

Sandy

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duration and after. Some 50 people were rescued in Ocean City and neighboring Strathmere.

On Oct. 30, Atlantic City Electric reported 31,263 customers in Cape May County were without power. That figure decreased to 22,716 later in the day.

As of Tuesday night, Ocean Drive from 29th Street in Sea Isle City to 56th Street in Ocean City remained closed due to sand covering the road-

way. Ocean Drive from 4th Avenue to Townsends Inlet Bridge in Avalon is closed indefinitely due to severe damage and portions of the roadway have been washed away.

The connector between the Ocean City-Longport Bridge was closed due to debris.

Ocean City's 34th Street and Bay Avenue are closed due to widespread flooding.

Tuckahoe Road in Upper Township from Butter Road to County Road 610 were closed due to debris.

County government remained closed Monday and Tuesday to the public, however, on Tuesday, employees returned to work as essential personnel and helped with efforts in the storm's aftermath throughout the county.

County Emergency Management crews began assessing the damage on barrier islands throughout the county.

As of Tuesday, Cape May County Senior Centers, the Cape May County Parks and the Zoo remained closed,

along with the libraries on barrier islands and the Superior Court.

"In many of the towns the beaches washed over to the roadways," Boninfante said. "In many communities it's mostly debris cleanup with branches."

Gov. Chris Christie surveyed the storm's aftermath from a helicopter, briefly landing in Avalon to tour the devastation and meet local and county officials and residents impacted by Hurricane Sandy.

Boninfante said the governor's office wanted access to barrier islands on a county basis instead of by individual communities. She said state and county inspectors were checking to make sure buildings and roadways were safe.

"The state of emergency is going to remain in place. He (Christie) said the county works with all of its local municipalities and when everyone determines it's safe to re-enter, then the county will make the request to the state," Boninfante said.

On Wednesday, the governor signed Executive Order 105 postponing Halloween Trick or Treating until Monday, Nov. 5.

Boninfante said she's been inundated with calls from citizens inquiring about their properties and asking when the ban on access to the barrier islands would be lifted.

"I feel for them, but if we let them in and it wasn't safe, if the foundation wasn't safe and something happened and they got hurt, that just isn't responsible," Boninfante said.

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ties during the storm, with the exception of the area near Swain's Hardware on Jackson Street. MacLeod said only around five percent of town lost its power.

"We were very fortunate. There were about 10 trees down in the city, but no structural damage has been reported," he said.

MacLeod said McGlade's on the Pier restaurant on Beach Avenue was apparently compromised during the storm, but stayed intact and there has been no serious damage reported as of yet.

Originally, weather reports indicated conditions of the hurricane, high tide and the new moon would occur almost simultaneously at the south shore. However, MacLeod said an unexpected change in wind direction and a slight shift of the fast moving storm prevented it from creating severe devastation like what was seen in northern shore towns. He said if the winds had come from the south, as opposed to the west, things could have been much different. MacLeod noted the storm had also increased in speed

and took a slight turn preventing it from hovering over Cape Island with a direct hit.

Perhaps the most damaging aspect of Hurricane Sandy in Cape May, was the incredibly large amount of sand washed up on Beach Avenue, particularly in the vicinity of Poverty Beach. He said work crews began pushing the sand into piles near the seawall immediately after the storm had passed. He said the city is currently in contact with the county in order to receive assistance for the area near Poverty Beach.

MacLeod said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and state Department of Environmental Protection will assess the beach erosion and damage before proceeding with the Lower Cape May Meadows-Cape May Point Ecosystem Restoration Project scheduled to begin in November. He said despite the storm, the project is still planned to begin on time, which will place approximately 302,000 cubic yards of sand on beaches starting at the Cove down to the Cape May Point State Park.

MacLeod said many areas were concerned residents

would not evacuate for Hurricane Sandy, following the minimal effect Hurricane Irene had on South Jersey last year when it was predicted to be much more severe. He said fortunately most citizens adhered to the voluntary and mandatory evacuations that occurred over the weekend.

"We do believe based on the continued movement of the city to encourage residents to follow the orders of the county and state, most people complied with the requests to evacuate," MacLeod said. "As always, some people stayed behind but the majority of people left the island."

Greg Coffey, owner of the C-View Inn and a member of the city's emergency management team, kept his doors open to first responders and the public before and after the storm. Coffey said the C-View Inn was open on Sunday and Tuesday, but closed during the presence of the storm on Monday evening. He said a post on Facebook let residents, police and fire personnel know the tavern was open, but encouraged safety and compliance with the state of emergency. Coffey said local islanders who came in walked

or drove very short distances. He said the ultimate goal of staying open was to provide food and a safe haven for members of emergency services.

"We took care of our policemen and firemen. I even took orders and delivered to them at one point," he said. "You have to do your part."

Coffey said Cape May was fortunate to receive mostly rain as opposed to the dangerously high winds experienced farther north. He commended members of Public Works and emergency services for doing an "excellent job."

Not far from the C-View, more than 300 recruits and staff from the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center Cape May evacuated in response to Hurricane Sandy on Saturday, but returned to the base yesterday around 3:30 p.m.

According to a press release, Coast Guard recruits and training center staff had been conducting recruit basic training at Joint Base McGuire-Dix in Lakehurst and will resume the normal training routine after being displaced by the storm. Numerous operational units returned to Training



Above, fire crews from West Cape May and Cape May Point responded to a fire in a building that houses Key West Tacos and Higher Grounds Coffee Shop at Park and West Perry, Tuesday. Cape May Point Deputy Fire Chief Mike Mahon said there was significant damage, but it was not a total loss.

Center Cape May including numerous boats and ships on Tuesday.

Facilities engineers from Training Center Cape May began repairing minor electrical and structural damage to the base's waterfront in order to prepare it for the return of operational units. According to reports, more than seven operational units

returned to the training center's waterfront facilities to conduct their operations.

The press release says the Training Center opened to essential personnel yesterday at noon and it will resume normal operations for all military and civilian personnel today.

WCM

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ed an elderly couple from Cape May, a resident from Cape May Point and a Cape Island visitor from England. Rutherford said he was sure the Englishman had something different in mind when he planned a trip to Cape

May. He said many of the emergency service personnel on the island came to the fire hall for food and shelter during the storm. He said the cooperation between West Cape May, Cape May City and Cape May Point was nothing short of spectacular. He

said officials from all three municipalities held a meeting over the weekend to coordinate their shared services and devise an overall plan prior to the storm.

"Communication between West Cape May, Cape May and the Point was great," he said. "We did everything together and made it work."

Rutherford said the island was fortunate to have few structural damages and no injuries reported during the storm.

"We made out tremendously well - there was minimal damage," he said. "We were incredibly blessed."

He said winds from the northwest during the storm as opposed from the south kept the surge level to a minimum. He said Hurricane Sandy also sped up and hit before high tide around 8 p.m. Monday night, another reason Cape Island was ultimately spared.


The only structural damage on report occurred at the Higher Grounds Coffee Shop

on West Perry Street where a fire began in the rear of the building Tuesday around 10 a.m. West Cape May Fire Chief Chuck McPherson said a cause for the fire has not yet been determined. He said the county fire marshal would perform an investigation when available.

"There were so many fires and problems during the storm, the county is backed up," McPherson said. "We're not sure when they'll get here."

McPherson and his fire crew were called back to the fire later in the afternoon when the alarm went off for a second time, but there was no fire on scene. Borough Public Safety Commissioner Ramsey Geyer said the volunteer fire company and other emergency services on the island worked vigorously before, during and after the storm.

"Across the board, we were better prepared for this storm than any other since I've been here," he said. "The evacuation helped a lot. We're glad people listened to the requests of the state and county."




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**CLOUD ATLAS R 12:25, 4:00, 7:30
SINISTER R 12:35, 5:05, 9:35
**FUN SIZE PG-13 3:00, 7:35
ARGO R 12:55, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50
TAKEN 2 PG-13 12:15, 2:40, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55

** No Passes

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	High	Low	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
31	9:26	9:50	2:54	3:44		
1	10:01	10:28	3:28	4:23		
2	10:38	11:08	4:03	5:02		
3	11:16	11:50	4:40	5:44		
4	10:57	11:38	4:21	5:29		
5	11:43		5:09	6:17		
6	12:32	12:36	6:05	7:08		
7	1:32	1:35	7:08	8:00		

Moon Phases
Last Quarter, Nov. 6
New Moon, Nov. 13
First Quarter, Nov. 20
Full Moon, Nov. 28
Apogee, Nov. 1, 28
Perigee, Nov. 14