



MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tropical Storm Ida brings wind and rain to the Mississippi Gulf Coast

PEARL – The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency continues to urge Mississippi residents along the Gulf Coast to stay alert and remain prepared for Tropical Storm Ida.

Although Ida continues to weaken, high winds, very heavy rain and a flash flood watch remain in effect for Mississippi coastal counties. Power outages are a real possibility.

“Tropical systems that develop late in the season tend to be unpredictable,” said MEMA Director Mike Womack. “This storm has changed projected track and intensity frequently over the past few days. The citizens in South and Central Mississippi should continue to monitor the weather over the next 24 hours to determine exactly how this storm will impact the state.”

Residents who live in low lying areas of the coast and whose homes are vulnerable to high winds are encouraged to begin preparing their homes according to their hurricane disaster plan.

Residents should also continue to monitor the local media in case of any possible changes in Ida’s possible warnings and be ready to comply with any orders and prepare to evacuate if advised by local officials. The American Red Cross has opened shelters in the following locations:

- West Harrison Community Center, 4470 Espy Ave, Long Beach.
- Woolmarket Community Center, 16320 Old Woolmarket Rd, Biloxi.
- Gautier Community Center, 2012 Library Lane, Gautier.

While MEMA encourages those who need it to take advantage of the shelters, a mandatory evacuation has not been ordered.

MEMA will continue to release updated information about Tropical Depression Ida as they develop.

For more information on tropical weather preparedness, visit MEMA's Web site at www.msema.org.

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