



Brooks County Georgia

Office of The County Administrator

Phone 229-263-5561

Fax 229-263-9345

jdevane@brookscoga.com

September 8, 2017 / 5:00 P.M.

Re: Hurricane Irma Statement
Update on County Offices – Office Closures and Meeting Re-scheduled

Dear Brooks County,

Brooks County Offices, including the Courthouse and the Ag Building Offices, will be closed Monday, September 11 and will remain closed until 12 P.M. Noon on Tuesday, September 12. Depending upon the storm damage we may experience, we may extend this closure until services can be return to normal for the safety of our employees.

The Brooks County Board of Commissioner's Meeting has been postponed until Thursday, 5 P.M. on September 14th. Please be advised, that time and date is tentative.

Regarding Road Repairs – The Road Department, along with the Sheriff's Department and the Fire Department, will be out when it is safe, trying to keep roadways cleared. We may clear a road simply to allow for emergency vehicles. Therefore, residents should understand that when our crews clear roads, most of these work is being done with chainsaws, so trees and limbs may still be down near the edge of the roadway. Due to the nature of our unpaved roads, I am asking that residents do not ride dirt roads unless it is totally necessary. Unnecessary traffic on these roads will cause extra deterioration that makes recovery efforts harder.

Again, those interested in assistance with storm shelters should continue checking with the 911 / EMA Office at their non-emergency 911 number, 229-263-4262. At this time, no shelters are scheduled for opening as of 5 P.M. today, but there are locations available if that actions needs to be taken. If you are concerned with your safety where you are, you should contact a family member or neighbor who lives in a stick-build or brick home.

The Brooks County Road Department will transfer its main telephone number, 229-263-8817 to a spare number (229-263-1038) at the Brooks County 911 Center as of 5 P.M. Friday. That number will be manned starting Sunday evening for non-emergency road calls. Again, you can also use the non-emergency number for 911, at 229-263-4262. If all else fails, please call 911. Be prepared to report issues with an address, or approximate location. (I.e. – 500 feet north of address 1000 ABC Street, intersection of ABC Street and XYZ Road, etc).

The Brooks County Board of Commissioner's Office will also be transferring its number, 229-263-5561, to the same number at the 911 center (229-263-1038) as the Road Department, so we will try to handle

those calls there as well, but please be advised, regular County services will be limited, and calls are recommended to be for Hurricane related issues only.

Residents should also be advised to move any items outside that may blow away in high winds, such as trash cans and chairs, etc. These items become hazards in the roadway for emergency vehicles.

DO NOT GO NEAR DOWN POWER LINES OR ATTEMPT TO DRIVE THROUGH WATER ON FLOODED ROADS, THERE COULD BE WASHOUTS OR OTHER HIDDEN DANGERS.

Weather updates provided everyday by the National Weather Service has estimated we should expect conditions possibly up to a CAT 2 Storm system in our area.

Residents should continue to make plans and take action to protect life, first and foremost. We should continue to see an increase in traffic over the weekend from our friends coming up from Florida. Please be safe and don't make any unnecessary trips if possible.

God Bless,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Justin DeVane". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Justin DeVane
County Administrator