



# Parish of Ascension

OFFICE of COMMUNICATIONS

CLINT COINTMENT  
Parish President

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Ascension Parish Waterways to Close at Noon Today

All Ascension Parish waterways and boat launches will close at 12:00 pm today, April 15, due to high water levels caused by recent heavy rains. The closures have been coordinated with Livingston Parish.

Parish President Clint Cointment and his administration have been developing guidelines to uniformly address high-water situations. He stated that he and the Ascension Waterways Commission have promulgated a formal set of guidelines that will be presented to the Ascension Parish Council for adoption as an ordinance.

“As the population has grown along the Amite / Blind River basin over the years, there have been situations arise where high-water events have threatened life and property,” said President Cointment. “By developing these guidelines, we will eliminate the guesswork and confusion about waterway closures.”

When the river gauge at Port Vincent reaches 4 feet or the river gauge at French Settlement reaches 3 feet, the waterways will be determined to be a minor to moderate threat to properties lying along the shoreline, and it shall be ordered that all vessels traversing along any waterway in this parish will do so at Idle only speed when passing any physically man-made structure along the shoreline, until such time as the river gauge falls below 4 feet at Port Vincent or 3 feet at French Settlement.

When the river gauge at Port Vincent reaches 6 feet or the river gauge at French Settlement reaches 3.6 feet the waterways will automatically close to all recreational traffic and river travel for recreational purposes will be halted until the river gauge falls below 6 feet at Port Vincent or 3.6 feet at French Settlement.

The guidelines, when adopted, will be added to the existing No Wake Zone ordinance.

“An ordinance will put some teeth in our enforcement efforts,” added President Cointment.