

OIL SPILL CLEAN-UP UPDATE

BILOXI—Residents of Mississippi's coastal counties will be given priority for the positions that open up should the

Gulf oil spill affect the Mississippi coastline.

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, MS Department of Marine Resources, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, MS Department of Employment Security, MS Commission for Volunteer

Service, United Way of South Mississippi, are working with BP to ensure that Mississippians will be on the front

lines of the oil spill response.

MDES has received a number of job openings from companies engaged in the oil spill clean-up operation. MDES

has referred 2,284 applicants to response contractors as of today. To apply for these jobs an individual may go to

the MDES website, at www.mdes.ms.gov and click on Oil Spill Jobs. This will direct the individual to the MDES

system to register for work and apply for a job. Individuals may also call MDES at 1.888.844.3577.

Health, Safety and Environmental Training has been a key focus to properly prepare those interested in participating in shoreline clean up. The training is fit-for-purpose based on your role with shoreline cleanup. WIN

Job Centers along the Mississippi Gulf Coast Counties have information about training classes that are being

scheduled. Only residents who undergo specific training and are hired by response contractors will be directly

involved in oil spill cleanup.

Officials responding to the oil spill ask that potential volunteers and cleanup workers be patient because a majority of the work will not take place until the oil spill begins affecting Mississippi's coast.

Those still interested in working or volunteering need to register by calling 1-866-448-5816. Officials responding

to the oil spill ask that potential volunteers and cleanup workers be patient because a majority of the work will not

take place until the oil spill begins affecting Mississippi's coast.

For questions, call 866-519-MEMA (6362), or visit us online at www.msema.org. You can also follow us on Twitter

and Facebook using the keyword MSEMA.

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