



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: 9:00 A.M.
Thursday, September 01, 2011

Parish Officials Prepare for Heavy Rainfall over the Weekend *Office of Emergency Preparedness Monitoring Disturbance in Gulf of Mexico*

Lafourche Parish Government is monitoring the tropical disturbance in the Gulf of Mexico and urging residents to prepare for heavy rainfall which could begin later today or Friday. The National Weather Service has issued a flash flood watch for parts of Lafourche Parish which will remain in effect through Sunday evening.

Department of Public Works (DPW) Director Kerry Babin has instructed pumpers parish-wide to begin pumping water levels down at all areas of the parish in preparation of the expected heavy rainfall. DPW workers will either be working or on standby over the weekend to respond to any situations that arise.

“We’re asking all residents to assist by checking drainage ditches, culverts and catch basins and clearing them of any blockages or debris,” said Babin. “Residents are especially asked remember to retrieve their garbage cans and lids as soon as their garbage is picked up.”

Additionally, residents in flood-prone and low-lying areas are urged to prepare their property for the possibility of flooding. Chris Boudreaux, Director of Emergency Preparedness, says that while this system is not expected to develop into a hurricane, we could still see high winds and a large amount of rain.

“I’m sure residents remember tropical storms like Allison, Cindy and Matthew,” said Boudreaux. “None of those storms hit as hurricanes and yet caused major flooding in several areas of the parish. The key right now is there is a lot of uncertainty with this system. The experts don’t yet know where it’s going, how it will develop, or how long it will stick around.”

Residents are encouraged to log on to the Lafourche Parish Government website (<http://www.lafourchegov.org>) for the latest news and developments. Residents can also have updates sent directly to them by signing up for the mailing list, or following Lafourche Parish Government on Facebook or Twitter.

- ### -