



Parish of Ascension

OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

TOMMY MARTINEZ
Parish President

Parish officials making preparations for Tropical Storm Bonnie

**Contact: Scott Rabalais (225) 621-5753; E-mail: srabalais@apgov.us
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GONZALES – Ascension Parish officials were preparing for and monitoring the progress of Tropical Storm Bonnie on Friday, although no widespread significant impact from the storm is expected in the parish.

Ascension Parish President Tommy Martinez said critical personnel are on standby. The Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is at a Level 3 state of readiness, which means that the parish's emergency operations center has been partially activated.

A state of emergency in Ascension Parish has not been declared by President Martinez and as of noon Friday was not anticipated to be declared this weekend. There are also no evacuations, shelters or contraflow actions in place or expected.

As of noon Friday, the center of Bonnie was located over Biscayne Bay about 30 miles southwest of Miami, Fla. The storm is expected to re-emerge off the Florida peninsula into the Gulf of Mexico with a second landfall expected early Sunday morning somewhere along the southeast Louisiana coast.

A tropical storm warning is in effect from Morgan City east to Destin, Fla., including Lake Pontchartrain.

The main impact for Ascension Parish is expected to be rain, with anywhere from two to four inches forecast. President Martinez has not ordered the parish's pumping stations into action but may do so Saturday as a precaution in anticipation of heavy rains.

LA 70 reopened: Because of the approaching storm, Ascension Parish Sherriff Jeff Wiley requested that construction on a railroad crossing on LA 70 just west of the Sunshine Bridge be suspended temporarily. LA 70 is now open with no detours.

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