



Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau  
Update #1 on the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill  
Date: Friday, May 7, 2010

To: Members of Charlotte County's Tourism Industry  
From: Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau  
Re: Talking Points on the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill

In response to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill in the northern Gulf of Mexico, the Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau has prepared talking points to reference when answering questions asked by the public or media:

Charlotte County is closely monitoring developments surrounding the Louisiana oil spill in the northern Gulf of Mexico, at the time of this email, there are no projected impacts on the State of Florida within the next 72 hours. Florida has more than 2,200 miles of coastline and 663 miles of beach including Charlotte County's 28 miles of sand beaches. Like the rest of Florida destinations, all of Charlotte County's accommodations, restaurants and attractions remain 100% open for business.

We'll continue to monitor the situation and refer to [www.CharlotteHarborTravel.com](http://www.CharlotteHarborTravel.com) for the most accurate and up-to-date information on our area. The Charlotte Harbor VCB is also utilizing social media to update followers on the status of beaches. Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/CharlotteHarbor>) and Twitter (<http://twitter.com/chgiflorida>).

The Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau is in communication with Charlotte County Emergency Management. It is the responsibility of the Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau to convey to the public the impacts of the spill related to Charlotte County Tourism. Charlotte County Emergency Management has emergency plans in place and a plan of action is dependent on the scenario.

VISIT FLORIDA, the state's trusted source for travel planning, serves as a resource for travelers to Florida. A travel advisory page has been established

([http://www.visitflorida.com/florida\\_travel\\_advisory/](http://www.visitflorida.com/florida_travel_advisory/)) linking to individual Florida destinations and an interactive map with Twitter feed updates.

For the latest updates on the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, visit the designated Florida Department of Environmental Protection website at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/deepwaterhorizon/>.

**Note to Businesses**

If your business is receiving inquiries or have received cancelations from potential visitors because of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, please keep record of those cancelations for possible reimbursement. The Charlotte Harbor VCB will also be collecting data once this oil spill is no longer a threat.

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