



County of Dare

Department of Emergency Management

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For Immediate Release

September 25, 2017

9:55 a.m.

Contact:

Dare County Emergency Management

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Mandatory Evacuation Issued for Visitors on Hatteras Island

The Dare County Control Group met this morning and has declared a state of emergency for Dare County, issuing a mandatory evacuation for all Hatteras Island visitors effective at 12 noon today. Visitors on Hatteras Island should pack all of their belongings and depart as soon as possible, before conditions deteriorate and driving becomes hazardous. Be sure to communicate with your accommodations provider before leaving.

Hurricane Maria will pass about 150 miles southeast of Dare County bringing significant impacts including high winds for a long duration, and significant ocean and sound overwash and flooding. It is likely that roads will become impassable for extended periods and emergency response may be limited at the height of the storm.

Motorists should proceed with caution, drive slowly through standing water, and stay off Highway 12 during periods of high tide. Soundside flooding is also expected, particularly for the southernmost villages of Hatteras Island.

Now is the time to ensure you are ready by taking personal planning and preparations seriously – ensure that your emergency kit is properly stocked and that your emergency plan is ready to implement. For preparedness tips and information, visit www.readync.org.

If you or someone you know has special medical needs and may need assistance, please call the Dare County Department of Health & Human Services, Social Services Division at 252.475.5500 to register. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Subscribe to receive email updates from Dare County Emergency Management at www.DareNC.com/EmergencyAlerts and follow @DareCountyEM on Twitter.

View the latest watches, warnings and advisories from the National Weather Service at www.weather.gov/mhx. Updates from the National Hurricane Center are available at www.nhc.noaa.gov/.