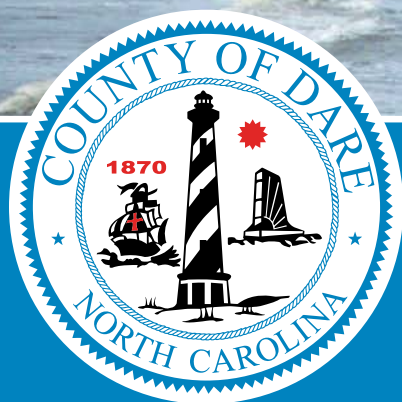


What You Should **KNOW.** What You Should **DO.** *When A Hurricane Is Threatening The Outer Banks*



Emergency Management Office: 252.475.5655
Subscribe to Receive Email Notifications in the event of
an emergency at: www.DareCountyEM.com

Photo Courtesy Don Bowers

What You Should **KNOW.**

CATEGORY 1:

Winds of 74-95 MPH

Very dangerous winds will produce some danger:

Minor damage to property, shrubbery, trees, and unanchored mobile homes should be expected. Low-lying coastal roads inundated, minor pier damage and some small craft in exposed anchorage may be torn from moorings.

CATEGORY 2:

Winds of 96-110 mph

Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage:

Well-constructed frame homes could sustain major roof and siding damage. Many shallow rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted and block roads. Serious flooding at coast and many smaller structures near coast destroyed. Considerable damage to piers. Near-total power loss is expected with outages that could last from several days to weeks.

CATEGORY 3:

Winds of 111-129 mph

Devastating damage will occur:

Large trees blown down. Serious flooding at coast and many small structures near coast destroyed; electricity and water may be unavailable for several days to weeks after the storm passes. Major damage to piers.

CATEGORY 4:

Winds of 130-156 mph

Catastrophic damage will occur:

Shrubs and trees blown down. Extensive damage to roofing materials, windows, and doors; complete failure of roofs on many small residences; complete destruction of mobile homes. Major damage to lower floors of structures near shore due to flooding and battering by waves and floating debris. Destruction of piers.

CATEGORY 5:

Winds greater than 157 mph

Catastrophic damage will occur:

A high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages for weeks to possibly months.

STORM Surge

Storm surge is often the greatest threat to life and property during a coastal storm. The destructive power of storm surge and large battering waves can result in loss of life, buildings destroyed, beach and dune erosion and road/bridge damage along the coast. Storm surge is the abnormal rise of water generated by a storm over and above the normal tide. It happens when the winds of a coastal storm push water onto land. In addition, large and destructive waves ride in on top of the surge. Storm surge can affect the oceanfront and the soundside of Dare County. The National Weather Service now issues Storm Surge Watch/Warning Maps and Potential Storm Surge Flooding Maps.

Storm Surge Watch - Possible Life-Threatening Flooding Within 48 hours

Storm Surge Warning - Danger of Life-Threatening Flooding Within 36 hours

Potential Storm Surge Flooding Map -

Highlights geographic locations where flooding from storm surge could occur and provides the potential height above ground the water could reach



Other Hurricane Related Hazards:



TORNADOES - Hurricanes and tropical storms can also produce tornadoes. These tornadoes most often occur in thunderstorms embedded in rain bands.



WINDS - Debris, such as signs, roofing material, siding and small items left outside becoming flying missiles during hurricanes. Hurricane-force winds, 74 mph or more, can destroy buildings and mobile homes.



RAINFALL - Tropical storms and hurricanes often produce widespread, torrential rains in excess of 6 inches, which may result in deadly and destructive floods. Flash flooding, defined as rapid rise in water levels, can occur quickly due to intense rainfall.



RIP CURRENTS - Strong winds can cause dangerous waves and rip currents that pose a significant hazard to mariners, coastal residents and visitors. Rip currents are channeled currents of water flowing away from shore, usually extending past the line of breaking waves, that can pull even the strongest swimmers away from shore.

Run from **WATER.** Hide from **WIND.**

What You Should **DO.**

Before the Hurricane Season:

- Find out if your home is subject to flooding. It is important to know if your property is located in a flood zone and what steps you can take to prepare your property and reduce the risk of flood damages. Contact the Dare County Planning Department to determine the flood zone and visit www.darenc.com/flood for more information about flood risks in our area.
- Ensure your home and belongings are properly insured in the event of flooding or wind/hail damage. Please note, it typically takes 30 days for wind and flood damage policies to take effect. For more information on flood insurance visit: www.floodsmart.gov.
- Make an evacuation plan with your family. Decide on which route to take, what vehicles you will use, and where you will stay.

For more information about evacuation plans, emergency supply kits, and preparations you can make to your home, visit www.ReadyNC.gov

Hurricane **SUPPLY KIT**

Following is a list of basic items every emergency supply kit should include. However, it is important individuals review this list and consider the unique circumstances of their family in order to create an emergency supply kit that will meet their needs.

- Water** (1 gallon per person, per day for at least 3 days)
- Non-Perishable Food** (3 day supply per person)
- Emergency Light Sources** (flashlights, candles, lanterns)
- Portable Radio**
- Extra Batteries**
- First Aid Kit**
- Medications**
- Infant/Pet Supplies if needed**
- Important Family Documents** (in waterproof container)
- Blanket for each person**



Stay **INFORMED:**

For official information monitor these local radio stations, TV channels, and websites.

-  **TELEVISION** - Government Channel (Digital Cable Channel 191)
-  **NOAA WEATHER RADIO** - 162.425 or 167.475
-  **WEB** - www.DareNC.com, www.DareCountyEM.com, www.nhc.noaa.gov and www.weather.gov
-  **TWITTER** - @DareCountyEM, @NHC_Atlantic, @NWSMoreheadCity and @NHC_Surge
-  **FACEBOOK** - www.facebook.com/NCDOTNC12
-  **EMAIL** - Sign up to receive email alerts from Dare County Emergency Management at www.DareCountyEM.com.
-  **APPS** - ReadyNC and FEMA

**It Only Takes
ONE STORM,
Be Ready For It!**

PETS: In the event of an evacuation, **Take Your Pets with You.**

What You Should Know

- Be sure to include your pets in your disaster preparedness planning. Remember if it isn't safe for you, it isn't safe for your pets. Most shelters do not accept pets. It is imperative you determine where you will take your pets ahead of time. Arrange to have your pet taken care of if you can't take your pet with you. Find out about boarding kennels which may accept your pet on short notice. Talk to friends and relatives who live 100 to 300 miles away from you who might be able to take care of your pet for a few days to a few months.

What You Should Do

- Make sure all your pets are wearing collars and tags with up-to-date identification and contact information. Prepare a kit with a week's worth of emergency supplies available in case the disaster prevents you from getting necessary food and medications. Examples are food, water, and medications your pet takes regularly.

- Shelters that do accept pets will require owners to bring their pets in a kennel/carrier, and must provide proof of current vaccinations upon registration of pet at the shelter. Animals will not be accepted without proof of vaccination, if they appear to be sick, or if they are exhibiting aggressive behavior.

After the storm

- Be careful allowing your pet outdoors. Familiar scents and landmarks may be altered and your pet could easily be confused and become lost. Downed power lines and wild animals that may have entered the area could present real danger to your pet.



Special Medical Needs **REGISTRY**

The Special Medical Needs Registry will allow Dare County Department of Health & Human Services staff to contact residents with identified special medical needs prior to, during and/or after an emergency to determine their needs and facilitate assistance as necessary. This registry is voluntary. If you or someone you know may be appropriate for the registry, please contact the Dare County Department of Health & Human Services, Social Services Division at 252.475.5500 or visit www.darenc.com/specialneedsregistry.



When a **HURRICANE WATCH** is Issued:

- Sign up to receive email notifications from Dare County Emergency Management at www.DareCountyEM.com. Download the ReadyNC app.
- Tune into the Government Channel – (Channel 191 on Digital Cable) The Government Channel will provide up-to-date information from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This channel is not available on satellite television systems but can be streamed live online at www.darenc.com/GovChannel.
- Monitor the radio, the Government Channel, or NOAA Weather Radio for official bulletins of the storm's progress.
- Fuel and service vehicles. Load supply kit for evacuation.
- Inspect and secure mobile home tie downs.
- Prepare to cover all window and door openings with shutters or other building materials.
- Use your cell phone and take pictures and/or video of your home and belongings. Email the files to yourself so you can access them in the event your home is damaged by the storm.
- Ensure your emergency supply kit is adequately stocked with water, food, a first aid kit, and medications that will last your family at least 72 hours.
- Prepare to bring inside lawn furniture and other loose, lightweight objects, such as garbage cans, garden tools, etc.

Hurricane Watch - Hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are possible within 48 hours.

When a **HURRICANE WARNING** is Issued:

A hurricane is expected within 36 hours.

- Follow instructions issued by local officials. Leave immediately if an evacuation is called.
- Closely monitor radio, the Government Channel, local television or NOAA Weather Radio for official bulletins or sign up to receive email updates from Dare County Emergency Management at www.DareCountyEM.com
- Complete preparation activities, including securing window and door openings, storing all loose outside objects, etc.
- Leave mobile homes in any case.
- Store valuables and personal papers in watertight containers in a high spot. If an evacuation is called, take them with you.

Hurricane Warning - Hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or greater) are expected within 36 hours.

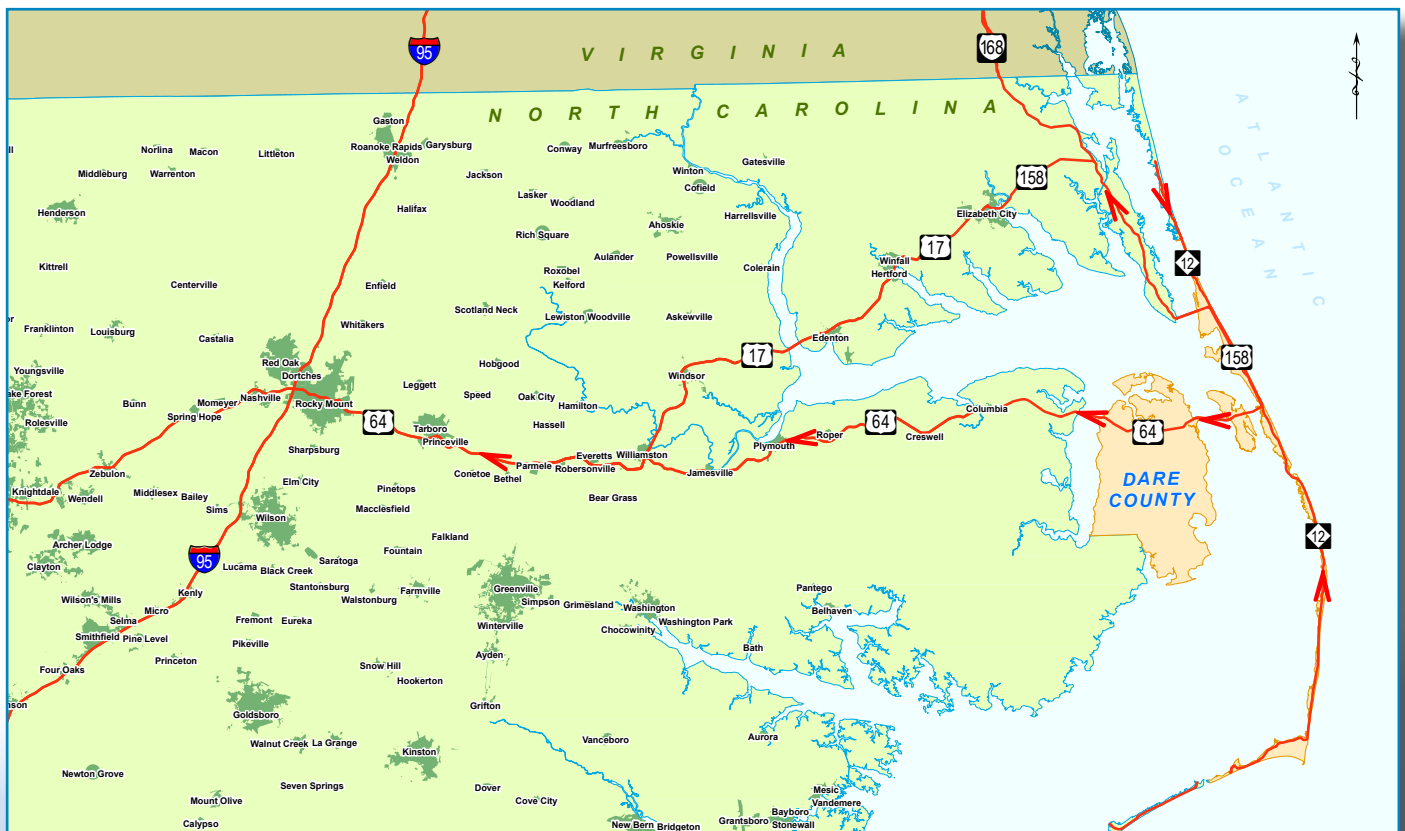


EVACUATION: What You Should Know

The responsibility for ordering evacuations within Dare County rests with the Dare County Control Group. The Control Group is comprised of the Chairman of the Dare County Board of Commissioners or designee, the Municipal Mayors, the Dare County Sheriff, and the Superintendent of the National Park Service.

■ **KNOW THE BEST EVACUATION ROUTE.** Dare County has two evacuation routes: Highway 64/264 West and Highway 158 North. Residents and visitors evacuating from Hatteras Island, Nags Head, and Roanoke Island are encouraged to utilize Highway 64/264 which has less congestion and traffic lights, allowing for constant speed. This route intersects Interstate 95 allowing travelers to head north or south to their desired destination. While this route may appear longer on a map or GPS, it is typically faster than evacuating via Highway 158.

- Evacuation routes are well marked with blue hurricane evacuation route signs.
- High profile vehicles (campers, tractor trailers, boats, RV's, etc.) are at risk while traveling during high winds, especially on bridges. These vehicles should evacuate long before heavy winds begin.
- There are no American Red Cross approved shelters in Dare County. Inland shelter locations will be broadcast on local radio and television stations and posted on www.DareCountyEM.com.



Evacuation Route Maps are available for mobile devices on the ReadyNC app.



What You Should **DO.**

- **If vacationing on the Outer Banks**, contact your accommodations provider for instructions and please evacuate promptly. Leave early and expect delays. Take all belongings with you. You will not be allowed reentry in the event of storm damage. Be aware, visitors may be evacuated prior to residents.
- **Evacuate Early.** Don't wait to evacuate. Evacuation routes will become very congested.
- **Flooding** can begin well before a hurricane nears land. Plan to evacuate early and keep a full tank of gas in your vehicle.

- **If you stay**, prepare to sustain yourself for at least 72 hours. Emergency personnel will not risk their personal safety during the storm. There may not be power, water, rescue, or medical services available. Stay away from windows and glass doors, move furniture away from exposed doors and windows. Don't go out in the brief calm during passage of the eye of the storm; after the eye passes, the winds will change direction and quickly return to hurricane force in seconds. Keep radio or television tuned in for the latest updates.

BOATING Precautions

- Trailer boats should be removed from the water and stored.
- Safe anchor rigging should consist of new or good tie ropes, with extra length and at least 3 or 4 substantial anchors for the craft.
- If possible, boats should anchor in groups with bow lines individually tied high to the tree or piling on mainland with loose rope for rising tide, and the sterns well anchored to hooks. Boats in the group should also be tied together at bows and sterns using protective bumpers.
- Do not tie up parallel to banks, receding tides often beach or capsize boats in this type of anchorage.
- Be sure that a navigable passage at stern of secured boats is made available for late arriving boats seeking safe anchorage beyond the first boats anchored.
- Safe anchorage boats should be tied high, using a half hitch knot (loop knots slip). Rope lengths should be sufficient to take care of excessive high water.
- Make up an inventory of all vessel equipment. Note items to be removed from the vessel. Take photographs or video of your vessel. Keep a copy of these documents and files on board and ashore.
- If your plan calls for moving your vessel, move it at least 48 to 72 hours before the hurricane is estimated to strike the area.

Important **PHONE NUMBERS**

- **911 EMERGENCIES**
- **Dare County Emergency Management**
252.475.5655
- **Road Conditions**
North Carolina 511
Virginia 1.800.367.7623
NC Ferry Service 1.800. 293.3779
- **Utility Companies**
Dominion/NC Power 1.866.366.4357
Cape Hatteras Electric 1.866.511.9862
Tideland Electric (Mainland) 1.800.637.1079
Dare County Water 252.475.5990
- **Additional Contacts**
Outer Banks SPCA 252.475.5620
U.S. Coast Guard (NC Sector) 910.362.4015
American Red Cross 1.800.733.2767
FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) 1.800.621.3362
NC Highway Patrol 1.800.441.6127

After the **STORM**

Immediately following the storm, damage assessment teams will travel throughout Dare County surveying the effects of the storm.

Remain indoors until local authorities say it is safe to go outside. Continue to monitor the radio or TV for instructions from local officials. Information regarding reentry, road closures and areas closed to the public will be available on the Government Channel and www.DareCountyEM.com.

Safety is an important consideration following a hurricane as homeowners and businesses begin to survey their property. During this process watch out for hazards including loose or dangling power lines and water on roadways.

All motorists are advised to proceed with caution. Motorists may encounter roadways where local officials need to restrict access because of potential hazards. Do not drive into standing water; debris may not be visible.

REENTRY: What You Should Know

Reentry will be announced as soon as the extent of damage can be determined. Public safety is the utmost concern at this time. It may be several hours or many weeks. A staged reentry process will be used by the Dare County Control Group to facilitate an orderly reentry. No one will be denied entry with proper identification. Proper Identification includes a driver's license with a Dare County address, a current Dare County property tax bill or a reentry permit. Reentry permits are not issued 72 hours prior to a projected landfall of a tropical disturbance or hurricane.

Reentry Stages

- **Priority One: Essential Personnel**
Essential personnel include essential utilities personnel, government personnel, medical personnel, and damage assessment personnel. Essential personnel will receive a Priority One Critical Personnel Pass for reentry from Municipal Mayors and the Chairman of the Dare County Control Group.
- **Priority Two: Permanent Residents & Essential Personnel for Critical Businesses**
Permanent Residents will be allowed reentry with a valid NC driver's license with a local address or a current Dare County property tax receipt. Non-resident essential personnel of critical businesses such as food service/supply, pharmacies, banks, gas stations, property management, building supply and hotels will be permitted reentry only with a permit.
- **Priority Three: Non-resident property owners and non-resident employees of non-critical businesses.**
Reentry permits are mailed to non-resident property owners. Permits are issued one to a household based on tax registration information. There are two separate non-resident property owner permits; one for property owners North of Oregon Inlet and one for property owners South of Oregon Inlet. Contact Dare County Emergency Management (252.475.5655) if you are a non-resident property owner and have not received your reentry permit. Non-resident employees of non-critical businesses will be allowed entry with a reentry pass.
- **Priority Four: General Public and Visitors**
No reentry pass is needed for Priority Four.

Why Are There Reentry Delays?

- Polluted water
- Severe flooding
- Limited communications
- No electricity, phone
- Septic tanks backed up and flooding
- Structures undermined
- Trees & limbs on roads
- Damage to personal property
- Lack of infrastructure to support population

What You Should Do

- **Residents:** Keep your driver's license with a Dare County address or Dare County property tax receipt and corresponding identification with you during a staged reentry. You may encounter checkpoints in various locations across Dare County.
- **Visitors:** Any plans to visit the Outer Banks should be confirmed before traveling to the area. All accommodations must be assessed for safety before you will be allowed access. Don't risk coming and having to turn around once arriving. Contact your accommodations provider before leaving on your trip to verify your property or room is available.
- **Business Owners:** At the beginning of every hurricane season, ensure your employees have the proper reentry credentials. Contact Dare County Emergency Management to receive reentry passes for employees.

