



P.O. Box 425 | Mathews, LA 70375
Telephone 985.537.7603 | Fax 985.532.8292



Charlotte A. Randolph, *Parish President*

Office of Emergency Preparedness

PRESS RELEASE

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Lafourche Receives Two Emergency Trailer Units from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries

Lafourche Parish Government has received two emergency trailer units that can accommodate emergency personnel during a Category 5 Hurricane. The trailer units, donated by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, have been placed behind the Mathews Government Complex.

The units, which measure 58 feet long and 12 feet wide, are self-sustaining and feature a separate generator on each as well as work space areas, communications areas, sleeping quarters, showers and restroom facilities. These units can be used to house the minimal personnel who stay at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Mathews during a major storm. With up to 10 work space areas in each, these units could also be utilized by parish personnel during daily operations of an emergency should generator power fail at the EOC. With the technological abilities inside, the units could also be used to accommodate personnel from outside agencies during an event if space becomes limited at the EOC.

“Essentially, these units will become a scaled-down, but fully-functional version of our EOC,” said Office of Emergency Preparedness Director Chris Boudreaux. “In the event a major storm would threaten the integrity of the Mathews Government Complex, the few employees remaining at the EOC could continue working and ride the storm out in these units if necessary.”

Parish employees are typically allowed to evacuate with the general public. Only emergency personnel and those finishing last minute work on levees, pumps and other protective measures remain behind, and even most of them are eventually allowed to evacuate. The Parish also has an agreement with St. Anne Catholic Church in Napoleonville to house Parish personnel there to ride out a storm until they can return to work.

Lafourche Parish President Charlotte Randolph thanked the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries for the donation, hoping they never have to be used for their intended purpose.

“We will never put any of our employees in harm’s way,” said Parish President Charlotte Randolph. “We will always try to get as many people out as we can. These units will provide emergency shelter if it becomes necessary during a major event. In the meantime, we will utilize these facilities anytime it makes sense to do so. It simply gives us more options in regard to facilities.”

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View of the front emergency trailer unit from the Mathews Government Complex.



Photo of both emergency trailer units behind the Mathews Government Complex.



A set of work space areas inside one of the emergency trailer units.



Photo of the bunk area inside one of the emergency trailer units.