St. Johns County Begins the Recovery Process

Power Companies – Power companies are aware of the widespread power outages, and are in the field working as quickly as possible to restore power to the citizens of St. Johns County.

Power Lines Down – Many power lines are down throughout the County. Please consider all downed lines dangerous and energized. Power companies are aware of the downed lines and are in the field working to restore power to those areas affected.

FPL: 1-800-468-8243  Jax Beach Utilities: 1-904-247-6171
JEA: 1-904-665-6000

Trees Down – Many trees throughout the County are down, please use caution. County Crews have responded and working on clearing trees and debris from roadways as quickly as possible. County Crews will be clearing major roads first, neighborhood roads second. Residents are to be advised – St. Johns County does not remove trees from residential property.

Chain Saws | Warning – Please be advised to use extreme caution using chain saws while removing downed trees and debris on your property. Be aware of potential downed lines beneath trees and debris.

Damage Assessment Teams – Damage Assessment Teams are evaluating the overall damage to St. Johns County.

Water – Please limit your use of water for showers and household purposes until electric power is restored.

Disaster Assistance – Help may include; Temporary housing or repairs, low interest loans to homeowners, renters and business owners, grants for individuals and families. Apply by Phone at:

1-800-621-FEMA  1-800-621-3362  1-800-462-7585 TTY

Intersections – Due to the power outages and downed lines, many traffic lights are not functional. Motorists are advised to use extreme caution when approaching these areas and to treat these intersections as 4 – Way Stops.

County Closures

Schools - Based on the preliminary assessment by the school district maintenance team, we have made the decision to close all schools and district offices on Wednesday, September 8, 2004. Most of our schools are without power and there is some minor damage and clean up. The decision to reopen will be made on a day-to-day basis as power is restored. You are advised to please stay tuned to your local news stations or call the St. Johns County Emergency Operations Center at 904-824-5550.
**Tax Collectors Offices** - Based on the preliminary assessment by County Officials, a decision has been made to close all Tax Collectors’ Offices on Tuesday, September 7, 2004. Our facilities are without power and there is some minor damage and clean up. The decision to reopen will be made on a day-to-day basis as power is restored. The following locations will be closed:

- St. Johns County’s Main Tax Collectors Office
- Ponte Vedra Tax Collectors Annex
- Julington Creek Tax Collectors Annex
- Hastings Tax Collectors Annex

You are advised to please stay tuned to your local news stations or call the St. Johns County Emergency Operations Center at 904-824-5550.

**Health and Human Services** - Please be advised that Health and Human Services will be open and available for limited services. The decision to reopen libraries will be made on a day-to-day basis as power is restored.

**Tillman Ridge** - Residential pick-up for Tuesday, September 7th has been scheduled for Wednesday, September 8th. Normal operating hours will continue on Wednesday, September 8, 2004. For more information call 904.824.9720. **Tillman Ridge Transfer Station** – Is now open.

**City of St. Augustine** – Government Offices are open today, September 7, 2004.

**City of St. Augustine Beach** – Government Offices are open today, September 7, 2004.

**Sunshine Bus** – Will resume their regular schedule.