



Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency

Baldwin County Commission

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BALDWIN COUNTY MEDIA ALERT RECOVERY UPDATE #3

BALDWIN COUNTY, AL, (Sept. 21, 2020) – Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency (BCEMA) asks for the media’s help in sharing the following new information. Please note previously issued – and still accurate – information is after the line break below:

- **Daily EMA updates**

- Baldwin County EMA is doing twice daily live updates via Facebook Live at 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. The video is recorded and available on the EMA [Facebook](#) page at [@BaldwinCountyEMA](#).
- Follow active updates from Baldwin EMA on our other social media channels – [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) ([@BaldwinEMA](#)).
- Important information is also available on the Baldwin County website (www.baldwincountyal.gov) and on the Baldwin EMA app that is free to download on your mobile device.

- **Boil Water Notices**

We are aware of boil water notices in the following areas:

- Bon Secour (Riviera Utilities customers, through Friday, Sept. 25)
- Elberta (Riviera Utilities customers, through Friday, Sept. 25)
- Foley (Riviera Utilities customers, through Friday, Sept. 25)
- Magnolia Springs (Riviera Utilities customers, through Friday, Sept. 25)
- Orange Beach (until further notice)
- Seminole - County Road 91 South (through Tuesday, Sept. 22)

- **Cleanup Assistance Hotline**

Residents needing help removing trees and debris should call the Crisis Cleanup Hotline at 1-800-451-1954. Volunteer groups coming to the county will work from needs documented in this database.

- **Charity Organizations Offering Assistance**

- Baptist Association
 - First Baptist Church Gulf Shores – Gulf Shores, Orange Beach and Fort Morgan residents apply in person for cleanup assistance
 - First Baptist Church Robertsdale – Elberta, Foley, Robertsdale and Summerdale residents apply in person for cleanup assistance.
- Feeding America/Feeding the Gulf Coast (food distribution efforts)
- Operation BBQ Relief (Orange Beach Sportsplex)
- Red Cross (assisting across the county)
- Samaritan’s Purse (First Baptist Church Foley) – Taking applications for cleanup assistance and installing temporary roof tarps.
- Salvation Army (feeding people across the county)

- **County Offices**

All county offices are closed Tuesday, Sept. 22, with the exception of Emergency Management Agency and Probate Offices at the Bay Minette Courthouse and Fairhope Satellite Courthouse.

- **Curfew**

- Curfew for the unincorporated areas of Baldwin County, as well as Fairhope, Gulf Shores and Orange Beach, has been adjusted to 10:30 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.
- Curfew for Loxley is 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
- There is no longer a curfew in Spanish Fort.
- As far as we know, curfew for all other cities remains as 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

- **FEMA Disaster Assistance**

- FEMA has issued a disaster declaration for Baldwin, Escambia and Mobile counties as well as the Porch Band of Creek Indians. To file a claim for assistance, you must first register with FEMA in one of the following ways:
 1. Call 1-800-621-3362 (TTY# 1-800-462-7585)
 2. Register online at www.disasterassistance.gov
 3. Download the FEMA app on your mobile device and register using the app.
- Details on what is covered by [Individual Assistance](#) can be found online.
 - It is important to understand that by law, FEMA assistance cannot duplicate the assistance you receive from your insurance company, but you may receive assistance for items not covered by insurance.
 - FEMA does not offer assistance for your secondary home. Federal guidelines only allow FEMA to provide housing assistance when your primary residence is impacted by a presidentially-declared disaster.

- **Power Restoration**

- Power crews are working 24 hours to get electricity restored across the county.
- Baldwin EMC reports 74% of their service area has power restored (as of 6:00 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 21)
 - 78,000 total customers – 60,000 customers restored – 23,000 still without power
 - 1,400 workers from electric co-op partners are in Baldwin County working

- Crews are assigned all across the service area working simultaneously on power restoration.
 - Riviera Utilities reports 64% of their service area has power restored.
 - 51,000 total customers – 32,400 customers restored – 18,600 still without power
 - Estimated power restoration reported by the following cities:
 - Barnwell – 95% restored
 - Bay Minette – 96% restored
 - Fairhope – 85% restored
 - Foley – downtown area/main corridor restored; other areas being added
 - Gulf Shores – 80% restored
 - Loxley – 85% restored
 - Orange Beach – 75% restored
 - Spanish Fort – 80% restored
 - It is very important that people remember there is an extremely high fire risk to houses that have been flooded when the power gets turned back on.
- **Schools**
 - Baldwin County Schools – will reopen on Wednesday, Sept. 30
 - Gulf Shores City Schools – no announcement made yet
- **Volunteer Registration Centers (VRCs)**
 - Volunteers wanting to assist with cleanup and repairs need to register at an official Volunteer Registration Center to be matched up with residents who need help.
 - These centers are for individual volunteers; if with an organized group, the group leader should coordinate with the VRC.
 - Volunteers will be issued a Volunteer ID by the VRC so that residents know the person has been approved to assist.
 - Two Visitor Registration Centers are now operating:
 - Gulf Shores**
Gulf Shores Sportsplex
19025 Oak Rd West (County Rd. 6)
Gulf Shores, AL
Registration Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 - Robertsdale**
Robertsdale PZK Hall
7933 AL Hwy. 104
Robertsdale, AL
Registration Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Previously issued information that is still accurate:

- **Courts**

- Baldwin County Courthouses are closed at least through Wednesday, Sept. 23.
- All jury trials scheduled through the end of September are cancelled, per Judge J. Clark Stankoski, Presiding Circuit Judge of the 28th Judicial Circuit.

- **Debris Cleanup**
 - Baldwin County is under a burn ban until October 31. Residents clearing yard debris should not burn because outdoor burning can get out of control very quickly, and water pressure issues caused by Hurricane Sally can impact water flow at fire hydrants.
 - Yard and home debris should be sorted properly and set out by the road.
 - Sort your piles into appropriate types such as vegetative/tree limbs, construction & demolition (C&D), white goods (appliances and furniture), hazardous (paint/chemicals/poisons) piled at the edge of your property along the street. Click here for a handy [debris sorting chart](#).
 - Do not put your debris piles under power lines, blocking fire hydrants, or impeding traffic.
 - Do not bag your debris. Cleanup crews will only pick up loose debris.
 - Debris cleanup crews have been deployed and will only pick up debris along your street that has been sorted.

- **Donations**
 - Individuals wanting to support Baldwin County residents recovering from Hurricane Sally are encouraged to use the official local United Way Hurricane Sally Relief Fund at www.unitedway-bc.org.

- **Food Safety**
 - Power outages associated with hurricane storm force winds can cause concerns about the safety of frozen and refrigerated foods. As a general rule, a full upright or chest freezer will keep foods frozen for about two days without power.
 - A partially full freezer will keep foods frozen for about one day. This time may be extended by keeping the door shut. A refrigerator will keep foods cool for four to six hours if the door is kept closed as much as possible.
 - Any thawed foods that have been at room temperature for more than two hours should be discarded. Foods still containing ice crystals can be refrozen, although the quality of the food may decrease. Foods that have thawed to refrigerator temperatures (that is, no more than 40 degrees Fahrenheit) can also be cooked and then refrozen.
 - Additional resources (including infographics):
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/keep-food-safe-after-emergency.html>
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/food-safety-during-a-power-outage.html>
 - <https://www.fda.gov/food/buy-store-serve-safe-food/food-and-water-safety-during-power-outages-and-floods>
 - <https://www.fda.gov/media/72124/download>

- **Garbage Dropoff and Pickup**
 - Baldwin County Solid Waste has scheduled staging sites for this week throughout the south end of the county for residents to drop off household garbage.

- This is anything that would normally go in their green county garbage cart, and will not accept vegetation, white goods, or construction and demolition material.
- If you are cleaning out the refrigerator or freezer, these items must be bagged in garbage bags. Unbagged items will not be accepted at these drop off locations.
- Citizens with questions should call Baldwin County Solid Waste at 251-972-6878.
- Schedule for locations:

Tuesday

Lillian Boat Launch and Park
 12408 7th St.
 Lillian, AL 36549
 Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Fire Department
 4690 County Road 6
 Gulf Shores, AL 36542
 Hours: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday

3 Circle Church
 10274 Hwy. 104
 Fairhope, AL 36532
 Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Barnwell Ballpark
 7388 Martin Lane
 Fairhope, AL 36532
 Hours: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Thursday

Perdido Beach Fire Dept.
 8450 Escambia Ave.
 Perdido Beach, AL 36530
 Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Old Foley Highway Barn
 1013 N. Juniper St
 Foley, AL 36535
 Hours: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

• **Generator Safety**

- While the use of a generator can help you get on the road to recovery, it can also pose danger to your health and safety if not used correctly – especially carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning from the toxic engine exhaust, electric shock or electrocution, and fire.
- Generators should not be operated indoors, should be set at least 20 feet from any structure, and should not be used in rain or wet conditions.
- More extensive generator guidelines can be found [online](#), but always consult your owner’s manual.

- **Points of Distribution for essential supplies**

Baldwin County EMA currently has 11 Points of Distribution (PODs) set up across the county providing emergency supplies to residents. The National Guard is at each location to assist with distribution. Supplies shipped to each community are based on 2010 Census population. The 11 locations are:

Bay Minette

First Baptist Church Bay Minette
1201 Hand Ave.
Bay Minette, AL
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Elberta

Elberta Fire Department
13125 Chicago St.
Elberta, AL
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Fairhope

Volanta Park
523 Volanta Ave.
Fairhope, AL
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Foley

Foley Soccer Complex
18507 US Hwy. 98
Foley, AL
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Gulf Shores

Gulf Shores Sportsplex
19025 Oak Rd West (County Rd. 6)
Gulf Shores, AL
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

NOTE: The City of Gulf Shores has set up an additional location on the island at Gulf Shores United Methodist Church on Hwy. 59

Lillian

Lillian Community Club
34148 Widell Ave.
Lillian, AL
Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Orange Beach

Christian Life – The Island Church
25550 Canal Rd.
Orange Beach
Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Perdido Beach

Perdido Beach Fire Department
8450 Escambia Ave.
Perdido Beach, AL
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Robertsdale

South Baldwin County Coliseum
19477 Fairground Rd.
Robertsdale, AL
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Seminole

Seminole Fire Department Station 22
32268 Hwy. 90
Seminole, AL
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Summerdale

502 West Lee Ave.
Summerdale, AL
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

• Price Gouging/Scams

- Baldwin EMA is already hearing reports of price gauging for tree removal services and other home repairs.
- Legitimate contractors must have a business license for each city and county in which they are operating. Ask to see proof of this license as well as bonding and insurance.
- Always get an estimate in writing before any work is done.
- DO NOT pay cash for work nor for advanced deposits. Always pay by check or credit card so you have a record of the transaction.

• Shelters

- The Baldwin County Coliseum located in Robertsdale is still open as an overnight shelter with security and medical personnel present until Wednesday, Sept. 23. The Red Cross will transition shelter residents to another Red Cross shelter in the area. The Coliseum is still an electrical support location for people needing power for essential medical equipment

Additional information on post-storm safety is available on the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/be-safe-after.html>.

For more information, contact Jenni Guerry or Sherry-Lea Botoy, Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency at jguerry@baldwincountyal.gov or Sherry-Lea.Botoy@baldwincountyal.gov (251) 972-6809.

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