

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR ROBERT BENTLEY  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2012**

**Governor Bentley Closely Monitoring Tropical Storm Debby**

MONTGOMERY—Governor Robert Bentley on Sunday encouraged Alabamians to prepare for Tropical Storm Debby as state agencies continue to monitor the track of the storm as some uncertainty remains of its exact path. According to the National Weather Service, Debby is currently a tropical storm with winds at 60 mph, and could potentially strengthen before making landfall along the Gulf Coast.

“Alabamians have prepared for tropical storms before, and they should now be closely watching local weather reports as Debby moves in the Gulf. State agencies are also closely monitoring Tropical Storm Debby and are preparing to respond if needed. While the impact models are still uncertain on the path of the storm, I urge Alabamians to begin now to make sure their preparedness plan is updated in order to keep their families and themselves safe as this tropical storm heads toward the Gulf Coast.”

Governor Bentley and Alabama Emergency Management Agency Director Art Faulkner will continue to be in close contact with the National Weather Service and local emergency management officials in counties throughout the state to discuss storm preparation and response.

Alabama EMA Director Art Faulkner said, “Apart of being prepared for any potential severe weather event is having a device or to receive weather updates, one of the best devices is an all-hazard weather radio.”

The National Weather Service has issued Tropical Storm Warnings which extend from the mouth of the Pearl River in Louisiana east to the Suwannee River in Florida. A tropical Storm Watch extends from the Suwannee River south to Anclote Key, Florida.

As we continue to monitor TS Debby for the next few days it is important for the residents along the coast line to stay aware of the possibility for inland flooding as this system has the potential to produce heavy rain. Dangerous rip current is an additional threat for residents and tourists to stay mindful of along the coast.

Interests all along the Alabama Gulf Coast should keep an eye on this storm continues its slow movement toward the coast for the latest information visit [ema.alabama.gov](http://ema.alabama.gov)

###

*For additional information, contact the Governor’s Press Office at 334-242-7150.*