



Okaloosa County News Release

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Date: May 7, 2014

Update: April Rain Event #11

Flood Debris Removal Begins Friday, May 9th

The April 30 flood debris collection for unincorporated Okaloosa County will begin on Friday, May 9, 2014. **Only one pass will be made along public rights-of-way, so everyone must have their flood related debris out by noon.** (There is no guarantee that the material will be picked up if it is placed on the right of way after 12 p.m. on Friday, May 9.) Pickup of storm debris in unincorporated areas will cease on Sunday, May 11.

Only flood-related debris will be collected. Normal garbage collection will continue in accordance with the rules that apply to your service area, provided that road is accessible to collection equipment.

When piling debris, residents are instructed to keep piles away from mail boxes, fire hydrants, TV/phone cable boxes, power boxes, parked cars and lift stations. Do not block traffic with debris piles! Debris should not be placed in the roadway. This could cause a traffic hazard and may be restricting passage for emergency vehicles. Debris should be placed on the rights-of-way with a minimum of 5 feet between debris and fire hydrants, mailboxes, parked cars and/or water meters/cable and power boxes.

Household hazardous waste (paint, pesticides, pool chemicals, oil, gas, batteries, etc.) will not be collected by debris haulers and must be brought to a drop-off location. Call 651-7394 for information.

Storm Update:

Please report damage on the Okaloosa County Website, www.okaloosafl.com or use this link: http://www.co.okaloosa.fl.us/flood_info.html. If you cannot do so online, call Citizens Information Line, 311.

FEMA Process

Damage reported to the State and FEMA was 3.3 Million in damage to homes and 9.1 Million in damage to public infrastructure. The federal threshold Okaloosa County must meet to receive a disaster declaration is \$591, 287. Damages reported far exceed the required threshold. The State has already met their required threshold with damages in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. Both State and county thresholds must be met in order to receive a disaster declaration.

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FEMA and the State of Florida teams arrived in Okaloosa County once they became available. The teams are in Okaloosa County performing the Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA). The PDA is being conducted to verify the damage that Okaloosa County has reported to FEMA and the State. FEMA has inspected homes in Destin and will continue in Fort Walton Beach and Mary Ester today and then move to the north county areas to inspect more homes damaged in the flooding. FEMA teams that are currently in North County area inspecting damage to infrastructure will move south to inspect public infrastructure damage.

Once inspections are completed a report will be forwarded to Tallahassee by the teams for validation. Once validated by the Florida Division of Emergency Management the Governor will be requested to ask the President to include Okaloosa County in the disaster declaration.

Road Closures Remaining:

North-East

Grandview Dr
Jack Rd
Oakhill Rd
Okaloosa Lane
Old Antioch Rd
Old Dorcas Rd
Roberts Rd
Shoal River Dr

North-West

Canoe Rd
Ellis Rd
Hilton Rd
Lenwood Jackson Rd
Lighthouse Church Rd
Old River Rd
Sexton Rd (west of WGJ)
W. Dodson Rd

South

Jonquil Ave NW

Other

Milligan Boat Ramp

Private Roads

Freeport Ct (Mary Esther)
Yohn Rd (Baker)

Mosquito Spraying:

Spot spraying based on service calls we receive. Standard broadcast spraying will begin in a couple of weeks. Due to the storm last week and the weather forecast, a significant adult mosquito population is expected to emerge over the next few days.

The Okaloosa County 911 Emergency Operations Center has returned to normal hours of operation. EOC is at a Level 3 – Monitoring.

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