

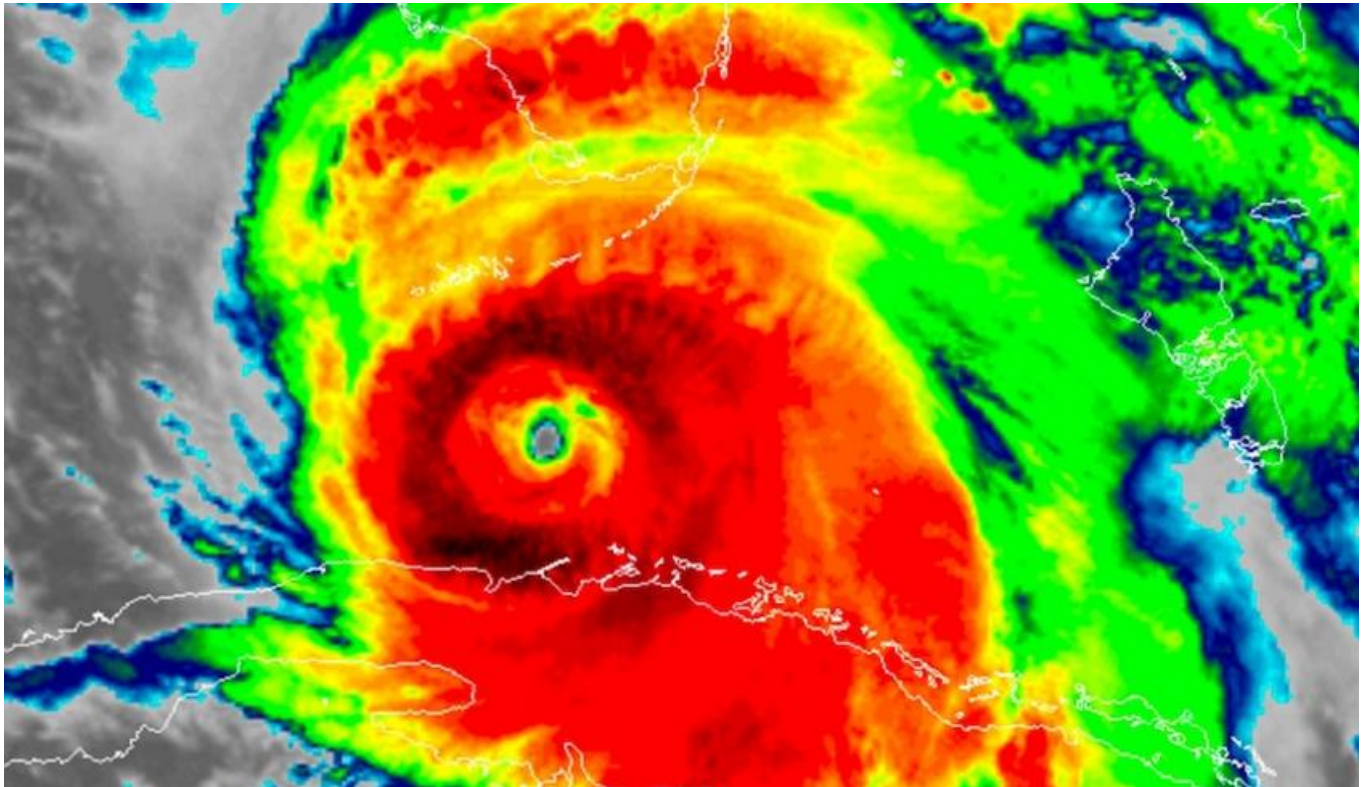
# City of Columbia Incident Response Brief



September 11, 2017

## Tropical Storm Irma

The following is a status update for the City of Columbia's incident response to Tropical Storm Irma.



### CURRENT & PLANNED OBJECTIVES:

- Maintain essential Public Safety response
- Maintain continuity of services city-wide
- Maintain critical infrastructure, commerce and normal business
- Provide timely and adequate public information briefings
- Prepare to respond to transportation packages and evacuation centers\*
- Establish and maintain situational awareness with partner agencies

**OVERVIEW OF CITY OPERATIONS: 9/11/2017 – 2 PM:** City Cautions Drivers to avoid Flood-Prone Streets and Intersections

The City of Columbia urges drivers to use caution when driving during severe weather. The following streets and intersections are prone to flooding during heavy rain events. Please avoid these areas during and immediately after heavy rains.

Main and Whaley	Wheat and Amherst	Harden and Read
Gervais and Laurens	Adger and Devine	Harden and Calhoun
Blossom and Henderson	Wheat and Sumter	Franklin and Marion
Blossom and Saluda	Wheat and Pickens	Franklin and Sumter
Harden and Santee	Heyward and Ravenel	Columbia College and N. Main
Monroe and Maple	Pickens between Wheat and Green	Bull and Laurel
Two Notch and Read	Barnwell and Pendleton	
<i>Disclaimer: Locations above are places known to be flood prone. Actual flooding locations will depend on storm strength, duration and location.</i>		

**Safety Tips:**

- If you encounter a flooded street or intersection, turn around; do not attempt to drive through it. Water may be deeper than it appears and can hide many hazards (i.e. sharp objects, washed out road surfaces, electrical wires, chemicals, etc). A vehicle caught in swiftly moving water can be swept away in a matter of seconds. Twelve inches of water can float a car or small SUV and 18 inches of water can carry away large vehicles.
- Stay away from storm-damaged areas to include damaged or downed trees and power lines to keep from putting yourself at risk from the effects of severe thunderstorms.
- Continue to listen to a NOAA Weather Radio or to local radio and television stations for updated information or instructions, as access to roads or some parts of the community may be blocked.
- Help people who may require special assistance, such as infants, children and the elderly or disabled.
- Stay away from downed power lines and report them immediately.
- To assist with keeping the storm drainage system working properly we would ask that yard debris and other items not be placed adjacent or next to drainage structures.

For additional safety tips on driving when streets are flooded, visit <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/water/tadd/>.

If you notice a storm drain which is blocked by debris please notify the Public Works Street Division at 545-3780 during regular business hours and Customer Care at 545-3300 after 5:00pm and on weekends. An alternate non-emergency number is 803-252-2911. For emergencies please call 911.

# Tropical Storm Irma

09/11/17 – 2 PM: The City of Columbia various departments will be operating under the following:



## Columbia Fire Department

- **CFD was upstaffed:**
  - Dedicated 4person Hazmat Crew
  - 4-2person boat crews strategically placed throughout City/County
  - 6-2person access/saw crews strategically placed throughout City/County
- **City/County EOC**
  - County EOC is currently staffed by 1 CFD personnel on a rotating schedule
  - City EOC is currently staffed by 3 CFD personnel on a rotating schedule
- **Notable Call(s)**
  - Collapsed Structure due to large overturned oak tree 637 Henderson St



- **CFD Internal**
  - County Station on generator power
- **Calls for Service:**
  - 60 Calls for Service 9/11/17 0800-1400
    - Priority Calls
      - 2- collapsed structures
      - 2- brush fires
      - 16- medical

- 11- MVA
- 1- MVA w/ Entrapment
- 1-Odor of Smoke in Structure
- 1-power line of vehicle
- 14-popwer lines arcing



## **Columbia Police Department**

- CPD will maintain optimal response to calls for service and patrol.
- CPD will maintain situational awareness.
- CPD is monitoring and evaluating the current storm and potential impact on emergency services and will adjust staffing levels as necessary.
- CPD will monitor road conditions and areas of the city that is susceptible to flooding.
- CPD will monitor areas for power outages, debris obstructing roadways and any damages to infrastructures.
- Regional supervisors maintain communication with providing real time updated information to the Watch Commander in regard to encountered emergency situations due to the storm to better allocate resources.
- CPD has barricades strategically placed and on ready standby in the event, should any streets be closed off due to heavy flooding.

### **Evening Situational Event:**

- No reports of power outages
- No street closures
- No reports of heavy flooding
- No Equipment or manpower issues.
- Calls for police service were moderately steady.

### **Lieutenant: Wesley, Daniel J.**

Columbia Police Department  
Watch Commander



## Columbia-Richland 9-1-1 Communications

CRC 9-1-1 is currently operating under normal operations.

Staffing levels are consistent with daily operational staffing and will be adjusted accordingly based on call volume and demand.

CRC has deployed three (3) tactical dispatchers to support our user agencies. They will remain in place until further notice.

No increase in call volume evident at this time.

	9/11/2017	9/11/2017	9/11/2017 9/12/2017	9/12/2017	9/12/2017 9/13/2017	9/13/2017	9/13/2017 9/14/2017
<b>Phones</b>	<b>(00:00 – 07:00)</b>	<b>(07:00 – 13:00)</b>	<b>(19:00 – 07:00)</b>	<b>(07:00 – 19:00)</b>	<b>(19:00 – 07:00)</b>	<b>(07:00 – 19:00)</b>	<b>(19:00 – 07:00)</b>
<b>911</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>336</b>					
<b>Admin</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>455</b>					
<b>Daily Total</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>791</b>					
<b>Agencies</b>							
<b>CPD</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>111</b>					
<b>CFD</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>40</b>					
<b>RCSD</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>99</b>					
<b>RCEMS</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>65</b>					
<b>Daily Total</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>315</b>					



## Procurement & Contracts

- No issues
- On call as needed



## Columbia Water

- Customer Care calls volume slightly higher than normal with 437 calls received by staff as of 12:00 pm. Only 3 calls have been storm related.
- Lake Murray WTP has moved to emergency generator power due to intermittent power interruptions.
- Canal headgate #1 fully operational and to be monitored during the storm event and closed if river reaches flood levels.
- Canal being inspected every 4 hours during daylight to look for down trees along dike. So far, only smaller limbs down.
- Metro WWTP flow elevated, but no flow being diverted to equalization basin storage.
- Wastewater collection system Smartcover alarm at Santee Ave but no active overflows.

## Base Preparation – prior to storm event

### Customer Care preparation:

- Customer Care will staff the 803-545-3300 call center at normal staffing levels 24/7 as usual. They will continue to accept and route non-emergency calls throughout the event.
- Walk-in bill-pay counters will remain open during normal business hours. If the City institutes an operational shut-down, these centers will close to the public. Call-in capabilities will remain open.

### Engineering preparation:

Key personal have been briefed and readied for mobilization. Emergency contact list below:

<b>HURRICANE IRMA EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION</b>		
	OFFICE PHONE	CELL PHONE
<b>MAIN OPERATIONS</b>		
Dana Higgins	545-3284	351-2386
Andrea Bolling	545-3379	413-7981
<b>WATER ENGINEERING/ SUPPORT</b>		
Jason Shaw	545-3287	528-7677
<b>FLOOD PREPARATIONS</b>		
Mike Jaspers	545-0076	730-4021
Ali Khan	545-3386	528-7022
Kip Huggins	545-4517	231-9383

Suzie Reynolds	545-0005	
<b>CONSTRUCTION/ CONTRACTOR RESPONSE</b>		
Michael Sheu	545-3327	
Sam Catoe	545-3226	600-1474
Jeff Jeffers	545-3279	600-8431
<b>GENERAL NUMBERS</b>		
Engineering Main Line	545-3400	

Staff has also completed the following:

- Stormwater staff have visited construction sites in anticipation of heavy stormwater runoff
- Water quality staff are continuing flushing operations
- We will continue to monitor the progress and weather forecast and make adjustments as necessary

## Water Works preparation:

Key personal have been briefed and readied for mobilization. Emergency contact list below:

<b>HURRICANE IRMA EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION</b>		
	OFFICE PHONE	CELL PHONE
<b>WATER WORKS</b>		
Clint Shealy	733-8682	240-6350
<b>CANAL</b>		
Canal Control Room	733-8336	
Canal Guard Shack	401-8845	
Gordon Alexander	733-8339	413-8281 / home 788-9917
Christopher Lampkin	733-8341	413-8990 or 1-843-991-8544
Gary Johnson	733-8336	673-3628
<b>LAKE MURRAY</b>		
Lake Murray Control Room	781-2181	
Lake Murray Guard Shack	749-5825	
Trey Varn	749-5854	727-0451 / 606-1053
David Sharpe	749-5858	600-2979 / home 781-8754

At both Water Treatment Plants the following activities have been completed:

- Chemical inventories verified
- Vehicles fueled and staged for deployment
- Emergency generators fueled, tested, and mobile units deployed to key sites
- Critical process control instruments calibrated
- Construction areas and plant sites cleared of debris that may be wind blown
- Clear wells and distribution tanks will be maintained at or near full levels

Columbia Canal preparation:

- Temporary pipe located and inventoried
- Canal will be inspected prior to, during and following storm event
- Canal headgate #1 fully operational and may be closed on Monday morning

## Water Distribution Preparation:

Key personal have been briefed and readied for mobilization. Emergency contact list below:

<b>HURRICANE IRMA EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION</b>		
	OFFICE PHONE	CELL PHONE
MAIN OPERATIONS		
James Johnson	545-3877	413-7636
Jeremy Yates	545-3881	429-5908
Mack Paul	545-4194	413-3401
GENERAL NUMBERS		
Water Maintenance Main Line	545-3900	

Staff has also completed the following:

- Staff will be checking generators and fuel levels in anticipation of power outage
- Emergency vehicles fueled and staged
- By-Pass pumps are staged and topped off with fuel
- Extra emergency crews are on stand-by for call in as needed
- We will continue to monitor the progress and weather forecast and make adjustments as necessary

## Metro Wastewater Plant Preparation:

Key personal have been briefed and readied for mobilization. Emergency contact list below:

<b>HURRICANE IRMA EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION</b>		
	OFFICE PHONE	CELL PHONE
MAIN OPERATIONS		
David Wiman	545-0227	600-4418
John Riggs		468-5270
SSO STATUS		
Stephen Sealy	545-0208	465-7331
LIFT STATIONS		
Ashley Dove		730-8543
GENERAL NUMBERS		
Metro Main Line	545-0224	

Staff has also completed the following:

- Metro WWTP reservoir is near empty in anticipation of needed storage
- All basins are available to treat additional capacity
- Chemicals have been topped off
- Emergency vehicles, generators and by-pass pumps are completely fueled
- Essential staff will be stationed on site
- Extra emergency crews are on stand-by for call in as needed
- Smart cover test alarm executed
- We will continue to monitor the progress and weather forecast and make adjustments as necessary



## Wastewater Maintenance Preparation:

Key personal have been briefed and readied for mobilization. Emergency contact list below:

<b>HURRICANE IRMA EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION</b>		
	OFFICE PHONE	CELL PHONE
<b>MAIN OPERATIONS</b>		
Robert Judy	545-3920	509-4661
Jody Harley	545-3913	600-5618
Jason Manchee		603-4544
<b>CRITICAL MANHOLE/ WWM SMARTCOVERS</b>		
Prentiss Brooks		600-7321
Carlton Short		528-4004
Martin Golston		600-7318
Brian Covington		315-4824
Jerry Lindsey		600-7323
Jerome Smith (after 3 PM)		518-2669
<b>GENERAL NUMBERS</b>		
WW Maintenance Main Line	545-3910	

Staff has also completed the following:

- All WWM Heavy Equipment has been prepped including:
  - fueled
  - Empty
  - Plates have loaded on Boom Truck for potential road Hazards
  - Vacuum trucks have been prepped for mobilization.
- By-pass Pumps have been fueled:
  - (3) 8" pumps at the plant
  - (5) 4" pumps at the plant
- Roll off debris boxes have been emptied and prepped for mobilization

## Public Works

### Forestry & Beautification

Forestry & Beautification currently has received calls for down trees and taken the following action on tree related calls.

Address Number	Street Name	SUFFIX	CROSS STREET	City / Private	Barricaded	<b>Activity Needed</b> R = removal P= Pruning H = Hangers S=Stump
	Woodlake Drive		Carterhill	P		Complete
2928	Clark Street		Florence	C		Complete
1000	TRUE					
637	Henderson			Survey	Yes	Road Closed
403	King Street			P		Complete
1521 & 1531	Fairview			C		Contractor will remove
	Lyon		Gervais			Complete
	Trenholm		Gervais	P		Complete
133	Pond Oak					Complete
	Elmwood @126			SCDOT		Complete
1300	Adger					
3737	Devereaux					



We Are Columbia

Henderson street tree will be surveyed tomorrow to determine ownership.

### **Solid Waste**

- No current issues

### **Division**

- No flooding issues
- Supporting Forestry with barricades on 600 Henderson

### **Traffic Engineering**

- No current issues, there are several power issues causing traffic light issues.



## **General Services**

### **Fleet Services**

- No issues
- Fleet Services staff will work normal shifts to be able to respond as need until 1:00 am.
- Will be on-call as needed:
  - Edgar Heustess 803-413-2746
  - Robbie Matthews 803-240-2533

### **Support Services**

- No issues
- Support Services has the following staff on-call:
  1. Kelvin Keisler 803-315-5969
  2. Stacey Dixon 803-309-1751
  3. Wesley White 803-391-2412

### **Parking Services**

- On call as needed



## **Public and Media Relations Department**

- The Public and Media Relations Department will continue to inform the citizens and media about Tropical Storm Irma
- Update City social media platforms and website
- Update each City of Columbia department incident response briefings
- Media relations calls have been handled from various media outlets.



### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monday, September 11, 2017

Contact: Public and Media Relations at 803-545-3020

### **City Offices Closed on Monday, Sept. 11 due to inclement weather**

City of Columbia offices will be closed on Monday, Sept. 11, 2017, due to inclement weather.

Police, fire and rescue services may be reached for emergencies by calling 9-1-1.

Recycling, garbage and yard waste services will resume on Tuesday, Sept. 12.

City residents are encouraged to download the free "Columbia, SC Solid Waste" app for iPhone or Android for weekly collection reminders and holiday schedule changes.

Residents can also sign up for other notification options online at

<http://columbiasc.net/solid-waste/recycling/waste-wizard>.

For additional information, please contact the Solid Waste Division at 803-545-3800.

###



# MEDIA ADVISORY

Public and Media Relations Department

(P) 803-545-3020 | (F) 803-343-8719

pio@columbiasc.net | www.columbiasc.net

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, September 11, 2017

### Columbia Tropical Storm Irma Weather Update

The City of Columbia has received a weather update on Tropical Storm Irma. High wind warning is expected now through 2 a.m. wind gusts to 55 mph and tornado threats this afternoon and evening. The high winds may cause downed trees and power outages. There are no significant changes for Richland County forecast.

#### What to expect in Richland County:

##### Now through - 2 PM:

- Rainfall: 0.75"
- Wind: NE 20-30 mph **Gusts to 40 mph**
- Threats: *Limbs and some debris*

##### Today 2 PM - 8 PM:

- Rainfall: 1.00" (total 1.75")
- Wind: ENE 25-35 mph **Gusts to 55 mph**
- Threats: *Trees down, power outages & tornadoes*

##### Monday 8 PM - 2 AM Tuesday:

- Rainfall: 1.00" (total 2.75")
- Wind: ESE 20-30 mph **Gusts to 48 mph**
- Threats: *Trees down, power outages & tornadoes*

##### Tuesday 2 AM - 8 AM:

- Rainfall: 0.35" (total 3.10")
- Wind: SE 12-20 mph **Gusts to 32 mph**
- Threats: *None significant*

##### Tuesday:

- Rainfall: 0.15" (total 3.25")
- Wind: SSW 10-18 mph
- Threats: *None significant*

###



We Are Columbia

# PRESS RELEASE

Public and Media Relations Department

(P) 803-545-3020 | (F) 803-343-8719

pio@columbiasc.net | www.columbiasc.net

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, September 11, 2017

### City Cautions Drivers to avoid Flood-Prone Streets and Intersections

The City of Columbia urges drivers to use caution when driving during severe weather. The following streets and intersections are prone to flooding during heavy rain events. Please avoid these areas during and immediately after heavy rains.

Main and Whaley	Wheat and Amherst	Harden and Read
Gervais and Laurens	Adger and Devine	Harden and Calhoun
Blossom and Henderson	Wheat and Sumter	Franklin and Marion
Blossom and Saluda	Wheat and Pickens	Franklin and Sumter
Harden and Santee	Heyward and Ravenel	Columbia College and N. Main
Monroe and Maple	Pickens between Wheat and Green	Bull and Laurel
Two Notch and Read	Barnwell and Pendleton	

*Disclaimer: Locations above are places known to be flood prone. Actual flooding locations will depend on storm strength, duration and location.*

If you encounter a flooded street or intersection, turn around; do not attempt to drive through it. Water may be deeper than it appears and can hide many hazards (i.e. sharp objects, washed out road surfaces, electrical wires, chemicals, etc.). A vehicle caught in swiftly moving water can be swept away in a matter of seconds. Twelve inches of water can float a car or small SUV and 18 inches of water can carry away large vehicles.

Stay away from storm-damaged areas to include damaged or downed trees and power lines to keep from putting yourself at risk from the effects of severe thunderstorms.

Continue to listen to a NOAA Weather Radio or to local radio and television stations for updated information or instructions, as access to roads or some parts of the community may be blocked.

Help people who may require special assistance, such as infants, children and the elderly or disabled.

Stay away from downed power lines and report them immediately.

To assist with keeping the storm drainage system working properly we would ask that yard debris and other items not be placed adjacent or next to drainage structures.

For additional safety tips on driving when streets are flooded, click [here](#).

If you notice a storm drain which is blocked by debris, please notify the Public Works Street Division at 545-3780 during regular business hours and Customer Care at 545-3300 after 5 p.m. and on weekends. An alternate non-emergency number is 252-2911. For emergencies please call 911.

# # #



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Monday, September 11, 2017

### **Emergency Contact during Tropical Storm Irma**

The City of Columbia encourages all residents to stay away from storm-damaged areas to include damaged or downed trees and power lines to keep from putting yourself at risk from the effects of severe thunderstorms. If you notice a downed tree, limbs or a storm drain which is blocked by debris, please contact Customer Care at 545-3300.

For emergencies, please call 911 and for non-emergencies, please call 803-252-2911.

###



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monday, September 11, 2017

**Downed Tree Areas and Traffic Lights Out Update**

As of 2:00pm today, the City of Columbia has received calls regarding eleven locations with downed trees and two intersections with traffic lights out due to Tropical Storm Irma.

**Downed tree areas:**

Woodlake Dr./Carter Hill Dr., Clark St./Florence St., 637 Henderson St., 403 King St., 1521 & 1531 Fairview Rd., Lyon St./Gervais St., Trenholm Rd./Gervais St., 133 Pond Oak, Elmwood Ave. at I26, 1300 Adger Rd. and 3737 Devereaux Rd.

**Intersections with traffic lights Out:**

Milwood Ave. and Devine St.

Devine St. and Percival Rd.

The City of Columbia encourages citizens to use four-way stop methods at all intersections with traffic lights are out until further notice. If you notice a downed tree, limbs or a storm drain which is blocked by debris, please contact Customer Care at 545-3300. For emergencies, please call 911 and for non-emergencies, please call 803-252-2911.

###

