



St. James Parish Government COMMUNICATIONS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 15, 2023

Closure at Grand Point Boat Launch

Starting on June 5th, the Grand Point Boat Launch is closed every Monday - Thursday for waterway debris removal. Once the project is finalized, the launch will fully re-open for public use. This project is clearing out Bourbon Canal and all major outfalls, and is preparing for the Westshore Interconnect Levee project.

The Launch will remain closed to the public from 6:30A.M. on Mondays through 4:30P.M. on Thursdays until cleanup is completed. The launch will open on weekends, Friday - Sunday. All vehicles must be removed by 6:30A.M. every Monday morning.

Parish President Pete Dufresne said, "Removing waterway debris not only protects our waterways, but also our homes and residents. These canals have been neglected for many years, and it's a priority of this administration to clear all major drainage areas. This is an essential part of hurricane preparedness and protecting our Parish."

Other canals that have been cleaned of debris in the last 3 years include the Vacherie Canal, Baytree Community Canal, Mimosa Canal, Harry Town Canal, Cemetery Canal, Roulette Canal, Apple Street Canal, Miles Canal, Good Children's Canal, Bourbon Canal. Crews are currently at the M2 Canal working towards Gramercy.

In the upcoming year, canals scheduled to be cleared include the Lateral 4 Canal, M2 Canal, and part of Blind River South of Airline, Coteau Canal, Bayou Lasseigne Canal, and the Brazzan Canal. These Canals can only be accessed by barge while they are being cleaned.

Operations Director Rick Webre said, "St. James Parish is one of the few parishes that have been fully reimbursed for waterway debris removal as a result of tropical storm activity. So far St. James Parish has been approved for \$1.5 million dollars in FEMA reimbursements to accomplish this task. St James Parish President Pete Dufresne had the foresight to allow me to purchase equipment required to accomplish this critical mission with in-house resources."