordinated from this central location MCVS is working with nonprofit and faith-based organizations to provide a single resource center for residents and communities surrounding Yazoo City.

Additionally, MCVS is coordinating the deployment of volunteers who are able to assist with debris clean up and tree removal. A second Volunteer Coordination Center will open Wednesday, April 28, at the Ebenezer Volunteer Fire Department on Hwy 14.

Those seeking volunteer assistance are asked to complete work requests for volunteer assistance at one of the two Volunteer Coordination Center locations. Mobile supply and relief stations will remain in various locations as needs are identified by local officials. As of Tuesday morning, MCVS had placed more than 360 volunteers in to communities around Yazoo City and an additional 291 volunteers have registered.

The Volunteer City resources that are currently available include:

- Feeding stations have been provided for more than 500 people, including volunteers and those affected by tornado.
- “Drive-Thru” distribution center for food, ice, water and cleaning kits.
- Beginning Wednesday morning, Free Chainsaw and Equipment Maintenance Station (including free expert labor, chain sharpening and replacement, free parts and oil, etc.).

Additional services will be announced. Some of the resources that are still needed are:

- Non-perishable food.
- Bottled water.
- Tarps.
- Clothes/heavy duty.
- Children’s under garments.
- Hygiene products such as toothpaste, soap, detergent, diapers, baby wipes, baby formula and toilet paper.

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For more information, or to register to volunteer, visit www.volunteermisissippi.org or call (888) 353-1793. Financial and product donations are accepted via the National Donations Management Network - Mississippi at www.aidmatrix.org.

For more information, contact the State Emergency Joint Information Center at 866-920-MEMA (6362), or visit us online at www.msema.org. You can also follow us on Twitter and Facebook using the keyword MSEMA.

Media with questions can contact MEMA External Affairs at 866-920-MEMA (6362).

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