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Craven County



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
News Release #2: October 7, 2016

Contact: Amber M. Parker
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Craven County Declares State of Emergency

NEW BERN, N.C. – Craven County declared a State of Emergency to be effective at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 7, 2016 in anticipation of heavy rain and flooding impacts from Hurricane Matthew. Heavy rain and flooding have the potential for life threatening conditions and widespread damages. The Craven County Emergency Operations Center will open on Friday, October 7 in the afternoon and will be fully activated at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 8, 2016.

Citizens are urged to make preparations for heavy rain and localized flooding. Those living in low-lying areas prone to significant flooding are also encouraged to begin making preparations for voluntary relocation including relocating vehicles to higher ground.

Individuals planning to travel over the weekend should use extreme caution and good judgment when planning travel routes and should never drive through standing or rushing water. Remember, “Turn Around Don’t Drown®.” Mariners and boat owners need to secure all vessels and/or relocation of boats affected by the East Front Street Bridge and Rail Road Bridges before notice of closure to boat traffic is issued.

Now is the time for citizens to check their Emergency Supply Kits and Pet Disaster Supply Kits for needed supplies during a hurricane. Prepare by having an adequate supply of flashlights, batteries, bottled water, non-perishable foods and medicines. Citizens using home oxygen are encouraged to have an alternative oxygen supply in the event of prolonged power outages.

All citizens, law enforcement and emergency response personnel are encouraged to cooperate with all safety measures being taken and abide by any further restrictions which may become necessary to overcome the emergency situation.

Craven County parks will close at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 7, 2016 and will remain closed until conditions permit them to reopen.

Craven County Government Emergency Management updates will appear on the Craven County website at www.cravencountync.gov, on the Craven County Facebook page [@cravencounty](https://www.facebook.com/cravencounty) and the Craven County Emergency Management Twitter account [@cravencountyem](https://twitter.com/cravencountyem). Visit the Craven County website to register to receive emergency notifications via text, email and phone calls through the CodeRed Emergency Notification System.

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