

FEMA: Week in Review



April 30-May 6, 2011

Announcements

FEMA Obligates \$8 Million for Hazard Mitigation Work in Three Parishes

FEMA has obligated nearly \$8 million in funding to three Louisiana parishes – Plaquemines, Terrebonne and Vermilion – for a variety of hazard mitigation measures to help alleviate future storm damage.

Terrebonne Parish has been awarded \$7 million for the elevation of 43 homes that received major damage from Hurricane Gustav. These properties also have sustained multiple flood losses and received numerous claims through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), to the extent that all are on the parish's list of severe repetitive loss or substantially damaged properties. The properties will be elevated to the adopted advisory base flood elevation for the parish.

Plaquemines Parish is receiving \$600,000 to strengthen seven pump stations affected by Hurricane Katrina. The seven pump stations – Duvic, Scarsdale, Hayes, Sunrise, Belle Chasse, Grand De Lard and Diamond – will undergo elevation work, as well as wind retrofitting measures to allow continuation of operations during future hurricanes. The mitigation measures will also include the elevation of fuel tanks to lessen the potential of flooding.

Vermilion Parish will use its \$318,000 FEMA grant to retrofit three facilities. The Vermilion Parish's Office Complex, Cecil Picard Elementary School and the Gueydan Community Center will each have windows and doors hardened to withstand up to 120 mile-per-hour winds. The community center's roof will also be replaced with a stronger, prefinished metal roofing system.

New Belle Chasse Middle School Addition is Dedicated

FEMA, state and Plaquemines Parish School Board officials last week participated in a dedication ceremony for a new addition to Belle Chasse Middle School. The new wing – which includes 10 classrooms and one science lab – was built to replace the Port Sulphur Middle School Building destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

The original building, which was eligible for replacement, was two levels and contained 14,280 square feet.

The new \$3.7 million facility is one level and is attached to the existing building of Belle Chasse Middle School, which sustained minimal storm damage and was open prior to construction of the new wing.



Calendar

May 12: Grand Chenier Library ground-breaking ceremony.

May 15-20: 25th annual Governor's Hurricane Conference, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

May 22-28: Hurricane Preparedness Week. (Visit Ready.gov for more information.)

May 30: Memorial Day.

May 31-June 3: Gulf States Hurricane Conference, New Orleans.

June 1: Hurricane season begins.

Helping Others

Since deadly tornadoes struck the southeast U.S., the public has played an important part on the emergency management team, volunteering time, money, and energy to helping disaster survivors and their families. For those who do not live in or near the affected areas, there are still many ways in which to support the ongoing response and recovery efforts.

To find the most effective ways to aid survivors after any disaster, please visit this [website](#).

Housing Update:

Katrina/Rita:
311 occupied units

Gustav/Ike:
34 occupied units



For more information, visit the [LRO website](#).