

# Are you **ReadyNC?** ... for **Hurricanes**

Hurricane season runs June 1 through November 30. In North Carolina, most storms occur between August and October. Hurricanes can bring tornadoes, severe winds, heavy rains and floods.

## Know the Terms!

**Hurricane Watch (48 hours before)** – hurricane conditions (winds more than 74 mph) are possible.

**Hurricane Warning (36 hours before)** – hurricane conditions (winds more than 74 mph) are expected.

**Tropical Storm Warning** – tropical storm conditions (winds of 39 to 73 mph) are possible within 36 hours.

## Hurricane Categories

- **Tropical Depression** - contains winds up to 39 mph
- **Tropical Storm** - 39 - 73 mph winds
- **Category 1** – 74 to 95 mph winds
- **Category 2** – 96 to 110 mph winds
- **Category 3** – 111 to 130 mph winds
- **Category 4** – 131 to 155 mph winds.
- **Category 5** – winds 156 mph or greater.

## Be Safe! Act Quickly

- Update your emergency supplies kit.
- Discuss your family communications plan.
- Watch and listen to the weather reports.
- Know evacuation routes if you need to leave home. Listen to local authorities.
- Put fuel in your vehicle and have some cash on hand.
- Be aware of flooded or washed-out roads. Just a few inches of water can float a car.
- Keep a photo I.D. with you that shows your home address. You will need it when asking police if it is okay for you to re-enter your area or home.
- Secure your property.
  - Bring inside all outdoor furniture, garbage cans and anything else that is not tied down.
  - Cover windows with permanent storm shutters or board up windows with 5/8" plywood.
  - Trim trees and shrubs around your home, and clear clogged rain gutters and downspouts.

## Remember:

### Turn Around, Don't Drown

Floods can happen anywhere in North Carolina. Flood waters can be deep or move quickly, so NEVER try to walk or drive through flood waters. Storm surge (water pushed by wind toward the shore) also can cause flooding, erode beaches and roads.



Hurricane Floyd  
NOAA-14 AVHRR HRPT  
Multi-spectral False Color Image  
September 15, 1999 @ 2018 UTC



## Get ReadyNC!

Download the free ReadyNC mobile app.

**ReadyNC.org**  
Plan. Prepare. Stay Informed.