

The armada is here

Between 10 and 12 self-contained debris teams will be in neighborhoods for the next several weeks. See details of what you need to do inside this issue.



We really can come out better than ever

My fellow Biloxians:

It has been eight days since Hurricane Zeta came ashore with its 100 mph winds and 11-foot storm surge. I thank all of you for your perseverance and patience in the aftermath of this storm.

It was everything they said it would be: namely, fast-moving and powerful.

I thank all of our city workers – first responders and support staff – for the jobs they have done before, during and after Zeta. I also thank the utility workers who worked tirelessly to get power restored within a few days.

We're in full recovery mode.

An initial assessment by the city's Community Development Department shows that 75 percent of the homes in Biloxi suffered some level of damage from Hurricane Zeta.

The most important thing you can do in our recovery is make sure to haul all storm debris to the curb. Debris crews – 10 to 12 teams using specialized equipment – will be throughout the city Thursday morning, working seven days a week, from sunrise to sunset.

Initial estimates are 200,000 cubic yards of debris, enough to fill the Coast Coliseum, twice. That's compared to the 3 million cubic yards of debris from Katrina. Hauling away all the debris will take from 60 to 90 days, but we can do it quicker if you move it to the curb now.

Many traffic signals and streets light remain inoperative or destroyed,



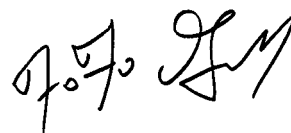
Mayor Andrew
"FoFo" Gilich

so be careful at intersections. The city's harbor and marinas remain essentially closed, and we're working to get those back up and running.

I see tremendous opportunity with this aftermath of this storm. We're hoping to work with our state and federal partners to restore our waterfront facilities, our piers and our harbors, in a way that they are even more storm resistant. For example, we've rebuilt the Lighthouse Pier and we've restrung traffic signals far too many times over the years. Our goal is to do it even better this time 'round.

All of the recovery and goals, of course, begin with you. Together, we must do our parts. We'll be in neighborhoods picking up debris. Your primary job is to move it to the curb as quickly as you can so we can get this storm in the rearview mirror.

God bless all of you and God bless Biloxi.



Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
Mayor of Biloxi
Nov. 5, 2020

A bird's eye view of the city's debris-removal plan

As many as a dozen storm-debris teams will be in neighborhoods across the city beginning Thursday, Nov. 5 at daybreak.

Initially, the storm-debris teams will have eight designated starting points, one in each of the city's seven wards and two in the expansive Ward 7.

The crews, which are using huge self-loading equipment, will work seven days a week, from sunrise to sunset.

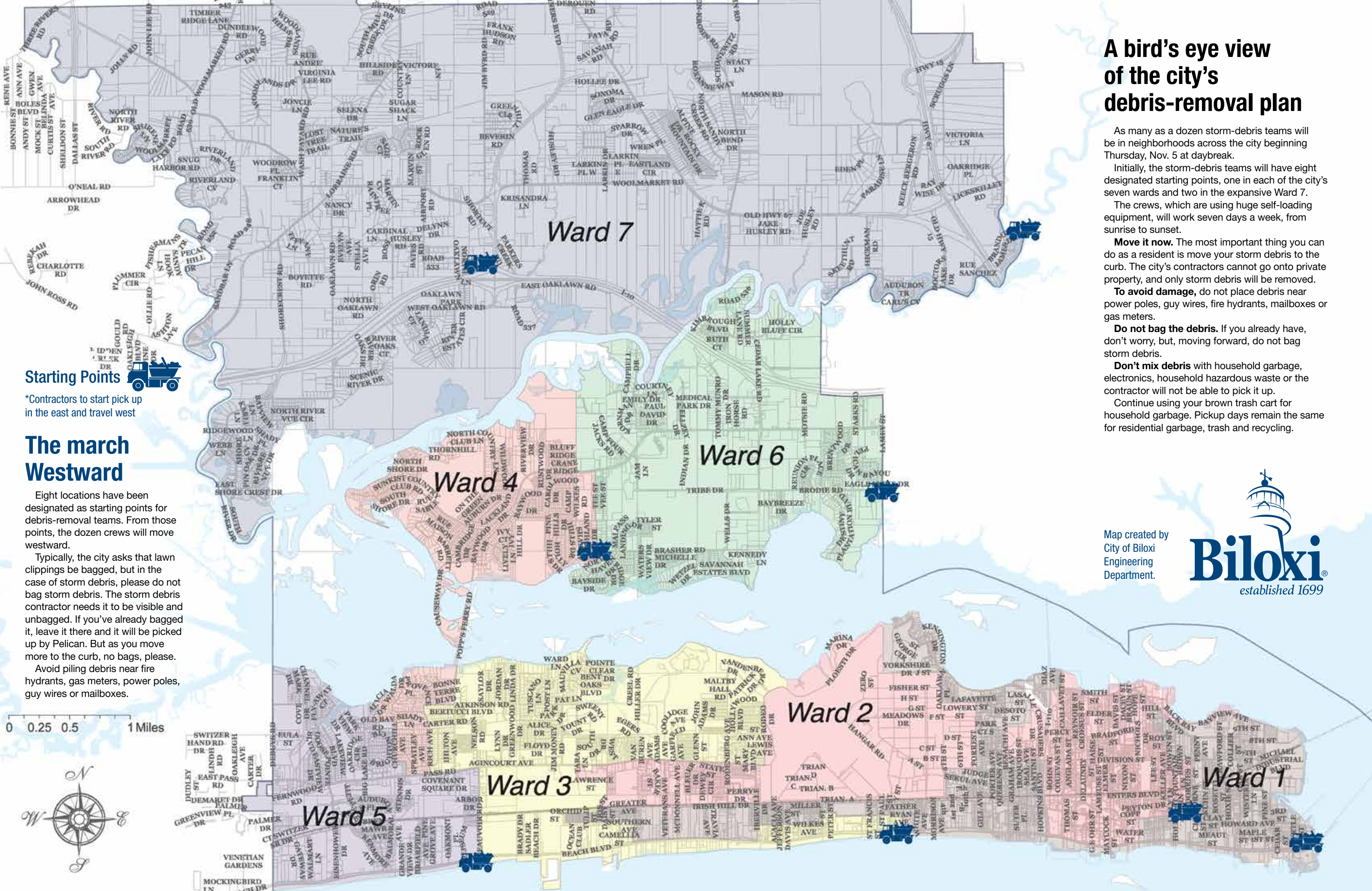
Move it now. The most important thing you can do as a resident is move your storm debris to the curb. The city's contractors cannot go onto private property, and only storm debris will be removed.

To avoid damage, do not place debris near power poles, guy wires, fire hydrants, mailboxes or gas meters.

Do not bag the debris. If you already have, don't worry, but, moving forward, do not bag storm debris.

Don't mix debris with household garbage, electronics, household hazardous waste or the contractor will not be able to pick it up.

Continue using your brown trash cart for household garbage. Pickup days remain the same for residential garbage, trash and recycling.



Starting Points

*Contractors to start pick up in the east and travel west

The march Westward

Eight locations have been designated as starting points for debris-removal teams. From those points, the dozen crews will move westward.

Typically, the city asks that lawn clippings be bagged, but in the case of storm debris, please do not bag storm debris. The storm debris contractor needs it to be visible and unbagged. If you've already bagged it, leave it there and it will be picked up by Pelican. But as you move more to the curb, no bags, please.

Avoid piling debris near fire hydrants, gas meters, power poles, guy wires or mailboxes.

Map created by City of Biloxi Engineering Department.



**Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
and the Biloxi City Council**
George Lawrence • Felix O. Gines
Dixie Newman • Robert L. Deming III
Paul A. Tisdale • Kenny Glavan
Nathan Barrett

Visit us online
at biloxi.ms.us



Sign up for Bmail
at biloxi.ms.us

For B-Alerts, text
BILOXI to 888777

Local Biloxi Postal Customer

Contractors must have city license

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

The City of Biloxi is home to many reputable, licensed building contractors who are qualified to make repairs. However, after a storm, a number of transient contractors set up temporary shop in our community.

Before having any work done, 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 beginning Friday morning at 228-435-6280.

News & notes ZETA RECOVERY

Please don't bag the debris

Typically, the city asks that lawn clippings be bagged, but in the case of storm debris, please do not bag storm debris. The storm debris contractor needs it to be visible and unbagged.



If you've already bagged it, leave it there and it will be picked up by Pelican. But as you move more to the curb this weekend, no bags, please.

Use extra care at intersections

Continue to treat intersections with inoperative or destroyed traffic signals as four-way stops. Drive defensively, be courteous and please be patient.

Info online

Please keep up with storm updates from the city on the city's primary Facebook page. We also send traffic alerts and other advisories through our texting service. On your cell phone, text BILOXI to 888777.



Stay in touch

BNews: The city's monthly newsletter is a compendium of things you should know about your city: status reports on current and pending public works, and a calendar of community events covering the next 30 days.

Calendar: Biloxi Downtown Services is responsible for the Community Calendar, a monthly compendium of events open to the public in Biloxi. Deadline for publication citywide and online is the 10th of each month. Listing must include name of event, date, time, location, one- or two-sentence description, admission fee, phone number or web address. Email to Kay Miller, downtown services manager, kmiller@biloxi.ms.us.

Bmail: The city provides information about projects and events via email. Sign up at biloxi.ms.us/register.

Advertising: BNews and Bmail represent an advertising opportunity for civic-minded businesses and organizations. In your hands you are holding the only advertising medium that is delivered to every single home, business, apartment and PO Box in the city. For rates and info, email online@biloxi.ms.us or call 228-435-6368.

About storm-debris issues

Please know that storm debris teams will be working seven days a week, from sunrise to sunset. They'll be covering the city as quickly as they can. Issues with storm debris will be coordinated through the Citizens Services Division in the city's Public Works Department, 228-435-6271.

B-Alert: For text advisories on traffic and severe weather, text BILOXI to 888777.

Website: The city's website, at biloxi.ms.us, is the comprehensive digest of city information. The website also has links to the city's Facebook and YouTube platforms.

Vincent Creel, Public Affairs Manager
vcreel@biloxi.ms.us

Cecilia Dobbs Walton, Public Affairs Specialist
cdobbswalton@biloxi.ms.us

Frequently Called Numbers

Area code is 228 unless otherwise noted.

- Animal Control 392-0641
- Auto Tag/Property Tax Information . . . 435-8242
- Birth Certificates 601-576-7960
- Building Permits 435-6270
- Business Licenses 435-6247
- Citizen services (streets, lights) 435-6271
- City Council 435-6257
- City Court 435-6125
- Code Enforcement 435-0841
- Drivers Licenses 396-7400
- Emergency Police and Fire 911
- Garbage Collection 701-9086
- Housing Authority 374-7771
- Human Resources 435-6259
- Mayor's Office 435-6254
- Museums Information 435-6244
- Parks & Recreation 388-7170
- Planning Commission 435-6266
- Public Schools 374-1810
- Streets and Drainage 435-6271
- Visitor Info 374-3105 or 1-800-BILOXI-3
- Water Service 435-6236