



MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
NEWS RELEASE
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Oil Spill Mitigation Resources Available for Gulf Coast Nonprofit Agencies

Biloxi– The Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service today announced that a request for volunteer support is now available for nonprofit organizations affected by the oil spill. Qualifying organizations will demonstrate how requested volunteers can assist in alleviating operational stresses a nonprofit organization is sustaining due to the oil spill. Volunteer support request forms are available at Volunteer Response Centers along the MS Gulf Coast. VRC contact and location information is available to the public at www.mcv.org.

Volunteer Response Center Locations:

Harrison County

Phone: 228-596-5780

Email: harrisonvrc@gmail.com

Jackson County

Phone: 228-382-7358

Email: jacksonvrc@gmail.com

Hancock County

Hancock County Housing Resource Center

454 Hwy 90, Suite B

Waveland, MS

Phone: 228-596-5546

Email: hancockvrc@gmail.com

Recovering from a disaster is a community effort and is relies upon the support of neighbors and local organizations. VRCs have been established to help mobilize Mississippi Gulf Coast communities to take cohesive action to protect residents from the advance of the oil disaster.

VRCs are supported by AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps teams and are serving Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson Counties. Residents, volunteers and nonprofit organizations are invited to call or visit active VRCs between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. to seek assistance, request information about volunteering and advertise volunteering opportunities. Individuals interested in volunteering can also register online at www.mcv.org.

To date, over 4,500 volunteers from 46 states, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Singapore, France, Canada, and Australia have registered to help in response to the BP oil spill. Hundreds of volunteers from Mississippi's lower three counties have given over 1,000 hours of service, and cleaned and surveyed over 37 miles of beach and coastal habitats.

The Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service engages and supports Mississippians of all ages and backgrounds in service to their communities. As your state office of volunteerism, the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service administers AmeriCorps programs, supports a network of Volunteer Centers, and coordinates other initiatives fostering community engagement and building volunteer capacity throughout the state. Contact MCVS at 888.353.1793 or www.mcv.org.

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