

Flood Hazard & Hurricane Preparation Guide

Citizens of D'Iberville:

This brochure is to advise YOU of the flood hazard in YOUR area and to suggest actions that may be taken to protect YOU and YOUR property. Please be aware, ALL locations are subject to flood risk. It is vital to be aware of the flood risk in order to preserve life and property.

- **The City of D'Iberville** strives to deliver the best service possible and we are doing this with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administers the NFIP. Since 1968, FEMA's NFIP has been successful in assisting flood victims get back on their feet. As you may know, the NFIP provides federally backed flood insurance that encourages communities to enact Floodplain Management (FPM) regulations.
- In 1990, the NFIP implemented the Community Rating System (CRS) as a voluntary incentive program that recognizes community FPM activities that EXCEED the minimum NFIP regulations. On October 1, 2007, the **City of D'Iberville** joined the NFIP CRS. We are working toward the three goals of the CRS: flood loss reduction, facilitating an accurate insurance rating, and promoting awareness **flood hazards** and insurance

Please heed the recommendations offered to you in this brochure. It will help ensure your compliance with City, State, and Federal regulations and may help prevent you and your property from suffering a catastrophic loss.

Know Your Flood Hazard

The **City of D'Iberville** is naturally subject to flooding caused by storm surge, heavy rain events, along with natural and overloaded manmade drainage systems. Again, **D'Iberville** is subject to flooding whenever local rains are excessive; inundating many neighborhood streets and alleyways.

- Areas especially **prone to flooding** include: Forest Cove, D'Iberville Blvd, Lamey Bridge Rd in the River Buff area, Riverside Rd, portions of Old Hwy 67, Longwood Subdivision, and Rivers Edge Subdivision. Special caution should be used when travelling these areas during periods of heavy precipitation.
- **Storm Surge** from the Back Bay could affect areas near or along the Tchoutacabouffa River; a River Gage, in real time, is available on our website www.diberville.ms.us - hover over the **Departments** tab, see the **Building Department listing**, click onto the **Flood Prevention Management** tab then go to the bottom of the page.

Historical Flooding Information-Major Flood Producing Storms:

- 1969-Camille, 1985-Elena, 1998-Georges, 2001-Allison, 2002-Isidore,
- **2005-Katrina** (declared an Emergency Disaster-Storm surge of 20-30+ ft), 2008-Ike & Gustav.
- Hurricanes and Tropical Storms are most prevalent from June 1st – November 30th with August and September being the months of greatest risk.

Flood Safety

The force of floodwaters is easily underestimated; **Safety is a MUST, Be Aware!** To avoid potential injury, please follow these recommendations:

- **KNOW** where you will go BEFORE the emergency arises.
- **DO NOT** walk through flood waters; currents are deceptive, 6 inches of moving water can knock you off your feet.
- **NEVER**, under any circumstance, enter an area of standing or moving water; the depth and how swiftly the water is moving is unknown. Do not drive through a flooded area or around barriers; MORE people die in automobiles during a flood than from any other source.
- **AVOID** power lines and electrical wires; treat ALL wiring as if it is "hot". Turn off electric circuits and disconnect switches; electric currents can travel through water. Shut off gas and water valves.
- **PLAN to LEAVE**. Delaying departure can result in being cutoff from evacuation routes due to rising water; roads or bridges may be washed out. If possible, evacuation to an inland location north of the coast is a far better option than staying on the waterfront. Learn evacuation routes and leave when advised to do so.

Property Protection Measures

Flooding is the number one cause of property damage in the United States. A few temporary and permanent retrofitting techniques to **eliminate or reduce flood damage** include:

- **ELEVATING** your house above the flood level along with electrical panel boxes, furnaces, A/C units, and water heaters; this is the best option.
- **PLACING** a floodwall around your home; this will work if flooding is not too deep and if your property is not in a floodway.
- **SANDBAGGING**; a short-term measure.
- **CORRECTING** drainage problems; install a 1-way check valve in the sewer line to prevent sewer backup.
- Also, **"DRY FLOODPROOF"** your house to make the walls and flooring watertight so that water cannot enter along with placing watertight closures over doorways; both are not recommended if water will get over 2ft.
- **"WET FLOODPROOF"** your house which modifies the structure and relocates contents to lessen the damage caused by any flood waters that enter.
- In addition, **protection against high winds include: Installing** storm shutters and reinforcing garage doors. **Keeping** protective supplies (plywood, plastic sheeting, lumber, nails, and fasteners) on hand can eliminate loss of valuable time in an emergency.

Floodwaters can rise in a matter of minutes and remain for hours. NOW is the time to protect your property. **NOW** is the time to prepare.

Flood Warning & Evacuation Data

The National Weather Service in conjunction with the Harrison County Mississippi Emergency Management Agency and the **D'Iberville** Fire Department provide FLOOD WARNING and EVACUATION DATA to residents of **D'Iberville** through local (WLOX and WXXV), regional and national (The Weather Channel) television stations as well as online at www.diberville.ms.us along with the local radio stations, The Sun Herald, the city's website and Facebook page. **D'Iberville** Police and Fire Departments will provide door-to-door warnings to those areas threatened by flooding when necessary. Evacuation routes are mapped which are north of the coast that include I-10, I110, Highways 15, 49, 57, 67, and 605.

Please plan to evacuate early. Emergency shelters designated to house residents displaced in the event of a hurricane are announced by the Harrison County Mississippi Emergency Management Agency and the **D'Iberville** Fire Department. To obtain additional information about emergency procedures please contact the Harrison County Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, 228.865.4002; **D'Iberville** Fire Department, 228.392.3525; **D'Iberville** Police Department, 228.396.4252; and the **D'Iberville** Building Department, 228.392.7966

The **MDOT's Hurricane Evacuation Guide** is available on our website within the **Flood & Hurricane Resources** tab.

Got Flood Insurance?

Because the **City of D'Iberville** enacts and enforces *beyond* minimum FPM regulations of the NFIP, for those of you within a Special Flood Hazard Area, you can purchase a separate flood insurance policy with a 15% discount that will cover your home and your contents.

- **REMEMBER**, policies have a 30-day waiting period BEFORE coverage goes into effect.

The 26% chance of experiencing a flood during the life of a 30-yr mortgage tells you that flood insurance is IMPORTANT! **PLEASE NOTE:** whether your home is within a **SFHA** or not, flood damage will ONLY be covered by flood insurance. For more information on determining your flood hazard, finding an agent, or estimating your own premiums visit www.fema.gov/nfip or www.floodsmart.gov or phone 1.800.427.4661.

Natural and Beneficial Functions

The **City of D'Iberville** is a beautiful and historic place in which to live. Let's protect our **WETLANDS**! Our wetlands in and around **D'Iberville** are a valuable asset.

- **Wetlands** encompass throughout our community; all along the Tchoutacabouffa River, areas along the shorelines, & areas within the **SFHA**. Please join us in our efforts to protect our **WETLANDS**! So that we may assist in determining your area, please contact the **Building Department** or visit our **Wetlands** tab on our **Geoportal Maps** link within our website.

Hurricane Checklist:

WATER

- ☐ Drinking water (one gallon per person per day for 14 days)
- ☐ Water for cooking and hygiene (one gallon per person per day)
- ☐ Water for pets

FOOD

- ☐ Non-perishable packaged or canned food to last 14 days

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- ☐ Cooler for ice and food storage
- ☐ Flashlights with extra batteries or hand crank
- ☐ Car charger for cell phones
- ☐ Grill with extra propane, charcoal or sterno

HEALTH ESSENTIALS

- ☐ Two week supply of prescription drugs
- ☐ First aid kit
- ☐ Mosquito repellent
- ☐ Antibacterial hand soap

IF A HURRICANE IS COMING

- ☐ Shut off utilities and propane tanks
- ☐ Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest setting & leave doors closed
- ☐ Fill a tub with water
- ☐ Unplug appliances
- ☐ Listen closely to advice from local and state emergency officials
- ☐ Fuel and service vehicles
- ☐ Stay with friends, relatives or at an inland hotel or as a last resort go to a public shelter outside the flood zone
- ☐ Notify neighbors and a family member outside of the warned area of your evacuation plans
- ☐ Leave mobile homes in any case

The **City of D'Iberville** is available to make site visits to review and provide one-on-one technical assistance to property owners flooding and drainage/sewer problems. City officials can provide advice on retrofitting techniques including elevating and floodproofing structures. Call 228-273-3324.

Contact the City at 228-273-3324 to find out if your property is in the **SFHA**. We can also tell you if your property has floodway, historic flooding/Repetitive Loss Area.