

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government
Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
July 20, 2010-4:00PM
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Terrebonne Parish Information

1) Coast Guard representatives in Cocodrie reported:

- Total personnel in Cocodrie: 1284
- National Incident Commander reports that the oil recovery for the last 24 hours is 3,700 barrels.
- Heat continues to be an issue with 103-105 degree heat index.
- BP this week will introduce a **mobile claims center** to supplement the existing claims centers throughout the state. The mobile claims center will travel with four claims adjusters to assist residents filing claims throughout affected parishes in Louisiana.
To expedite the claims process at the mobile claims center, affected residents are asked to provide a Picture I.D., Social Security number with card if possible, and any one or more forms of income verification (tax returns, recent pay stubs, trip tickets, etc).
The mobile claims center will be in Terrebonne Parish on **July 20 and July 21 at 9499 Grand Caillou Road, Dulac, LA 70353 from 10a.m. to 3p.m.**
For more information on the mobile claims center and the claims process, visit www.louisianagulfresponse.com/go/site/3047/ or call 1-800-573-8429.

Weather

Tonight: Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 1am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 77. East wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Wednesday: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 91. Heat index values as high as 105. East wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

Wednesday Night: Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 77. East wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Thursday: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 93. Southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Boats/Vessels

- 16 Skimmers in Cocodrie.
- 202 boats on site assisting with cleanup in Cocodrie.

Boom

- Boom Inventory:
 - Boom $\leq 35''$:
 - Deployed Today: 100
 - Total Deployed: 262,286'
 - Boom $\geq 35''$:
 - Deployed Today: 0
 - Total Deployed: 10,109'
 - Sorbent Boom:
 - Deployed Today: 200'
 - Total Deployed: 1,181,078'
- Sorbent boom is now only being used on oil impacted areas.

Cleanup Progress

- Continued beach reconnaissance and manual recovery of discovered oil.
- All recovery operations are to follow the general shoreline treatment recommendations established for Timbalier Bay and Terrebonne Bay.
- Cleanup crews working on Bay Timbour, Whiskey Island, Trinity Island, Wine Island, Raccoon Island, Bayou Petit Caillou, and Lake Pelto.

2) Oil impact reports:

- Assessment team reports the following:
 - No new oil to report.

3) Vessels of Opportunity Program:

- Anyone interested in applying to becoming a Vessels of Opportunity (VOO) or crew member should call 281-366-5511.

4) Fishing Closures:

- Yielding to a groundswell from the recreational fishing community, which pointed out that tests were not showing contamination of fish in the closed areas, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on Wednesday lifted the ban on sports fishing in most areas closed because of the oil spill. The exception is in areas that are heavily oiled and where cleanup is taking place.
- The ban on commercial fishing in oiled areas has not been changed but may be lifted next week, a state official said. The decision does not change closures in federally managed waters, the open Gulf three miles south of the Louisiana coast.
- Any reports of oil sighted by recreational fishermen need to be accompanied by latitude and longitude.

The only closures that remain are mapped below.





Helpful Information

July 24: Children's Health Fair
Ward 7, 5006 Hwy 56
Chauvin, LA

British Petroleum Claims Center

BP has opened the following claims centers in Terrebonne to process claims for those who have lost income due to the recent spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

1. **814 Grand Caillou Rd. Suites 2 & 3- Plaza Caillou Shopping Center - (8:00 AM and 7:00 PM, seven days a week).**
2. **5703 Highway 56, Chauvin - (7:00 AM to 7:00 PM, seven days a week).**

Those wishing to seek claims should bring photo identification as well as all necessary documentation to verify income from previous years.

BP has set up a toll free hotline. For oil spill related damage claims call 1-800-440-0858.

Department of Social Services

A temporary Food Stamp distribution center has been set up at the Chauvin Senior Center to take applications for their regular program. This is **not** emergency food stamps. Applications will be taken from 8:00 am to 3:00pm Monday through Friday until further notice. For more information call the main office at 857-3620.

SBA

The Small Business Administration (SBA) has also opened an office on **the first floor of the Government Tower located at 8026 Main Street**. Their operating hours are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday thru Friday.

The Small Business Administration is taking applications for low-interest loans. This program is available to Louisiana Gulf Coast small businesses suffering financial losses related to the BP oil spill. Contact SBA's customer service center at 1-800-659-2955 for further details

LIHEAP

Funds are available to assist persons with a utility disconnect notice. Call 985-873-6817 for more information.

Crisis Rent and Mortgage Assistance

Persons that have been laid off or suffered a reduction in work hours may qualify for assistance with delinquent mortgage or rental payments. Documentation of need and household income is required to determine eligibility. For more information call 985-873-6817.

Beautiful Beginnings Center

The Beautiful Beginnings Center provides temporary shelter to eligible families with children. To be considered eligible families must be considered homeless. Parents must be working or willing to gain employment. Call 985-580-8105 for more information.

Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing

Both Gulf Coast Teaching Family Services and START Corporation are providing homeless prevention and rapid re-housing services which includes, but is not limited to, rental assistance, utility deposits and utility payments.

Gulf Coast Teaching Family Services - 985-851-4488
START Corporation - 985-879-3966

Unemployment Insurance Benefits

Regular unemployment benefits are available to qualified individuals who have lost their job due to the oil spill. For more information call 866-783-5567 or visit their website at www.laworks.net.

Crisis Counseling

Counseling is available to those affected by the oil spill through the Terrebonne Mental Health Center. They can be contacted at 985-857-3615. Crisis counseling is also available through the Center for Child and Family Development at 985-873-7221 and Options for Independence at 985-876-8630.

Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) (aka Disaster Food Stamps)

There is a public information campaign making people aware that all low- to moderate-income Louisianians may be eligible for **Disaster Food Stamp** benefits in the event of a natural disaster and should pre-apply now for benefits online or by phone. Current Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients do not need to pre-apply and would receive disaster benefits automatically. Please visit online at dss.louisiana.gov or call 1-888-524-3578.