

# Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Incident

## A Resource for Manatee County Residents and Visitors

The recent offshore oil incident has yet to impact Manatee County, and there has been no impact to public safety or wildlife. Manatee County's staff has formed a team to address and monitor the situation and has created a strategy to combat any potential issues that might arise in the local waterways or beaches.

Manatee County continues to monitor the situation through coordination with our State and Federal agencies while briefings thus far have focused on prevention and recovery strategies for the Florida Panhandle no one can be certain, at this time, that the effects of the spill will be seen on Manatee County's shores.

### **In the Unlikely Event the Spill Reaches Manatee County:**

- The Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Coast Guard have advised that ***if*** oil comes ashore in Manatee County, it will be weathered petroleum in a congealed form resembling Vaseline, axle grease, tar balls or mats.
- The oil will most likely not be floating in a slick on the water; but will move ashore from below the water's surface.
- Manatee County will establish a "strike team" to clean up publicly maintained areas if and when oil is sighted.
- Regular local updates can be found on the Manatee County Government website at [www.mymanatee.org](http://www.mymanatee.org)

### **How to Help:**

At this time, Manatee County is not accepting volunteers to assist with the cleanup. Volunteers for our area will be coordinated through the United Way. To express interest in volunteering and receiving the necessary training, please contact [www.volunteerfloridadisaster.org](http://www.volunteerfloridadisaster.org) .



Photos by Dotty Motta

