



HENRICO COUNTY VIRGINIA

August 2011

August 30, 2011

CONTACT: Tim Foster, P.E., Director, Public Works
PHONE: 501-4395

Henrico County working hard to remove debris from Hurricane Irene

Henrico County's Department of Public Works is working to remove debris from public roadways as quickly as possible to ensure roads are safe for the public and emergency response vehicles. Due to the significant damage caused by Hurricane Irene, including downed power lines and utility poles, it may take crews a week or more to remove all the debris that already has fallen into roadways.

"Our first priority is public safety," said Public Works Director Tim Foster, P.E. "County crews and private contractors have been working around the clock to remove fallen trees and debris."

The county will continue its efforts along with Omni-Pinnacle, a contractor specializing in disaster response and debris removal.

For county homes with storm debris, residents may place small, cut pieces into their trash receptacles for normal pickup. Residents also may dispose of unbagged yard debris free of charge at Henrico landfill public use areas, located at 2075 Charles City Road and 10600 Fords Country Lane. Public use areas are open from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. seven days per week.

Once crews have cleared public roadways, Henrico will offer free residential curbside pickup of remaining vegetative yard debris resulting from Hurricane Irene. Residents are urged to wait at least one week before placing their storm debris curbside; crews first are removing the debris that already has fallen into the roadways. Storm-related household waste is not included in the free curbside service.

Residential yard debris — small trees, limbs, leaves, branches and similar storm-related lawn waste — must meet the following criteria to qualify for the pickup:

- Debris should be placed curbside or near the edge of a nearby public roadway
- Limbs must be four inches or less in diameter and four feet or less in length
- Limbs or other debris items must weigh less than 50 pounds
- Loose, small items should be bundled
- Root balls, trunks and logs from large trees will not be picked up.

Call 501-4393 for more information.

August 28, 2011

CONTACT: Shawn Rozier, Social Services
PHONE: 501-7412

Henrico shelter and assistance centers to close 8 p.m. tonight

Henrico County will close at 8 p.m. Sunday the Elko Middle School shelter and the Family Assistance Centers at Deep Run Recreation Center and Belmont Recreation Center.

Residents with sheltering or assistance needs after 8 p.m. should call the Henrico Hurricane Hotline at 501-7413.

Beginning at 8 a.m. Monday, Aug. 29, residents with sheltering or assistance needs should contact the Department of Social Services at 501-4001.

August 28, 2011

CONTACT: Capt. Chris Buehren, Henrico Fire
PHONE: 501-5877

Henrico County will open free water filling stations for residents beginning at 4 p.m. today at Fire Station No. 2, 2400 Darbytown Road; and at Fire Station No. 15, 3820 Mountain Road. Residents should bring their own containers; bottled water will not be provided.

For more information, contact the Henrico Hurricane Hotline at 501-7413.

August 28, 2011

CONTACT: Shawn Rozier, Social Services
PHONE: 501-7412

Henrico to open Family Assistance Shelters

Henrico County is opening Family Assistance Shelters from 1 to 8 p.m. today at Belmont Recreation Center, 1600 Hilliard Road; and at Deep Run Recreation Center, 9910 Ridgefield Parkway.

Residents needing access to electricity to recharge medical equipment including oxygen tanks are encouraged to use the centers. Residents also may use the centers for basic comfort needs such as air conditioning. These services also are available at the Elko Middle School shelter, 5901 Elko Road.

For more information, contact the Henrico Hurricane Hotline at 501-7413.

August 26, 2011

CONTACT: Capt. Chris Buehren, Division of Fire
PHONE: 501-7183

Henrico to open emergency shelters Saturday; announces public information hotline

Henrico County will open emergency shelters in preparation for Hurricane Irene beginning at 2 p.m. Saturday at Elko Middle School, 5901 Elko Road; and Rolfe Middle School, 6901 Messer Road. Pets are welcome at both shelters.

Residents and others with questions about how to prepare for Hurricane Irene are encouraged to call Henrico's Hurricane Preparedness Hotline at (804) 501-7413.

August 24, 2011

CONTACT: Sam McKelvey, Site Manager and Visitor Center Coordinator, Henrico Tourist Information Center at Dabbs House
PHONE: 652-3411

Civil War in Henrico County focus of 400th anniversary activities Sept. 23-25

Henrico's 400th anniversary commemoration will turn its attention to the county's central role in the Civil War with a three-day series of free events Sept. 23-25 that features a symposium with a panel of acclaimed historians as well as battlefield tours and living-history demonstrations led by the National Park Service.

The symposium, "Henrico County: Gateway to Richmond," is set for 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23 at the Henrico Theatre, 305 E. Nine Mile Road. Attendees must pre-register by calling (804) 328-4491.

Featured speakers are John Coski, Museum of the Confederacy historian and author of "Capital Navy: The Men, Ships and Operations of the James River Squadron," discussing naval operations on the James River; Robert E.L. Krick, National Park Service historian and author of "Stuart's Last Ride: A Confederate View of Sheridan's Raid," discussing the Battle of Yellow Tavern; Frank O'Reilly, National Park Service historian and author of "The Fredericksburg Campaign: Winter War on the Rappahannock," discussing the Battle of Malvern Hill; and Jimmy Price, historian and author of the upcoming "The Battle of New Market Heights: Freedom Will Be Theirs by the Sword," discussing the Battle of New Market Heights. Andrew Talkov, the exhibit coordinator for Virginia's Civil War Sesquicentennial at the Virginia Historical Society, will serve as moderator.

The speakers will hold question-and-answer periods and a book-signing session as well.

On Saturday, Sept. 24, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Tree Hill Farm, located at 6404 Osborne Turnpike, will host an encampment, exhibits and demonstrations by leading Civil War organizations, as well as a ceremony honoring soldiers who earned the Medal of Honor while fighting in Henrico. Historic Tree Hill Farm was the muster site for new recruits at the war's outset and also was the location of Richmond mayor Joseph Mayo's formal surrender of the Confederate capital.

The three-day event will conclude on Sunday, Sept. 25, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Fort Harrison, 8621 Battlefield Park Road, where National Park Service (NPS) rangers from Richmond National Battlefield Park will lead tours and present living-history programs to commemorate the 147th anniversary of the Sept. 29-30, 1864 fighting at Fort Harrison. Re-enactors portraying Union and Confederate infantry and artillery units will perform rifle- and cannon-firing demonstrations, and historians from the NPS and Henrico's Division of Recreation and Parks will lead tours of battlefields involved in the nearby Battle of Chaffin's Farm. For more information contact the NPS at (804) 226-1981 or go to www.nps.gov/rich/index.htm.

Limited-edition posters depicting Henrico scenes from the Civil War will be available for purchase at the Sept. 23-24 events: "Hospital Tree at Fair Oaks" by Sidney E. King and Joseph Umble's "New Market Heights, Fleetwood Seizing the Flag" and "Battle of Yellow Tavern, Wounding of Stuart."

For information about Henrico's 400th anniversary, call (804) 501-1611 or go to www.henrico400th.com.

August 22, 2011

CONTACT: Teddy Martin, Extension Technician
PHONE: 501-5160

Henrico Extension to offer seminars on fall lawn care Sept. 6-8

The Henrico County Extension Office will conclude its free, year-round seminar series Sept. 6-8 with a program on fall and winter lawn care. The seminars are scheduled for 7 to 8:30 p.m. each night at the following locations (each seminar will feature the same program): Tuesday, Sept. 6, Sandston Branch Library, 23 E. Williamsburg Road; Wednesday, Sept. 7, Tuckahoe Area Library, 1901 Starling Drive; and Thursday, Sept. 8, Twin Hickory Area Library, 5001 Twin Hickory Road.

"Winterizing Your Lawn" will explain steps that can be taken in the fall to help lawns survive the winter and get ready for a healthy spring. Participants will learn about aerating, seeding, applying lime and other topics. In addition, participants can bring samples for identification and discussion.

"Winterizing Your Lawn" is open to the public. Each seminar will be led by an Extension staff member or a Henrico master gardener. Pre-registration is encouraged. Call 501-5160 to register or to obtain additional information.

August 15, 2011

CONTACT: John A. Vithoukas, Director, Finance
PHONE: 501-4266

Henrico becomes first locality in nation to have bond rating reaffirmed AAA

Henrico County general obligation bonds, totaling \$73.5 million, have been reaffirmed as AAA by Standard and Poor's, Fitch and Moody's, the nation's leading debt-rating agencies.

Henrico becomes the first locality in the nation to have its debt reaffirmed as AAA — the highest rating available for a governmental entity — by the three agencies since the historic Standard and Poor's downgrade of U. S. government debt on Aug. 5.

The rating is especially meaningful in light of the nation's recent downgrade, noted Henrico County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E.

"Due to the Board of Supervisors' adherence to its long-established financial guidelines, Henrico's fiscal health has remained strong, even in challenging economic times," Hazelett said.

Henrico's Finance Director John A. Vithoukas said the reaffirmation is a result of the county's anticipated bond sale, which is expected within two weeks.

Henrico County initially received a bond rating of AAA from both Moody's and Standard and Poor's in 1977, becoming one of the first counties in the nation to receive the highest bond rating. In 1998, the newest agency — Fitch — also awarded the county the AAA bond rating. Henrico has maintained these ratings, allowing the county to obtain funds for infrastructure improvements under terms that have been extremely favorable for its residents.

August 10, 2011

CONTACT: Barry Lawrence, Clerk, Board of Supervisors
PHONE: 501-4318

Henrico Board of Supervisors sets next meeting for Sept. 13

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors will not hold a second meeting in August. The board will reconvene on Tuesday, Sept. 13.

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors regularly meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Government Center Board Room, located at 4301 E. Parham Road. Call 501-4318 for more information.

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