



Prepare For Ivan (*The Terrible*)

Based on the latest discussion of the potential track of Hurricane Ivan found at the National Hurricane Center's website, it appears that the National Weather Service is concerned that Ivan may slowly move across, or even stall out over the Appalachian Mountains. The NWS's discussion mentions the possibility of a subsequent "very serious flooding event". Given the already saturated ground conditions in Virginia from Frances last week and the localized rain event that we are expecting over the next two days, we would expect that serious flooding is highly possible if Ivan tracks over the mountains.

As we all prepare for these events, DAA would like to offer some thoughts on hazard mitigation measures that may pertain to your current construction activities or operations underway in the Mountain, Valley, or Piedmont regions of Virginia.

- Any medium to large disturbed (land grading) sites or sites under active construction, such as landfills, large commercial developments, etc. need to take appropriate measures to insure that all erosion and sediment control measures are properly in place and have been cleaned from last week's storm. Give thought to the potential results if measures collapse or fail such as a sediment basin breach or drains becoming plugged.
- Secure loose piles of framing timbers used in trench excavations or other construction. Secure all loose construction materials that could become floating dangers if nearby creeks or floodways submerge the site.
- Take all possible measures to prevent floodwaters from entering existing sanitary sewer facilities. Ensure that partially constructed storm sewer inlets or manholes have secured tops or are access-proof to prevent acting as traps during flooding.
- Create positive drainage paths away from unsupported walls under construction.
- Secure temporary jobsite fueling and lubricant stations at construction sites prone to flooding.
- If temporary or partially constructed structures are present on a site, take measures to insure that floodwaters could flow through them if possible. Open and secure all ground level doors and windows.

This is certainly not a complete list of all the measures that should be considered. For further information, we recommend you visit the following sites for additional information for protecting your businesses:

The American Red Cross - http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/0,1082,0_606_00.html#before

The U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Project Impact website - <http://www.fema.gov/pdf/library/bizindst.pdf>

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management - <http://www.vaemergency.com/prepare/>

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