

Access limited in east Biloxi, Eagle Point

The city has established limited-access corridors in three of the most severely damaged sections of Biloxi – the entire stretch of U.S. 90, the areas east of Caillavet Street to Point Cadet, and the Eagle Point Community.

Only residents and relief workers will be allowed to pass barricades that have been placed north of U.S. 90, as well as on Caillavet Street and at the entrance to Eagle Point, which is south of Interstate 10 in north Biloxi.

Any person found either moving or driving around a barricade is subject to receiving a traffic ticket or being placed under arrest.

The limited-access areas are designed to reduce unnecessary traffic in hazardous areas and to expedite debris-removal efforts.

An 11 p.m.-to-6 a.m. curfew remains in effect in Biloxi, and police officers have established a nightly checkpoint on I-110, north of the Bay of Biloxi, to help enforce the regulation.

Workers begin repairing areas of U.S. 90, bridges

The reconstruction of U.S. 90 from one end of Biloxi to the other is underway and is expected to be completed within 90 days.

Currently, roadbuilders are repairing huge voids and collapsed sections left in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. At the same time, debris removal contractors

are using available parts of the road to haul tons of hurricane debris north on I-110 and to approved debris sites north of the I-10.

The federal government plans to replace the former U.S. 90 bridge linking Biloxi and Ocean Springs with a high-rise six-lane bridge. That project is expected to be completed in 24 months.

Regarding the Popp's Ferry bridge, Mayor Holloway has presented a Corps of Engineers



Katrina's fury shifted sections of the north end of Popp's Ferry bridge.

assessment to MEMA so that repairs can begin. The mayor said that as many as 19 areas of the bridge are in need of repair and he would ask MEMA if construction could be expedited. No timetable has been announced.

"I realize that residents may find some of this news encouraging, but we need to be patient in the meantime," Holloway said. "We had traffic issues before this storm, and now those challenges are even greater since traffic is limited to fewer roads. We're going to do what we can to keep it moving in a safe manner, but it's going to take cooperation and patience from the motoring public.

"Travel only when you have to, and when you have to travel, take the most direct route possible. If there was ever a time for people to use public transit, this is it. By using Coast Transit's free routes, you can avoid the high cost of fuel and the traffic delays. Best of all, it's a free service right now."

Don't pay for work in advance; check city license

Property owners are warned to beware of transient contractors who typically set up shop in the wake of disasters such as Hurricane Katrina.

Ask to see the person's City of Biloxi license card, which is required to do business in this city. Do not pay any money in advance. Do not sign any contracts. And do not pay any money until the work has been inspected and approved by a city inspector.

If you have any questions or concerns, call the Community Development Department at 435-6280.



Biloxi firefighters enjoy a brief breeze while traveling the debris-lined U.S. 90.

News and notes:

- **On location:** Residents can get advice and assistance on resolving issues with Social Security or other federal programs by visiting U.S. Rep. Gene Taylor's representative, who is available daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lopez-Quave Public Safety Center on Porter Avenue. Residents may also call the representative at 703-350-7421.
- **FEMA phone:** Homeowners, renters and business owners seeking disaster assistance from the federal government can apply by phone to the Federal Emergency Management Administration at 1-800-6231-FEMA (3362). Callers should be prepared to provide their Social Security number, description and address of damaged property, current mailing address and contact information, and details on any insurance coverage. "Government disaster assistance," according to FEMA, "covers basic needs only, and will not normally compensate you for your entire loss. If you have insurance, the government may help pay for basic needs not covered under your insurance policy." FEMA may also offer grants or low-interest loans. The deaf and hard of hearing may call FEMA at 1-800-462-7585.
- **Missing persons:** The National Red Cross Missing Person Hotline can be reached toll-free at 1-877-568-3317.
- **Missing family:** To report missing family members, call the Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team, or DMORT, Missing Persons Center at its toll-free number, 1-866-326-9393. DMORT reps can be found the Lopez-Quave Public Safety Center on Porter Avenue.
- **Housing:** Harrison County residents in need of assistance with temporary housing may call the Public Housing Assistance toll free number, 1-866-864-8260, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week.
- **Clean water available:** World and Environment Technologies (WET) from Layette, LA, part of Ecoloclean, has set up a 600-gallon water filtering system at Yankee Stadium on Lee Street. Residents must provide a sterile containers to carry the drinking water. If the containers are not clean, the water can be used for showering, etc. WET will be at the stadium 24 hours a day, seven days a week until further notice. WET also can provide a mobile water truck for residents.
- **Public safety help:** The City of Biloxi has received assistance from 363 police officers and firefighters from across the nation. These visitors are continuing to assist on the streets and responding to calls. They have the same law enforcement powers as regular Biloxi police and firefighters. Residents should obey all commands from these officers.