

GLOUCESTER COUNTY



EMERGENCY INFORMATION ANNOUNCEMENT # 2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Friday, October 2, 2015

TIME: 5:00 p.m.

CONTACT: Christi Lewis - Emergency Public Information Officer
693-5730 or Emergency.Public.Info@gloucesterva.info

TIDAL & COASTAL FLOODING EXPECTED: SAFE HAVEN TO BE AVAILABLE FOR GLOUCESTER RESIDENTS

Gloucester County emergency management officials continue to closely monitor storm and weather conditions in our area. While Hurricane Joaquin appears to no longer pose a direct threat, flooding continue to be a concern. Tidal flooding is expected to be basically the same as today, October 2nd for the next three high tide cycles which are Saturday at 1:54 a.m and 2:18 p.m. and Sunday at 2:50 a.m. Residents, however, need to be aware that on Sunday afternoon at 3:15 p.m., the high tide is predicted to be approximately 1 to 1 ½ feet higher.

Residents in low-lying areas having recently experienced flooding, should be aware of the high tide cycles, the higher tide predicted for Sunday afternoon and it's potential impact to make a decision about leaving for safer ground during low tide timeframes, if roadways are clear of water and/or debris.

Specific areas recently and historically impacted by flooding events include: Achilles, Severn, Rose Haven, Maryus, Jenkins Neck and Maundy's Creek, Guinea Neck, Carmines Island, Horse Point, Little England and Mark Pine, Brown's Bay, Perrin Creek, Robin's Neck, Bray's Point, Cook's Landing, and low-lying areas in Glass, Naxera, Ware Neck, Zanoni and Holly Beach.

Drivers are advised to never drive through flooded roadways even if you are familiar with the road. Please keep in mind that first responders and emergency personnel may be unable to get to residents in flooded areas, so if you need to leave, do so during low tide.

Moderate wind gusts, along with the saturated ground due to excessive rains, will raise the probability of falling trees and downed power lines. Isolated and scattered power outages may be experienced. Residents are highly encouraged to take necessary steps now to plan and prepare for potential flooding and power outages.

RELOCATION CENTER/SAFE HAVEN: Gloucester officials will open a relocation center or temporary “safe haven” for residents who may be impacted by flooding or are unable to get to their homes during the high tide cycles. Those experiencing power outages may use the facility to re-charge electronic devices and equipment needing power. **The Gloucester Moose Lodge, located at 6565 Moose Drive, off of Route 17 approximately ½ mile south of Wal-Mart, will be open from 9 a.m. Sunday morning to 9 a.m. Monday morning. This is a safe haven only and not an official emergency shelter. No meals or bedding will be provided and pets are not allowed.**

CLOSINGS AND CANCELLATIONS: The Gloucester Point Boat Landing is closed until next week. Gloucester Point Beach Park and Greate Road may be closed temporarily during the next several days due to high tides and road/parking area flooding. The STAR program at Botetourt Elementary School is cancelled for tonight. All Parks and Recreation soccer games scheduled for Saturday, October 3rd are cancelled. The Mushroom Walk planned for Saturday, October 3rd at Woodville Park is postponed until Saturday, October 10th.

POWER OUTAGE UPDATES: Call Dominion Virginia Power at **1-866-DOM-HELP (1-866-366-4357)** and visit the Outage Center online at www.dom.com/residential/dominion-virginia-power/outage-center.

STATE ROAD CONDITIONS: Anyone traveling is encouraged to monitor weather and road conditions before heading out. Call 511 for road conditions or visit online at 511virginia.org.

Please do not call 911 or the Sheriff’s Office for storm information, as these lines are needed for actual emergencies.

End of Announcement