



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 6:15 P.M.
Thursday, July 22, 2010

Lafourche Parish Government Monitoring Tropical Storm Bonnie *BP and Coast Guard Begin Preparations to Evacuate Equipment & Personnel*

Lafourche Parish Government's Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) is currently monitoring Tropical Storm Bonnie, which is forecasted to be in the Gulf of Mexico sometime Friday evening. As of the 5:00 P.M. advisory, the forecast track shows eventual landfall somewhere along the Louisiana coast as early as Sunday.

"At this point, all models indicate this storm will not reach hurricane strength," said Chris Boudreaux, OEP Director for Lafourche Parish Government. Regardless, we will obviously get some wet, windy weather, and tides will rise several feet above normal."

Because of the high tides, the oil spill cleanup operations will be impacted. Personnel from BP and the U.S. Coast Guard are already preparing to move assets and equipment out of Port Fourchon to a safer location as per the hurricane plan drafted specifically for the oil spill response.

Lafourche Parish Unified Command in Port Fourchon is also prepared to move the Emergency Operations Center to its normal location at the Mathews Government Complex on Friday unless the forecast track changes significantly in the next 12 hours. The higher tides expected with this storm could push water over LA-1 south of Golden Meadow.

For the latest emergency information from Lafourche Parish Government, log on to <http://www.lafourchegov.org>, and click on the Emergency Information link, or sign up for Emergency Email updates. Residents can also obtain emergency updates by logging on to Lafourche Parish Government's official Twitter and Facebook pages.

- ### -