

1/82: Harrison County



MSU in Harrison County:
 Harrison County Extension Office
 2315 17th Street
 Gulfport, MS 39762
 Phone: (228) 865-4227
 Email: harrison@ext.msstate.edu

Coastal Research and Extension Center
 1815 Popp's Ferry Road
 Biloxi, MS 39532
 Phone: (228) 388-4710



Sculptor Dayton Scoggins turns Katrina-damaged trees along Hwy. 90 into works of art.

County Seat: Gulfport and Biloxi

Population: 189,601 (2000 Census)

Municipalities:

- Iuka
- Long Beach
- D'Iberville
- Biloxi
- Gulfport

Commodities:

Harrison County is a predominantly urban area with limited commodities produced and harvested in the county. Major contributors are seafood, horticulture and forestry.

Industries:

- Hospitality and tourism
- Port of Gulfport – international trade
- Seafood processing
- Military installations – Naval Construction Battalion in Gulfport, Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi
- Manufacturing – ship industry

Natural Resources:

Harrison County has an abundance of rivers, streams, bayous and wetlands, as well as the Gulf of Mexico, which offer opportunities for recreation, wildlife habitats and environmental experiences. More than 200 species of fish, including mackerel, snapper and grouper, indigenous to the Gulf of Mexico make deep-sea fishing charters, shrimping trips, and lake and river fishing prime activities when visiting the area.

History Notes: Harrison County was once home to the Biloxi Indians, then d'Iberville's French, changing hands many times over the years. Eight flags have flown over the Harrison County –

Mississippi Gulf Coast Area. Harrison County was founded in 1841. The county was named for President William H. Harrison.

Attractions:

- Gulf of Mexico – 26 miles of white sand beaches
- Gulf Islands National Seashore – Ship Island excursions and Fort Massachusetts tours
- Biloxi lighthouse and marine sculpture viewing along county coastline (Hwy. 90)
- Beauvoir – Last Home of Confederate President Jefferson Davis
- Lynn Meadows Discovery Center – One of the top 50 U.S. children's museums
- Casinos
- Area events: "Cruisin' the Coast," Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo, Crawfish Festival, Blessing of the Fleet and Shrimp Festival, Mardi Gras, Winter Classic Equestrian Event, Long Beach Kite Festival and outdoor holiday concerts.

Did you know?

A single pond in Harrison County is the only known habitat of the critically endangered dusky gopher frog.

"The people of Harrison County have endured many changes through the years but none more than those brought about by hurricanes — Katrina bringing the most recent devastation. I am amazed each day as I see courage in the eyes and actions of people rebuilding their lives, their homes and their communities. Courage is not the absence of fear but action in the face of fear. I am honored to know and serve them."

Nancy Freeman, Extension County Director