



SMALL TOWN, BIG BEACH

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Tropical Storm Delta Update #1

The City of Gulf Shores Asks Residents to Monitor and Start Preparing for Tropical Storm Delta

Gulf Shores, Ala. – City of Gulf Shores officials are actively monitoring the developments of Tropical Storm Delta. As of the 4 p.m. CST briefing issued by the National Weather Service, Delta is now forecast to strengthen into a major hurricane (Category 3) before moving into the Gulf of Mexico.

Tropical Storm Delta is forecast to turn more to the north and northeast prior to making landfall as a hurricane, but precisely when that turn occurs will determine the extent of impacts our local area will experience. It is important to note that even if the storm makes landfall well to the west, our area will see a threat of storm surge, dangerous surf and rip currents, heavy rain, isolated tornadoes and strong winds.

Due to the large amounts of erosion caused by Hurricane Sally, coastal flooding is also possible. Residents living along the Fort Morgan Peninsula, Plash Island, other low-lying areas, and those residing in mobile homes, campgrounds and RV parks, should begin taking all necessary precautions to protect themselves and their property.

A limited amount of sand is now available for residents at the Gulf Shores Sportsplex, located at 19025 Oak Road West. Sandbags and shovels will not be provided but can be purchased at local hardware and home improvement stores.

Residents are asked to make sure they have a current Hurricane Re-entry Pass in all of their vehicles. Per City of Gulf Shores Resolution 5642-16, once a Hurricane Warning has been issued for the Gulf Shores area, re-entry/beach parking passes are no longer distributed to any residents, businesses or other entities. Passes are available for pickup at both City Hall and the Gulf Shores City Store during regular business hours.

Residents should begin making all necessary storm preparations. See the following storm preparedness tips.

- **Stay Weather Alert** - Pay extra attention to local weather reports until the storm has moved through the area. Be sure to keep your weather radio on and your cell phone charged to ensure you can receive weather alerts.

- **Know Your Elevation** – You must know your elevation to understand if your location will be impacted by storm surge. Find your elevation online at <https://viewer.nationalmap.gov/advanced-viewer/>.
- **Gather Information** – Keep a list of local emergency contact information. Find contact information at www.gulfshoresal.gov/resourcedirectory.
- **Plan and Take Action** – Be sure to have a safety plan in place for you and your family. This includes planning for essential medications, contact information, food, water and pets.
- **The First 72 Are On You** - Shelters are not available during the first 72 hours after a storm passes, and residents should plan accordingly. Prepare by creating disaster kits that contain enough food, water and essential supplies that will last seven days after the storm arrives. Individuals should consider having at least two emergency supply kits, one full kit at home and smaller portable kits in their workplace, vehicle or other places they spend time.
- **Fuel Up** – Go ahead and fuel all vehicles and generators in the event that fuel is not available after the storm.
- **Prepare for High Winds** – Bring loose, lightweight objects (e.g., patio furniture, garbage cans, and bicycles) inside; anchor objects that would be unsafe to bring inside (e.g., gas grills and propane tanks); and trim or remove trees close enough to fall on buildings.
- **Turn Around, Don't Drown** – In the event of a roadway covered by water, do not attempt to drive over the flooded road. The water depth may be misleading, and you could end up stranded or trapped.
- **Evacuate When Necessary** – If an evacuation notice is issued, leave. Research possible evacuation routes and make arrangements before the storm, so you have somewhere to go.

Residents are also asked to make sure they clear drainage ditches out as much as possible to prepare for heavy rain. City of Gulf Shores crews will also be working extra hours this week to collect as much storm debris as possible in anticipation of potential impacts from Tropical Storm Delta. City crews and contractors have collected over 150,000 cubic yards, out of the total estimated 400,000 plus cubic yards, since Tuesday, Sept. 22.

For the latest updates and advisories, continue to follow local media and the National Weather Service Mobile at www.weather.gov/mobile for continued weather updates. The City of Gulf Shores will continue to share updates through our City's website and on our social media channels. To receive updates via email or text message, please visit www.gulfshoresal.gov and click on "Notify Me."

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