

Hurricane Matthew Preparations

October 8, 2016 Update (8:00 PM):

As part of our response efforts, DHEC has taken the following actions (updated at 8 p.m. on 10/8/2016):

Boil Water Advisories:

Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority has issued **3 boil water advisories impacting 7,000 customers** in St. Helena Island, Point South and several barrier islands (*Gibbs, Cane, Cat, Distant, Warsaw Vivian's, Coosaw, Fripp, Hunting and Harbor*).

Georgetown County Water and Sewer Authority has valved off drinking water to their barrier islands to protect their main water system. This affects a **population of roughly 5,000**.

For the latest list of boil water advisories and notices, click [here](#).

Health Care Facilities:

On Oct. 4, 2016, the Governor issued a Mandatory Medical Evacuation (MME) for health care facilities regulated by DHEC in the evacuation zone. Prior to the storm, 127 facilities had evacuated. The following 13 hospitals requested an exemption from the evacuation order and are sheltering in place:

- Colleton Medical Center
- Roper Hospital
- Bon Secours St. Francis
- Roper St. Francis
- Coastal Carolina Hospital
- Grand Strand
- Health South Charleston
- East Cooper
- Trident
- MUSC
- Summerville
- Vibra
- Tidelands-Waccamaw

As of Saturday at 5 p.m., all health care facilities sheltering in place were stable and had reported no material issues to DHEC. The Department continues to reach out to these facilities to assess and monitor their status and identify any needs or issues they may have.

Special Medical Needs Shelters:

DHEC is operating [Special Medical Needs Shelters](#) to provide shelter for people whose medical conditions exceed the capabilities of the Red Cross shelters, but are not severe enough to require a hospital stay. We do not provide health care services in these shelters. *(Note: If you think you may need this type of shelter, please call DHEC at 1-800-868-0404.)*

The following shelters are currently open:

- Dorchester County Senior Center (312 N Laurel Street, Summerville)
- Colleton Medical Center – Colleton (501 Robertson Blvd, Walterboro)
- Allendale County Hospital (1787 Allendale-Fairfax Hwy, Fairfax)
- Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College (3250 St. Matthews Road, Orangeburg)
- Carolinas Hospital System - Marion (2829 US Hwy 76, Mullins)
- Palmetto Health Tuomey (129 North Washington St., Sumter)

Two additional shelters, Health South – Charleston and Lake City Community Hospital, are now full and can no longer accept new shelterees at this time.

Coastal Resources:

Prior to the storm, DHEC issued blanket emergency orders to local governments to allow property owners along the immediate beachfront to conduct sand scraping or install sandbags to provide temporary protection from anticipated wave uprush from the storm. DHEC has asked local governments along the coast to provide updates on beachfront erosion and damage through our [MYCoast application](#).

Dams:

As of Saturday at 6 p.m., there were **two confirmed breached dams**. They include:

- A low-hazard dam in Dillon County, Little Pee Dee State Park Dam.
- An unregulated dam above Durham Road in Lexington County.

DHEC also is working to confirm a reported breach of Squire Lake Dam in Dillon County. This significant-hazard dam previously had been issued a repair order by DHEC after the October 2015 floods.

DHEC and the Army Corps of Engineers are planning to begin post-storm inspections of 83 priority dams on Sunday as conditions permit.

Prior to the storm, DHEC implemented the CodeRED system to notify dam owners via voice call, text messages and email to prepare for potential significant rainfall. Dam owners also were advised to lower water levels.